

Spring 2014 BSB Playing Rules 5u thru 14u

Spring 2014 BSB League Playing Rules shall be governed by the Current Edition of **USSSA National By-Laws and Rules** unless specifically designated herein. In the event that a specific ruling is not covered by the rules listed above, the “Official Baseball Rules” as published by Sporting News shall be utilized.

1. An official baseball selected by BSB Board is to be used for all scheduled games. Each team should supply one “new” game ball and provide for one good condition ball as a “throw” in as necessary.
2. The HOME team will be as indicated on the League Scheduling Website.
3. Chatter is a great part of baseball and is encouraged. **Friendly banter will be allowed by players on the field only.** Control of this will be at the complete discretion of the umpire.
4. There is a 10-minute grace period after the scheduled start time. The official game clock will start at the scheduled game time, or when the Umpire arrives on the field. Thus, the 10-min. grace period will count against the official game time. If a team does not have eight players on the field at that end of the 10-min. grace period the game will be forfeited.
5. The League Commissioner, Board President, or in their absence, the Head Umpire will have the authority to cancel or delay the start of the game, due to inclement weather or undesirable conditions.
6. Only the Head Umpire or Local City Director on site has the authority to suspend play due to inclement weather after the game has started.
7. The “Official” game time will be kept by the home plate Umpire.
8. The Home Team will provide a score keeper to the Umpire. The Visiting team will provide a “scoreboard” operator (where available/needed at the field).
9. All divisions shall bat the complete roster.
10. All divisions shall be allowed free substitutions.
11. A team must have 8 players for a game to be played. Anytime the batting order falls below 9 players, an automatic out will be called for that batting position that has been vacated. (For Divisions 5U thru 8u, no penalty will be imposed for a 9 player team).
12. Time Limits and Innings are as follows:

DIVISION	INNINGS	TIME LIMIT
5U/6U	5	1 HOUR
7U/8U	6	1 HOUR -30 MINUTE
9U/10U	6	1 HOUR -30 MINUTE
11U/12U	6	1 HOUR -30 MINUTE
13U/14U	7	1 HOUR -30 MINUTE

13. Runs Allowed Per Inning are as follows:

DIVISION	RUNS ALLOWED PER INNING	LAST INNING	LAST INNING RUNS ALLOWED
5U/6U	7	FIFTH	7
7U/8U	7	FIFTH	7
9U/10U	5	SIXTH	10
11U/12U	5	SIXTH	UNLIMITED
13U/14U	5	SEVENTH	UNLIMITED

14. In the case where the game is tied at the end of regulation time, there will be no extra innings allowed. The game will end in a tie. In the event a game is tied at the end of the last regulation inning and at least 10 minutes of regulation time remains, extra innings will be played until a winner is determined or regulation time expires, whichever happens first.
15. If the “third out” is made before the regulation time ends, a new inning shall be started. (NO HARD TIME).
16. In all divisions it is required that each player on the team be allowed to play in at least (two) complete innings of defense in a game consisting of (4) innings or more, and (three) complete innings of each game on defense in a game consisting of (6) innings or more.
17. There shall be no less than (two) Umpires in each regular scheduled game in the 8U through 14U Divisions. If there is only (one) Umpire available before the game is to begin, the Umpire will have the authority to start the game with one umpire, or delay the game until another umpire arrives. For Divisions 5U-6U a single umpire shall be used.

18. Safety Rules:**A. Stealing Home/Squeeze Play**

“Straight steal” of home and “suicide squeeze” plays are **not allowed**. When attempted, the “batter” will be called out, the runner(s) will return to the base(s) occupied prior to the pitch and a warning will be issued to the coach of the offending team. A second violation of the rule will result in “ejection” of the offending head coach. If in the judgment of the umpire, the runner “breaks” to the plate on motion by the pitcher and does not hesitate allowing the batter to “offer” to the pitch it will be considered a “straight steal” or “suicide squeeze” and the rule will have been deemed violated. The judgement of the umpire will utilize “runner hesitation” as the key index in this determination.

B. No Slashing

For age groups 12U and under, no “slashing” is allowed. If a batter squares to bunt and then swings at the pitch (slashing), with or without runners on base, the batter is out, the runners go back to their bases, and the third-base coach is given a warning. On the second offense, the batter is out, the runners go back to their bases, and the third-base coach is ejected

19. COACH EJECTIONS

- a. If a coach is ejected from a game, for any reason, the ejected coach is required to vacate the field of play and dugout immediately. An ejected coach will NOT be allowed to watch the remainder of the game from the stands or along the fences in foul territory. The ejected coach must go to the parking lot to watch the remainder of the game and at no time during or after the game will an ejected coach be allowed to come back to the field or address the umpire crew. There will be no appeals of an ejection. First ejection receives 1 game suspension. Second ejection may result in suspension for the remainder of the season and any post-season play until being re-instated by established league. The coach may or may not be re-instated based on the outcome of an official review by his/her home Board of Directors.
- b. Immediately following any game in which a coach or player is ejected. The umpire will file an ejection card with local board. This ejection card must include the coach or player name, team name and reason for ejection.
- c. The ejection card will be passed from the local Board to the city Board that the team is registered through.