

2022 SPECIAL SPRING INTRLOCK RULES

1. BATS: Pony Rules (2 5/8" & 2 1/4")

2. GAME LENGTHS

- a. Blast Ball: 45 minutes / 5 innings
- b. Shetland: 60 minutes / 5 innings - 5 runs per 1/2 inning
- c. Pinto: 60 minutes / 5 innings - 5 runs per 1/2 inning (Pinto)
- d. Mustang: 75 minutes / 6 innings - 5 runs per 1/2 inning
- e. Bronco: 90 minutes / 6 innings - 5 runs per 1/2 inning
- f. Pony: 90 minutes / 6 innings - 7 runs per 1/2 inning
- g. Tie stays a tie
- h. No new inning with 5 or fewer minutes remaining
- i. Game is called if time expires when home team is in lead and batting

3. GAME BALLS:

- a. Each Association will supply 1 dozen new Pony baseballs to each of their teams.
- b. Each team will supply 1 new Pony baseball at the beginning of each game and others if needed throughout the game. Ask the umpire to return a game ball after each game.

4. NUMBER OF PLAYERS FOR AN OFFICIAL GAME

- a. A team can play with 8 players, no forfeit, but 9th batter is out. With only 8 players a team CAN pickup 1 player from within the same Association and same division (age group) who can only bat in 9th spot and play only in the outfield.

b. Less than 8 players is a forfeit.

6. **LOOSE BASES:** Mustang, Bronco, and Pony.
7. **PINCH RUNNER:** With 2 outs, a team may choose to pinch run for the catcher and/or pitcher, but no other pinch runners are allowed. (Exception: pinch runner is allowed for an injured player)
8. **MERCY RULE:** 15 runs after 5, 10 runs after 4 with equal number of bats.
9. **CLEATS:** No metal cleats are allowed, except in Bronco or Pony. Also, no metal cleats where portable mounds are used and no cleats of any kind on Joshua mounds.
10. **EXTRA PLAYERS:** 10 players allowed only in Shetland and Pinto with even number of players (4 players in the outfield only).
11. **PITCHING RULES:** Follow current Pony rule book.
12. **BATTING ORDER:** Each team must bat the entire roster/bench straight through for the entire game. No pinch hitters. No change of order. No reduction in number of batters in lineup. Player arriving after lineup is turned into scorekeeper must bat at the end. Player listed in the lineup who fails to show is moved to the end of the order. If the missing player is a scratch/no-show, the Coach shall tell the scorekeeper and skip to the next batter.
13. **FREE SUBSTITUTION:** Free substitutions for all field positions; except for pitcher who cannot return as pitcher. Batting order is not affected by changes in the field.
14. **SCOREBOOK AND SCOREBOARD PROCEDURES:**
 - a. Official scorebooks will be supplied by the Association where games are played.

- b. Home team will provide official scorekeeper. Visitors will operate scoreboard.
- c. Home/Visitor dugouts will be determined by the scoreboard.

15. SHETLAND RULES:

- a. Batter will get 3 pitches from the coach.
 - i. If the batter hits one of the pitches from the coach, the batter can advance at his/her own risk until play is stopped.
 - ii. If the batter does not hit any pitches from the coach, the tee is brought out, and the batter gets 2 attempts from it. The batter can advance at his/her own risk until play is stopped.
- b. Only one base allowed on overthrow to 1st (that goes into foul territory).

16. PINTO RULES

- a. Coach/Pitcher cannot coach from the mound.
- b. 6 pitches maximum per batter (player gets 1 extra pitch if foul tip on 6th pitch).
- c. Time out is not called until play has stopped. Runners advance at their own risk.

17. CONDUCT: If a Coach is ejected from a game, he must stay out that game AND the next game. ZERO tolerance for use of profanity on the field or around the kids. Coaches control yourself and it will be easier to control your players and your parents. Cooperation with the rules and decisions of the interlocked league and/or umpires, whether or not you agree with them, is absolutely essential to set a good example for the kids.

18. CLEAN DUGOUTS: All teams should clean the dugouts after every game. We need to show appreciation for the hard work and effort by the hosting Associations who provide and maintain the game fields.

Good luck.... And have fun!!