

2025 STSRL 8U Baseball Division Rules

Revised: 3/24/2026

Game Limits SMALL TOWN SUMMER REC LEAGUE **Players age before May 1st of current year**

1. An official game will be 6 innings maximum with no extra innings except during tournament games.
2. There will be no maximum number of runs scored in a game.
3. No inning may start beyond 1 hour and 30 minutes from the start of the game.
4. If both coaches agree that a rain out or other game postponement is necessary, then the home teams coach must communicate with the other coach and field schedules to coordinate a date and field to make up the game.

Lineup and Playing Time

1. The defensive team will play a maximum of 10 players on the field at one time.
2. Every player present must play at least 1 inning in the infield within the first 4 innings. All infield positions must be filled (P, C, 1B, 2B, 3B, SS). Outfielders must play at least 20 feet behind the bases.
3. Every player present must play a minimum of every other inning on defense. If this is pointed out during the game, the offending team must forfeit the game.
4. Teams will bat every player present in sequence.
5. An inning consists of three outs or 10 batters, whichever comes first.
6. Players can be called up from a lower division when a team is short players, but cannot play the infield ahead of a regular player and will bat last. (If a player is needed please contact a league commissioner for assistance if needed) **Player must be on a current rec roster of that season.** (If a player is needed please contact a league commissioner for assistance) –**NO TRAVEL PLAYERS (unless on the rec roster and playing both rec/travel)**

Field Dimensions

1. Bases: 60 feet apart
2. Pitchers Rubber: 38 feet from home plate
3. Baseball: Level- 10 Ball (RIF-10)

Game Rules

1. No bunting will be allowed.
2. Infield fly rule will not be called.
3. Batter cannot advance on a dropped third strike.
4. Coach must be 35 feet from home plate and use an overhand pitch.
5. Although the offensive team's coach will pitch, one player from the defensive team will be designated to field the pitcher's position. This player will be positioned on either side and behind the pitching rubber until the ball is hit.
6. Balls and strikes will not be called. Three swinging strikes or Seven(7) pitches (whichever comes first) will be a strikeout except on a foul ball not caught in the air.---updated 2025
7. On an overthrow to first base runners may advance to the next base. Runners may not advance past third base on an overthrow.
8. On a well hit ball beyond the outfielders, the hitter and base runners may continue to advance on the bases until the ball has been returned to the infield (within the baselines). Base runners will be allowed to continue to the base that they were headed to but advance no further once the ball is in the field or if it passed through the 1st or 3rd base lines in the infield on an overthrow. The runner needs to be 1/2 way in order to be awarded the next base.
9. No leadoffs or stealing of bases will be allowed. Runners must remain in contact with the base until the ball is hit.
10. A maximum of 3 defensive team coaches may be on the playing field during play to instruct the players. These coaches will also act as base umpires and one of the coaches can be behind the catcher by the backstop.
11. Courtesy runners are allowed in all divisions (must be last batted out for the or catcher only).
12. Home team is responsible for game balls.
13. All teams must email a roster (last name and first letter of first name – J. Smith) at the time they send in team numbers. by end of May that season.
14. Speed up rule applies-one foot must stay in the batter's box. One warning per team will be given. The next offender will be called out.

Safety

1. Batters and base runners must wear protective headgear during live ball. Catchers must wear protective headgear, mask, throat protector, chest protector, cup, and shin-guards.
2. No metal spikes or cleats on shoes will be allowed.
3. Players will be encouraged to slide or avoid contact when being played upon at a base and remain in the base path. Intentionally causing contact or mowing players will not be tolerated. Players will be called out, no warnings, and a second offense will be a removal from the game.
4. The onset of severe weather coaches and umpires will call games. Please take this matter serious and err on the side of caution. If lightning or thunder occurs, the game must be postponed at least for 30 minutes after the last sighting of lightning or hearing of thunder. Postponements should not exceed one hour, if so then the game should be called.

5. Bats must be age appropriate and fit the size of the player. NO WOODEN BATS or BB core ...no slow pitch bats
No players will be allowed to play down. added 2026
6. **NO TRAVEL PLAYERS ON REC TEAMS added 2026**

Competition and Awards

1. Scorebooks will be kept for games.
2. Division standings will not be kept, and no awards will be given for division standings.

Special Tournament Rules

1. Teams will be seeded randomly for the tournament. Double-elimination
2. Maximum of only two games scheduled per day per team in the tournament bracket.
3. All players bat in consecutive order. No designated hitters. If a team is batting less than 10 players, batters number 9 and/or 10 are outs. There is no maximum to the number of batters on a team.
4. An inning consists of three outs or 10 batters, whichever comes first. There is no batter limit after 5th inning, need to get Three outs. There will be no time limit to the championship game.
5. Individual player awards will be awarded for first and second place in the tournament.
6. RIF-10 balls must be used.
7. Speed up rule applies-one foot must stay in the batter's box. One warning per team will be given. The next offender will be called out.
8. Any roster changes, the added player must appear on a league roster from that season.
9. The championship game will be one and done and not based on wins or losses.
No Time Limit for the Championship game.
- 10 Teams playing in tournaments must submit a \$25 fee to play in said tournament. Tournament host will contact league directors for payment.

