

TORO PONY BASEBALL

PINTO RULES

Updated 02/10/2019

The rules governing play will be in the following order: (1) Toro PONY league rules listed below; (2) the current year edition of the PONY Baseball/Softball, Inc., rules blue; (3) the current year edition of the "Official Major League Baseball Rules", published by the Sporting News.

New Bat Rule – IN CONJUNCTION WITH USA BASEBALL AND ITS OTHER PARTICIPATING NATIONAL MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS, PONY BASEBALL HAS ADOPTED THE NEW USA BASEBALL BAT STANDARD (USABat). EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE -3 BAT (BBCOR CERTIFIED), ALL OTHER 2-⁵/₈ INCH MINUS FACTOR BATS (-5, -7, -9, ETC) and 2-¹/₄" BATS MUST BE YBBCOR CERTIFIED WITH THE USABat LICENSING STAMP ON THE BAT IN ORDER TO BE USED FOR LEAGUE AND TOURNAMENT PLAY. 2-¹/₄ INCH and 2-⁵/₈ INCH MINUS FACTOR BATS (-5, -7, -9, ETC) USED IN 2017 WILL BE ILLEGAL TO USE IN 2018 AND BEYOND.

FIELD SETUP

- a) The Home team is responsible for field set up, if the field has not already been prepped. This includes raking the infield, watering the infield, and striping the lines. The field must be watered, dragged and the bases stored away after the game is over.
- b) The Visitor team is responsible for emptying the trash cans in the stands and the dugouts after the game.
- c) 60-foot distance between bases as advised by PONY.
- d) Pitching rubber to be set at 40-foot.

OFFENSIVELY

- a) Batting order is continuous and consists of all players in attendance.
- b) Each team will have 5 turns at bat, but the game should not exceed 90 minutes.
- c) Once 3 outs are recorded, the team batting will switch with the team in the field.
- d) If 5 runs are scored before 3 outs are recorded, then the at-bat is over.
- e) If a player leaves the game his/her batting position is eliminated without penalty.
- f) When the hybrid Kid/Coach pitching rules are being used, there is no bunting allowed.

BASE RUNNING

- a) No leading off base or stealing.
- b) Runners may advance only on a batted ball or an "extra" base hit

- c) No intentional contact on attempting to get to a base or the runner will be called out.
- d) No head first sliding at any base.

DEFENSIVELY

- a) For the first 6 games of the season, a maximum of 10 defensive players may take the field at any one time. Players must be positioned in regular baseball positions.
- b) After the completion of the first 6 games of the season, a maximum of 9 defensive players may take the field at any one time. Players must be positioned in regular baseball positions.
- c) Each player present at the game must play at least two innings in the field in every game. Except for the pitcher, players may enter or be removed from the field at any time, at the discretion of the Manager.
- d) Outs are recorded the same as regular baseball.
- e) No infield fly rule will apply.

PITCHING RULES

- a) The first 6 games of the season will be considered hybrid Kid/Coach Pitch.
 - a) Each batter will begin with kid pitch unless it is a mutual agreement between the head coaches for a special circumstance player who is uncomfortable at the plate. In this case, a coach will pitch to this player first.
 - b) Kid pitcher will pitch a normal pitch count of balls and strikes until the outcome of either a hit, strike out or four balls. Once a batter reaches four balls, a walk will not be rewarded, instead the coach will step in and pitch to the batter. The coach is allowed only four pitches. If the player does not make contact on the four pitches, the batter is out. Coach must pitch from mound.
- b) After the completion of the first 6 games of the season, all games will be 100% Kid Pitch. Should a team run out of kid pitching a Coach may finish the game. Pitchers may not pitch more than 50 pitches in 1 day. There is no inning limit. **Please refer to the Pitch Chart provided regarding days rest needed per pitch count.**
- c) No pitcher shall appear in a game for 3 consecutive days, regardless of pitch count.
- d) Pitchers reaching their maximum number of pitches in a day while pitching to a batter, may finish pitching to that batter before being removed.
- e) A (Player) Pitcher shall be removed after 4 walks allowed or 2 batters have been struck by a “dangerous” pitch.
- f) Free substitutions allowed for any defensive position except pitcher. Once a pitcher is replaced he/she cannot return to pitch again in the same game.

GENERAL PLAYING RULES

- a) Home team will be listed in the schedule second and Visitor teams will be listed first.
- b) No metal cleats allowed at any time.
- c) Catchers must have a protective cup, throat guard, and all other guards must be used.
- d) Games will be a maximum of 6 innings or 1 hour 30 minutes, whichever comes first and regardless of where the game stands at the end of the time limit.
- e) There is no official score book other than to record outs in an inning.
- f) All games must start within 10 minutes of scheduled start time.
- g) If a team has more than 10 defensive players, then players must be rotated every other inning.
- h) A team can play with 8 defensive players in the field if that is all that come to the game. All players that come to the game will play. If there are less than 8 defensive players, then the team that is short may borrow players from the other team.
- i) Any player or Coach intentionally throwing equipment in anger or using foul language will be ejected from the game by the Pinto League Director or Toro Board member on the field.
- j) All coaches must be certified by the Toro league and be subject to a background check.
- k) During the games the only persons allowed on the playing field or in the dugout besides the players are game officials, team manager, and up to two Assistant Coaches.
- l) Rain delays or mid-game cancellations are at the Coaches discretion and will not be made up during the season. Rescheduling of games requires Toro Board approval.
- m) The use of tobacco or chewing gum on the field by players or Coaches is prohibited. Loose jewelry outside of the jersey such as chains, earrings, etc., is not allowed.

After the first half of the season is complete (6 games) Pinto Oswalt rules will take effect.