

2019 InterCity Colt and Palomino Rules

General Section for both Colt and Palomino:

These rules apply for our Regular Season and League Playoffs.

The general rules by which we run InterCity Colt and Palomino Baseball League (hereafter "Intercity League") are applied **IN THIS SUPERCEDING ORDER:**

- InterCity Colt and Palomino Rules
 - Current Pony Rule Book
 - Major League Baseball Rule Book
 - Michigan High School Athletic Association (Pitch Count)
1. Teams are to be formed in accordance with each sponsoring organization, relative to number of players and geographical requirements. All team managers must be residents or live in close proximity to the sponsoring organization they represent. They must also take active participation with their team both on and off the field of play.
 2. All team players must be registered players of that team and registered by their sponsoring organization. All teams/sponsoring organizations must have and provide proof of minimum insurance coverage as recommended by PONY baseball or their supporting organization. Purchasing of insurance is the responsibility of each team/sponsoring organization, not InterCity baseball.
 3. All bats must conform to the new NFHS **BBCOR** bat rules. All **BESR** bats are now considered illegal for game play. A player caught using a **BESR** bat will be ejected, as well as the manager of the team the player is on. Composite bat are allowed as long as they have not been made ineligible for play by the NFHS. See <http://www.baseballbatlist@nfhs.org> . **The – 3 bat rule remains in effect.**
 4. Preliminary rosters must be submitted to the League Administrator on or before **date in calendar** for upper or lower division placement. Determined divisional placement is based on roster point system (described under Colt or Palomino specific rules section).
 5. Rosters are "frozen" on July 2nd except by approval of the President. It is expected that no new players will be added after July 1st unless current players are lost for the rest of the season to injury or other circumstances (requires approval of the President).
 6. Final Roster must be e-mailed to the President by July 1st, if not received the President can determine the team and or teams will not be eligible for the playoffs.
 7. Each team is required to supply the league Scheduler a minimum of 8 home field dates (more preferred) based on a 16 game season. 8 or less will be reviewed by the President. Also required to be submitted is a complete contact list of each organizations Director/s, team Managers, and Umpire in chief. The contact list must provide an email address, and day and evening phone number. These

- requirements must be provided on or before date in calendar for preliminary rosters if not the President can determine the team and or teams will not be eligible for InterCity Colt and Palomino League play.
8. A player/parents CODE OF CONDUCT CONTRACT will be reviewed and acknowledged by all participating leagues that they have reviewed with players and parents. Such code will be strictly enforced with ZERO tolerance for blatant violations. Any incident(s) that require or involve the use of law enforcement MUST BE REPORTED to the InterCity board within 24 hours of said incident. Failure to report ANY incident to the InterCity board could result in the forfeit of the remaining season by all teams involved.
 9. There is an Upper and Lower division in Colt and Palomino. A point system is devised based on the playing experience of the player, it is as follows:
 1. 19 years old and no High School playing experience equals 1 point.
 2. 19 years old with High School experience follow point system below.
 3. Player with High School level of play awarded following points:
 1. Varsity = 3 pts.
 2. Junior Varsity = 2 pts.
 3. Freshman = 1 pts.
 4. Player not on school team = 0 pts.
 10. The point threshold for placement in the Upper Division in Palomino is **16 total points**. The point threshold for placement in the Upper Division in Colt is **12 total points**. Leagues must declare the number of entries for the Upper and Lower Divisions for Colt and Palomino on May 7th 2017 based on the point system. Each team must submit their version 1 roster on May 31st and the point totals should match the division level you submitted on May 7th. Final rosters are due and locked on July 2nd and again should match the division level you originally submitted. The penalty for violating this rule could be the forfeiture of games and will be the forfeiture of playoff participation.
 11. The league wins/loss shall be calculated as 2 pts. for a win 1 pt. for game that was tied at the time it was “called by the umpire” (see rule 28) and zero pts for a loss.
 12. Any player, manager or coach ejected from a game will be prohibited from any participation or attending the next scheduled 2 games played mandatory. This prohibited participation may be increased at the discretion of the President. Opposing managers must report any ejections to the President. The player ejected is an out at his turn in the batting lineup. If the number of players fall below seven then the game is over (any additional play would be defined as scrimmage). Any player, manager, or coach can be eliminated from league participation as determined by the President, if they have more than one game ejection in a season or physically/maliciously assaults another participant.
 13. During an ejection, a player/manager/coach/parent is not allowed on the field nor allowed in the bench/dugout he or she must leave the vicinity/complex as defined by the umpire or in the final judgment of the President.

14. Runners must slide or surrender on close plays at the bases (except first base) or they are automatically out. In addition, if, in the umpire's judgment, a player has deliberately tried to "run over" or injure another player, the offending player will be ejected from the game.
15. Umpires have the final say on all judgment call matters pertaining to the game. Thus, there are no protests in these cases. If the managers believe they have encountered a situation that is an obvious misinterpretation of the Rules, they may contact the InterCity President to make him or her aware of the situation and for a determination of the rules and application to the event, however, the judgment of the umpire shall be final unless overruled by the President. The protesting manager **MUST** announce to the umpire and opposing manager that the game is being played under protest. Both managers must send an email and provide the facts and circumstances of the protested ruling or it will be presumed the said manager has no facts to support their position.
16. Game times are 6:30 pm unless otherwise noted (weekend games or games under the lights will have listed start times).
17. Minimum 8 players to start a game, 7 to finish a game (no penalty outs [except for ejected players]). No outs registered in the batting line up for having less than nine players. If a team has less than 8 players at game time (or slightly later if umpires agree to wait for a late arriving player) that team will forfeit the game.
18. The Home Team will relinquish the field to the Visiting Team no later than 30 minutes prior to game time if possible. The Visiting Team will have the field for 20 minutes.
19. The Home and Visiting Teams will supply two new baseballs for each game. It is the responsibility of the home team to provide any additional baseballs required during the game (do not need to be new but "playable condition"). All baseballs used must be of High School level quality or better.
20. All score books must show innings pitched by every pitcher used in the game and be signed by both the team AND the opposing team's manager or manager's representative (**not umpires**). An incorrect pitching record by a team may result in loss for that team in the game in which that record was still relevant as determined by the President. Failure to maintain an up to date pitching record may result in expulsion from a playoff berth.
21. The Games will last 7 innings. Five innings minimum are required for a game to be considered official in case of rain or darkness (4 and 1/2 if the Home Team is ahead) otherwise it is considered a suspended game.
22. A courtesy runner may be used for the current Pitcher and Catcher if either reaches base (managers' option). The same substitute cannot be used for both. Courtesy runners can be used for injuries. The last previous out will be the runner (or last batter in order in 1st inning only), or any player not currently in the game (see Palomino rule 4a and 4b)
23. "Mercy rule" If a Team is ahead by 10 or more runs after five complete innings (4 and 1/2 if the winning team is the Home Team), the mercy rule will be invoked.

Any subsequent play will be considered "practice" and will not affect the outcome of the game. Completion of the game is encouraged.

24. Postponed or suspended games and/or rainouts must be made up before or on the last official date of the regular season to determine playoff teams. Due to field availability, many make-up games may have to be played on Sunday. Home team managers will be responsible for rescheduling, including field and umpires unless other written arrangements are agreed between the 2 managers.
25. Both teams must make every effort to accommodate each other's schedules - including the effect on pitching rotations. (This is not a perfect system, but we are counting on you managers to prepare enough pitchers so you can play all the games scheduled.) Teams should make sure they have recruited or developed enough pitchers to complete the Playoffs under ANY schedule provided .
26. Cancellation of a game must be made 24 hours before the game starting time otherwise it is considered a forfeit by the team canceling the scheduled game. Arrangements to reschedule must be agreed to by both teams in advance of the rescheduled game in question. If a team is unable to field at least seven players on the agreed-to date, it forfeits the game.
27. Un-played games count as a loss for both teams after official date regular season ends.
28. In case of rain, the Home Team Manager will determine if the field is playable. He or she must notify opposing team manager by 4:00 PM the day of the game, if the game needs to be postponed. Once a game begins, the decision is in the hands of the Umpire. In the event no call is made both teams must present themselves at the field ready to play.
29. If a game is incomplete and therefore suspended because of darkness or weather arrangements must be made to continue the game until a winner is reached at a mutually agreed upon time and place. If the game cannot be resolved before the end of the season, it will count as a lost game for both teams. Games have no time limit and no inning limit for a tie unless the Umpire "calls the game" complete. Umpire may "call the game":
 - i) on account of darkness,
 - ii) weather or
 - iii) curfew or including instances when the current game must conclude so that games that follow can get started in-order to be completed by city curfew. Cities who follow curfews are Lyon's Field in Waterford (10:40), Livonia's Bicentennial & Ford fields(11:00).
30. Home Team keeps the official score. The Visiting Team is responsible for confirming the score/pitch count after each inning. If there are any discrepancies in the scoring or pitch count, they must be resolved and both teams must agree before continuing play. Both scorebooks must be signed at the end of the game.
 - . Pitching record identified in the score book and signed by the opposing managers or managers' representatives must be present at the start of each game to determine eligibility of pitchers. If the record is not produced, then the team with

out the pitching record can only pitch their pitchers two inning maximum in the game (or games for double headers).

31. No jewelry may be worn. Shirts must be tucked into pants. Caps must be turned to the front. One warning for jewelry each team, second incident for that team the player or players involved in the second incident will be ejected from the game. (exception is for a medical alert which must be taped or concealed; religious reasons which requires prior approval from the President).
32. The regular season champion and playoff seeding (if appropriate) will be based on overall winning percentage. Top 4 teams qualify in each division. Seeding must be verified by InterCity Colt and Palomino President.
 - In case of a season ending tie, the following tie-breaker rules will be followed:
 - 1st tie-breaker: Regular season head-to-head competition.
 - 2nd tie-breaker: Fewest total runs allowed (regular season).
 - 3rd tie-breaker: Most total runs scored (regular season)
 - 4th coin toss.
33. The Intercity league reserves the right to study and render decision on any situation not expressed within these rules for InterCity league and other host league play. During a host league game between InterCity league teams; the game will default to basic MHSAA and ICP code of conduct for all situation(s) in regards to specific play or action(s) by its players or coaches. Both teams will honor the host team rules for basic game structure(game location, game times, game scoring, time limits, team conduct, etc.)
34. At the discretion of the League President, any team forfeiting a game may be subject to a penalty including but not limited to: \$150 per game forfeited, loss of playoff spot, loss of playoff seed.
35. If you do encounter any situations that need clarification, please notify the InterCity League President as soon as possible.
36. Current year Michigan High School Athletic Association bat and catchers rules apply and metal cleats are allowed.
37. HIGH SCHOOL PITCH RULES: ***Pitchers will be capped at 105 pitches in one day and will be required to rest three days if they throw more than 75 in a game. If throwing 51-75 pitches, pitchers must rest two days, and if they throw between 26-50 pitches, one day of rest is mandated.***

COLT SPECIFIC RULES:

Colt North & Colt Central rules section:

1. The majority of the players on the team, regardless of the number of players on that team roster are required to be either 15 or 16 years old (example: 13 players on a team roster, 7 have to be 15 or 16 years old). A 15 or 16 year old player is defined per the PONY baseball age key guide. Team rosters submitted to President must be held to 18 players max. Please note some InterCity Colt eligibility rule requirements may not coincide with PONY rules exactly and

eligibility for a team in the InterCity Colt League may not be eligible for PONY tournaments (consult www.Pony.org for their tournament age requirements). Any age requirement exceptions must be preapproved by InterCity Colt President.

2. A 12-point team rule is in affect to determine what division a team will be placed either North (lower) or Central (upper). Any team with 12 or more points must play in the (upper) Central division. Point system is as follows:
 - a. A player on a High school freshman baseball team is assigned 1pt. A player on a High school JV baseball team is assigned 2pts. A player on a High school varsity team is assigned 3pts. Other players receive a point value of zero (0). Rosters showing individual and total team points must be submitted to President and administrator prior to initial league schedules are sent out. The roster at the time points are submitted to the league must have a minimum of 12 players. Before any player/s can be added to a roster after the schedules have been completed which would take a team to the above stated limit the President must be notified. No notification or false points reported may result in forfeited games played and or elimination of any playoff seeding for that team in the discretion of the President. Any team in the lower division which goes undefeated during the regular season will be asked to provide proof their team followed the above point system rule before they enter playoffs.
 3. All players present at game time will bat. Any latecomers must be slotted at the end of the batting order in the order they show up.
 4. Any latecomer who arrives after his team has completed its first cycle through the batting order does not have to be inserted into the game (at the Manager's discretion). If the latecomer(s) complete a nine player roster they **MUST** be inserted into the game and at the end of the batting order upon arrival.
 5. All players may be freely substituted defensively, but must play a minimum of two innings on defense before the end of the 6th inning.
 6. If a team is short of players during the season, they may call up 13-14yr old registered only players from their local supporting organization league.
 7. One of the two umpires required per game must be 21 years of age or older, while the other umpire must be 18 years of age or older. A manager may question the age of an umpire and may request age verification prior to game start. If the umpire fails to provide verification, managers may postpone the game until satisfactory umpires arrive. No further questioning or protest may take place once the game starts.
- Rules below are for **reference only** (see authorizing rule book for entire content):

Pony Baseball - Pitching requirements are listed in the PONY rules, for reference: (Pitchers are limited to 10 innings per week Monday through Sunday and no more than 7 innings on the same calendar day. If a pitcher throws 4 innings or more in one game, he must have 40 hours of rest before pitching again (e.g., if a pitcher throws four innings or more on a Monday evening, he can't pitch again until Wednesday evening. One pitch thrown counts as one inning, once removed from the mound, a pitcher may not re-enter the game as a pitcher).

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Notes:

PALOMINO SPECIFIC RULES:

American & National Palomino League Rules:

The majority of the players on the team, regardless of the number of players on that team roster are required to be either 17, 18 or 19 years old (example: 13 players on a team roster, 7 have to be 17, 18 or 19 years old). A 17, 18 or 19 year old player is defined per the 2011 pony baseball age key guide. Team rosters submitted to President must be held to 18 players max. Please note some Inter-city Palomino eligibility rule requirements may not coincide with PONY rules exactly and eligibility for a team in the Inter-City Palomino League may not be eligible for PONY tournaments (consult www.Pony.org for their tournament age requirements). Any age requirement exceptions must be preapproved by Inter-City Palomino President.

1. Only 3 players of league age 19 will be allowed on each team for the American League division and only 7 players age 19 will be allowed on each team for the National League division.

2. A 16-point team rule is in affect to determine what division a team will be placed either American (lower) or National (upper). Any team with 16 or more points must play in the (upper) National division. Point system is as follows:
 - a. A player on a High school freshman baseball team is assigned 1pt. A player on a High school JV baseball team is assigned 2pts. A player on a High school varsity or collegiate team is assigned 3pts. A 19yr old who was on a High school Varsity baseball team roster his senior year is assigned 3pts. Other 19yr old players will be assigned 1pt. Roster showing individual and team total points must be submitted to President prior to initial league schedules are sent out. The roster at the time points are submitted to the league must have a minimum of 12 players. Before any player/s can be added to a roster after the schedules have been completed which would take a team to the above stated limit the President must be notified. No notification or false points reported may result in forfeited games played and or elimination of any playoff seeding for that team at the discretion of the president. Any team in the lower division which goes undefeated during the regular season will be asked to provide proof their team followed the above point system rule before they enter playoffs.

3. League age 16 year old players are allowed on the Palomino teams, but cannot make up a majority of the team. Only exception to the above rule for a player to be on a Palomino team if they were called up for a game or two because of injury or has been placed on a team by prior approval of the President (otherwise contact InterCity Colt League to place such a player on one of their teams). Please note that these age requirements do not coincide with PONY rules exactly and eligibility for a team in the InterCity Palomino League may not be eligibility for PONY tournaments (consult www.Pony.org for their tournament age requirements)
4. Three types of formats can be used for play. It is solely up to each manager to decide on which format his team will be using for a particular game and will be determined and announced before the games first pitch. After the first pitch, neither team's format can be changed.

4a. Palomino rules (nine bat) except DH is allowed for pitcher only.

4b. Palomino rules except AH can be used (10th batter must stay in that batting position all game and will share fielding position with another specified batter).

4c. Everyone on bench bats with free field substitution (except at pitcher's position).

4. **All umpires must be 21 years of age or older. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED.** A manager may question the age of an umpire and may request age verification prior to game start. If the umpire fails to provide verification, managers may postpone the game until satisfactory umpires arrive. No further questioning or protest may take place after the start of the game.

- Rules below are for **reference only** (see authorizing rule book for entire content):

Pony Baseball - Pitchers are limited no more than 9 innings on the same calendar day. If a pitcher throws 5 innings or more in one game, he must have 40 hours of rest before pitching again (e.g., if a pitcher throws 5 innings or more on a Monday evening, he can't pitch again until Wednesday evening. One pitch thrown counts as one inning, once removed from the mound, a pitcher may not re-enter the game as a pitcher.)