



Olive Pony Baseball
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Olive Pony Baseball Mustang Supplemental Rules 2022

Managers and coaches are encouraged to be supportive of players on all teams, exercise patience and remember that these players have different levels of skill, understanding and attentiveness.

Administrative

- ❑ A manager or coach must not leave a practice/game until parents have picked up all players. Always have your notebook updated with parent's home, work and cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses.
- ❑ There are no restrooms at many of the practice fields. It is the parents responsibility to make sure players have access to a restroom prior to a practice/game. Managers/coaches must have a witness if assistance is required for a child in an available restroom.
- ❑ Be aware of weather conditions. The Mustang Player Agent will contact managers/coaches on inclement weather days regarding the playing of scheduled games. It is at the discretion of the managers/coaches on practice days. Do not play or practice on closed fields.
- ❑ Players may not move to another team without prior approval from the OPB Board.

Equipment

- ❑ Protective cups are required for catcher only, but recommended for all players.
- ❑ Metal cleats are NOT allowed.
- ❑ OLIVE PONY recommends aluminum bats. However, wood bats are permitted.
- ❑ All equipment distributed by OLIVE PONY is the property of Olive Pony Baseball. Managers must return all equipment to OLIVE PONY after their last game or they will be charged.

Note: Equipment loss/damage increases registration fees

Teams

- ❑ Nine (9) players constitute a complete team. Teams may play with (8) having (7) or fewer players at any time is a forfeit and the game will not be played. If a team has (8) and suffers an injury that forces a player to leave, the game will be considered a forfeit, regardless of time or score. There is no grace period to wait for more players and there is no substitutes allowed. Rostered players only.
- ❑ Sub Rule exception. In the event a team has a scheduled league game but will not meet the minimum amount of players to play, the manager may submit within one calendar day to the division representative to receive players selected by the division rep within the division. The maximum borrowed players is 3. These players may not play an infield position, to include pitcher and catcher (MUST play outfield only) and must bat last in the teams batting order.
- ❑ Each OPB team will bat the entire roster in rotation, regardless of where OPB is playing (non-all-star game) and regardless of how many.
- ❑ Free defensive substitution is allowed with the exception of the pitcher. Once a pitcher leaves the mound, the player may not pitch again in the same game.
- ❑ The home team will occupy the 3rd base dugout. The home team does not have the option to pick.

The Game

- ❑ Games are (6) innings
- ❑ All games are official after (4) innings of play. (3 1/2) if the home team is ahead or if time limit is reached, regardless of innings completed.
- ❑ Mercy rule is in effect. 10 runs after five (5) innings of play. (4 1/2) If home team is ahead.
- ❑ Time limits are in effect. Time limits start based on official game time as designated by the umpire who will announce game time to official scorekeeper. No new inning after 1:45. There is no official drop dead time. An inning begins as soon as the last out is made in the previous inning. The umpire's time piece will decide all time related issues.
- ❑ Extra innings are allowed if time allows.
- ❑ A tie in the regular season is recorded as a tie. Any playoff games need to have a winner. Ways that a game can end are limited to the following:
 - ❑ Whenever the mercy rule comes into effect.
 - ❑ The home team is ahead at the end of the Top of the 6th inning
 - ❑ No new inning may begin after 1:45. If 1:45 occurs while the home team is batting the home team will finish their turn at bat until the third out is made, or the mercy rule becomes effective.
 - ❑ If 1:45 is reached while the visiting team is batting and after the third out is made regardless if the home team is winning, the home team will bat and the game will be over upon completion of the inning. The home team will bat if the game clock is 1:44 or less. No one will assume the inning can't be finished.
 - ❑ Weather, light or other field conditions as determined by the umpire

- ❑ Courtesy runner for the catcher only and only with (2) outs. Courtesy runner is the last recorded out in the scorebook. This means the player that left the field due to being called out, even if they reached base safely. Courtesy runners are allowed after a Hit By Pitch regardless of severity of the HBP. Courtesy runner must still be the last recorded out.
- ❑ On deck batters are permitted to take warm-up swings in the bullpen areas only and if bullpen is not occupied.
- ❑ No warm up allowed on the infield prior to games regardless if it is the only game of the day or prior to first game on Saturday. Foul territory and the OF are approved locations for warm-up
- ❑ No pepper allowed
- ❑ Dropped 3rd strike is in effect
- ❑ Each half inning will end when the offensive team scores five (5) runs or the defensive team records three (3) outs, whichever comes first.
- ❑ The sixth (6) inning is the ONLY open inning where unlimited runs can be scored, regardless of time, score, light or weather.
- ❑ Players pitch. Umpires will enforce a very generous strike zone.
- ❑ Batter is out when 3 strikes are recorded. Batter walks when 4 balls are recorded.
- ❑ There is no infield fly rule.
- ❑ Any live ball that strikes a coaches bucket or coach that is not the offensive (1st or 3rd base coach) on the field of play is to be ruled a dead ball and runners awarded bases at umpire's discretion so as not to benefit the offending team.
- ❑ Any live ball striking a base coach is subject to umpire's discretion per official PONY rules.
- ❑ At the umpire's discretion; when the ball is in the possession of the pitcher in the area of the mound and all play on the runner or runners has ceased, the umpire shall call "Time" and the ball is dead.
- ❑ Umpires will enforce time between innings (1 minute) and time between pitches (12 seconds) per PONY rule book at umpire's discretion. With games being on a time limit, please hustle players in and out and help keep up pace of play.
- ❑ Any protests will be reviewed by umpire on duty, board member on duty and appropriate OPB rules team available for contact only by OPB board member on duty. If no OPB rules team is available by phone or in person within 5 minutes, any issue will be resolved by the umpire and board member on duty. Any decision will be final. OPB does reserve the right to review any situation as the board sees fit, but no team has the right to be granted any further hearing.

Pitching Rules

- ❑ Each pitcher shall throw no more than THREE (3) innings per calendar day, and no more than SIX (6) innings per week. For the purposes of this rule, a week begins on Monday, and ends on Sunday.

- ❑ A pitcher who throws ONE (1) inning in a game will be eligible to pitch in any subsequent game, with no required rest.
- ❑ A pitcher who throws TWO (2) innings in a game will be required to rest for ONE (1) calendar day before pitching again.
- ❑ A pitcher who throws THREE (3) innings in a game will be required to rest for TWO calendar days before pitching again.
- ❑ A pitcher who throws TWO (2) innings on a given day will be allowed to pitch a maximum of TWO (2) innings in his next game if only one calendar day has passed between games. (Pitcher throws 2 innings Thurs., can pitch no more than 2 innings on Sat.)
- ❑ NOTE: The beginning of a new week will NOT negate the required rest for any pitcher under these rules.
- ❑ A warning for balks will be issued until Spring Break. After Spring Break, no balk warnings.
- ❑ ONE balk warning per pitcher. Thereafter, no warning will be issued, and bases will be awarded for every balk committed during game play. A balk warning consists of: the umpire shall call "balk", the ball is dead and if any runners are on base at the time of the balk, they shall return to their originating base. The umpire will then instruct the pitcher the reason for the balk.
- ❑ Balk Rule after Spring Break -the umpire shall call "balk", the ball is dead and if any runners are on base, they shall be awarded the next base. The balk rule will apply to each pitcher that enters into a game.
- ❑ A manager/coach may make one (1) visit to the pitcher's mound per inning. If a second trip to the mound is made by the manager/coach in the same inning, the manager/coach must change pitchers.
- ❑ As soon as the pitcher has delivered one (1) pitch to a batter, the pitcher shall be considered as having pitched in one inning.

Minimum Play

- ❑ Players who come to the game late will be added to the lineup after the last batter regardless of where the team is at in the lineup and will NOT be subject to the minimum field play rules, unless the player shows up prior to the end of the 1st inning, in such case the minimum play requirements would still be in effect.
- ❑ If a player shows up late or leaves early, no make-up innings are required in a future game.
- ❑ Each player must play (3) innings in the field, with (1) of those innings being at an INF position.
- ❑ The infield inning must be completed by the end of the 4th inning and completed in one full inning and not split between innings.
- ❑ Catcher and Pitcher are considered INF positions.
- ❑ Minimum play of (3) innings must be achieved within the first (5) innings of the game. (Before the start of the 6th inning) Players may not sit 2 consecutive innings in a game.

- ❑ Failure to comply can result in manager being suspended for the next game and placed in bad standing with the league. If a player is injured and does not return to the game, minimum play requirements are not necessary.
- ❑ If any player fails to meet minimum play requirements due to a game not completing 4 innings, that manager must self-report the missed innings to the division rep by e-mail immediately following the game (same day). The manager must also start the player who did not meet the minimum innings requirement to make up for missed innings plus required innings for current game. Failure to do so will result in manager being placed in bad standing with the league.
- ❑ When a vacancy is created in the lineup either due to a player leaving or due to injury the vacancy will count as an out the first time and skipped with no penalty each time after that.

Managers & Coaches

- ❑ Winning manager needs to report scores in a timely fashion to ensure league standings are updated.
- ❑ Please report game scores via e-mail to scores@oliveponybaseball.com on the day of your game. If scores are not reported prior to team's subsequent game, the manager will receive a warning. A second offense will result in a (1) game suspension.
- ❑ A team is allowed (1) manager) and (3) rostered coaches/team parent(s) in a dugout.
- ❑ Coaches are allowed outside the dugout; however it is requested for the defensive coaches to stay within an arm's length of the dugout fence. The umpire has the power to keep the coaches near the dugout, ask them to stay in the dugout and eject them if they do not comply.
- ❑ Umpires will enforce time between innings (1 minute) and time between pitches (12 seconds) per PONY rule book at umpire's discretion. With games being on a time limit, please hustle players in and out and help keep up pace of play.
- ❑ Any protests will be reviewed by umpire on duty, board member on duty and appropriate OPB rules team available for contact only by OPB board member on duty. If no OPB rules team is available by phone or in person within 5 minutes, any issue will be resolved by the umpire and board member on duty. Any decision will be final. OPB does reserve the right to review any situation as the board sees fit, but no team has the right to be granted any further hearing.

Field Rules

- ❑ Teams are responsible for set-up of field prior to game time and clean-up after the game. Baselines should be raked, home plate packed and pitcher's mound packed (if necessary).
- ❑ The home team is responsible for set up and the visiting team is responsible for cleanup.
- ❑ If it is an inter league game, the OPB team will be responsible for set up and cleanup.
- ❑ Managers and coaches are to wear team oriented shirts with like colors.

- All players shall wear socks, belts and sleeves (optional) matching a single team color.
- Baseball caps shall be worn in the appropriate manner, with the bill of the cap in the facing forward.
- Any player, spectator, manager or coach who is ejected or asked to leave by an executive board member or board member on duty will be subject to a one game suspension.
- Any repeat offenders will be subject to board review with discipline at the sole discretion of the board.

Game Day Responsibilities

- Home:
 - Provide a scorekeeper
 - Prep the field for play
 - Clean home dugout after game
- Visitor:
 - Provide someone to work the scoreboard
 - Clean-up field after the game (water, drag, bases)
 - Clean visitor dugout after game

If teams switch responsibilities for any reason, the board will hold accountable the assigned team manager

Standings

- Standings will be determined by the following:
 - 1st place through last place will be determined by regular season standings.
 - The post season tournament has no bearing on regular season standings for trophies.
- If any ties arise for the purposes of final standings or for seedings into the post-season league tournament, the following will be used:
 - Two teams tied:
 - Head to head competition.
 - Runs allowed against the top 50% or greater of the league as based on final Regular Season Standings.
 - Runs scored against the top 50% or greater of the league as based on final regular season standings.
 - Coin flip
 - Three or more teams:
 - Head to head (winning %) if all teams played each other an equal number of times.

- ❑ If teams did not all play an equal number of times or head to head (winning %) is tied, move directly to the following:
 - ❑ Runs allowed against the top 50% or greater of the league as based on final regular season standings.
 - ❑ Runs scored against the top 50% or greater of the league as based on final regular season standings.
 - ❑ Random draw of numbers out of a hat

****Top 50% of the league may include teams involved in tiebreak scenario*

Simplified Bat Rules

- ❑ All bats must have the USA bat stamp unless it is a BBCOR bat.
- ❑ No two and three quarter inch (2-3/4") diameter bats are allowed at any level of play.
- ❑ Two and five-eighth inch (2-5/8") diameter bats that weigh minus 3 (-3) bats must be BBCOR certified (stamped on the bat).
- ❑ Two and five-eighth inch (2-5/8") diameter bats that weigh minus 4 (-4) through minus 13 (-13) bats are legal as long as they do not exceed 42 inches in length and they are designed for baseball use.
- ❑ Two and one-quarter (2-1/4") diameter bats must have a BPF (Bat Performance Factor) of 1.15 or less stamped on the bat. In addition the bat must also have "Approved for PONY Baseball" stamped on the bat.

Refer to Official Pony Rule book for items not covered in the local rules. OPB Local Rules supersede Official Pony Rule Book.

Local Rules may be amended at any time by OPB.