



2018 West Seattle 8U Hardball Classic Tournament Rules

Updated May 31st, 2018

Welcome to West Seattle Pee Wee Baseball's 8U Hardball Classic. Thank you for entering this year's tournament. Our goal is to host a fun, competitive baseball experience.

Registration

Check in begins at 4:30 pm on Friday June 15th, 2018. The coaches meeting will begin at 5:30. Coaches who do not play on Friday will meet with the tournament officials 30 minutes prior to play on Saturday. To register you will need:

- Waiver/Release of Liability/Team Roster form
- Copies of player birth certificates
- Certificate of liability insurance (for your league or team)
- Tournament payment - \$500

You will be required to keep the above documents accessible throughout the tournament.

Each team is required to produce one new ball and one like new ball per game.

Pool Play, Seeding and Brackets

We will start with pool play; each team will play 3 games in their pool. The top six teams will play in the Gold Bracket on Sunday. The remaining teams will play in the Silver Bracket. Four games are guaranteed. Seeding criteria is as follows:

1. Win/loss record
2. Head to head play
3. Defensive runs allowed
4. Run Differential (7 runs max per game)

5. Coin flip

Trophies will be awarded for first, second, and third place winners in the Gold bracket. Trophies for first and second place winners in the Silver bracket.

Tournament Rules

PONY tournament rules for Mustang league play will apply, with the following clarifications:

- Players must be league-age 8 or younger. Based on Players age on April 30, 2018
- 60' bases. 38' pitching distance.
- During pool play, the home team will be determined by coin flip. During bracket play, the higher seed will be home. The home team will be required to keep the official book and will report scores to the Tournament Director at completion of the game.
- Dugouts are first come, first served. Only players and coaches will be allowed in the dugout during games. It is the team's responsibility to keep the dugouts clean, removing all litter after the game.
- No pre-game warm up on the infield is allowed.
- Games are six innings in length. There is a twelve run mercy rule in effect after five complete innings, or four and a half innings if the home team is ahead.
- If offensive team is tied with or ahead of the defensive team, the offensive team may score only 5 runs in that inning. After 5 runs, that half of the inning shall be considered complete. If the offensive team is behind, it may score until it goes ahead of the defensive team by 5 runs. More than 5 runs can be scored in an inning if the additional runs score due to a ground rule double or a home run. The final inning is unlimited scoring.
- No new inning will start after 1:45 hours of play (the new inning starts the moment the last out of the prior inning is made). Games will terminate after 2:00 hours of play. Ties will be allowed in pool play. In bracket play, the final score of a tie game will revert to the last completed inning with a clear winner. If there is no clear winner the outcome will be determined by a coin flip. Semifinal and championship games will have no time limit.

At the plate...

- Bat the entire roster.
- Only bats approved for youth baseball may be used. Softball bats are not allowed.
- **Bats must be USABat certified with the USABat licensing stamp.** Head coach and player will be ejected for using a bat not USABat certified.
- Thrown bat - one warning per batter. On the second offense the batter shall be called out and ejected for remainder of game.
- Batters will receive 6 pitches unless 6th pitch is a foul ball. There are no called strikes. Batter

is out if there are 3 strikes before the 6th pitch. Missed swings are called as strikes, as are foul balls or foul tips.

- No bunting, no slug bunting.
- No dropped 3rd strike.
- No infield fly rule.

On the base path...

- No metal cleats allowed.
- No lead offs. No base stealing. Runners may not leave the base until the ball crosses the plate or is hit by the batter.
- Slide to avoid collisions of a play being made on a base runner (rule of thumb, when in doubt, slide). A player may be called out when not sliding in this situation.
- No head first sliding. Players may dive head first back to a base.
- No runners may advance when ball is controlled in the infield circle. The Umpire will call time and send the runner to the appropriate base. If the infielder makes a play on the advancing runner before the umpire calls time, the ball becomes live again.

In the field...

- 9 players in field (only three outfielders).
- Unlimited defensive substitutions.
- Player fielding the pitcher position shall take position to the rear of the pitcher plate and on the left or the right side of the adult pitcher. They must have both feet inside the circle until the ball is put in play.
- The adult pitcher may stand or kneel and must have one foot in line with the blue markers closest to the plate when the ball is pitched. There are no pitching rubbers on our fields.
- The adult pitcher may not coach the base runners or batter. Each team will receive one warning per game. After the first warning, the runner closest to home will be called out; with no runners on base, the batter will be called out.
- The adult pitcher is encouraged to leave the field of play once the ball is put into play. They should stay out of play until the ball is controlled by the player pitcher.
- If a batted ball hits the coach pitcher, the ball is dead and a strike is added to the batter's count.

Sportsmanship...

- Protests will not be acknowledged. No arguing of judgment calls is allowed. Only the Head

Coach may address an umpire. The home plate umpire will be the final decision-maker.

● Umpires are empowered to eject any player, coach or fan for unsportsmanlike behavior or disruption of the tournament. Anyone ejected must leave the ball fields and have no contact of any kind with their team until the tournament is completed. Failure to comply may result in team's forfeiture of remaining games.

● Profanity will not be tolerated.

● Use of tobacco or alcohol products is not allowed at the ball fields.

● Radios, portable stereos (boom-boxes), or other amplified audio devices may not be played at any time during games. Use of such devices by teams or spectators associated with a team will result in forfeiture of the game by the offending team.

***Please support our new snack shack! The families in our league have worked extra hard to make it fully operational for our tournaments. We now have grilled items and an expanded snacks and drink selection!**

Local Attractions

Family Friendly Restaurants

- Proletariat Pizza
- Husky Deli
- West 5
- Wildwood Market
- Burger Boss
- Full Tilt Ice Cream
- Easy Street Records and Cafe
- Pecos Pit BBQ
- Counterbalance Brewing
- Zippy's Giant Burgers
- Endolyne Joe's
- Elliott Bay Brewery
- Pecado Bueno

Fun Stuff

- Alki Beach
- West Seattle Water Taxi
- Safeco Field
- The Highline Bears semi-pro baseball

● West Seattle Bowl

● Lincoln Park