



2023 Official Tournament Rules

Major League Rules with these modifications

- **Players may not turn 13 before May 1, 2023.**
- **Teams must have a minimum roster size of 11 players and 2 coaches.**
- 6 inning games 12 run mercy rule after 4 complete innings, no time limits.
- 50 foot pitching distance & 70 foot bases -200 foot fences-8' high.
- Base runners are allowed to lead off.
- No use of Designated Hitter.
- No one player in a game can assume more than one offensive position.
- Extra Hitter (EH) - (coach's discretion: 0, 1, 2 or 3) – If using an extra hitter(s), you may use one, two or three players. The extra hitter(s) **MUST** hit in the **TENTH, ELEVENTH and TWELFTH POSITION**. Only one (1) player may occupy each EH position per game. You may remove your EH(s) for the duration of the game at any time prior to their at-bat, without penalty. **You must notify the plate umpire prior to removal. Extra Hitters must be announced prior to the start of the game; no mid-game entry is permitted.**
- **The current batting line up can be rotated in the field defensively after the completion of the first defensive inning.**
- Only players on the team's Cooperstown Dreams Park official roster will be allowed to participate in scheduled games.
- Prior to each game field umpires will review the rules and official line up cards with both head coaches. The home team book is the official game book.
- Re-entry rule: Starters may re-enter in the same offensive spot once. Substitutes cannot re-enter the game once they have been removed.
 - Exception: Whenever a ninth player is needed (due to injury or otherwise) and all legal substitutions have been used, removed substitutes can re-enter the game in a different offensive position. In this event, EHs must remain in their current position in the batting order, but can enter the game in a defensive position. This change must be announced to the opposing team and to the plate umpire at the time of injury.
- Any pitcher can re-enter as pitcher as long as he/she stays in the game defensively. Once removed from the game, the pitcher can re-enter the game defensively, but not as a pitcher.
- No pitching restrictions (coach's discretion).
- Balks will be called following Major League rules. There will be one warning per pitcher per game, until the single elimination tournament begins on Day 5. The warning will be an immediate dead ball. All balk calls after the warning will be delayed dead balls.
- Courtesy runner - A courtesy runner can be used for the **CATCHER and PITCHER of RECORD ONLY** at any time. This is not a substitution and is optional. Courtesy runners cannot be in the current lineup.
- Must slide/avoid contact rule. A player must slide or attempt to avoid contact on all close plays (umpire discretion).
- Headfirst sliding is permitted only into first, second, or third base. Headfirst sliding **IS NOT** allowed into home plate.
- A batter is not allowed to "slash bunt". A batter that fakes a bunt and then takes a full swing will be out, the ball will be dead and no runners may advance.
- Home Runs are considered a dead ball and not subject to appeal.

Ground Rules

- Infield/outfield practice is **not permitted** on Fields 1-22 at any time.
- Teams may begin pre-game warm-ups (long toss only) **15 minutes** prior to game time.
- Team equipment or chairs are **not permitted** outside the dugouts.
- All areas within the walls of the fields, aside from the dugouts and spectator areas, are in play. A ball striking any part of the backstop netting and all netting extensions is an immediate dead ball (**dead ball rules apply**).
- **ALL** Pitchers **MUST** warm up outside of each field.
- In the event of a rain delay, each team must remain in its designated dugout until otherwise notified by a Cooperstown Dreams Park Director.
- Coaches, please remind your players to respect the upkeep of the baseball fields and replace all divots and refrain from digging cleats into the infield and outfield grass areas. Umpires and Cooperstown Dreams Park staff will enforce this rule.

(Continued on next page)

2023 Official Tournament Rules (continued)

Dress Code

- Players and coaches must wear officially issued CDP uniforms and apparel for all games.
- NO METAL SPIKES.
- NO jewelry-earrings, necklaces, rings, etc.
- **Players must have jerseys tucked in at all times, pant legs must be worn at the knee.**
- Navy jersey, navy socks & scarlet jersey, scarlet socks (jersey and sock colors must match). Home Team wears SCARLET, Away Team wears NAVY.
- Players must have knee length plain white baseball pants (no pinstripes or striping down the side), and plastic or rubber cleats.
- Coaches must wear their CDP coach's polo shirt (scarlet for home games, navy for away games), windbreaker or jacket and CDP hat during games. Polo shirt must be tucked in.
- Coaches MAY NOT wear denim shorts or jeans.

Equipment

- All teams must supply helmets, practice baseballs, bats, catching gear, pants and protective equipment.
- Teams provide their own bats for game play (no size or weight restrictions) (no wooden, modified or altered bats).
- Game balls are provided by Cooperstown Dreams Park. All foul balls must be returned to the umpire or Baseball Operations staff.

Scheduling

- Coaches will receive their game schedule during registration.
- **Pre-game:** The grass practice field adjacent to the Baseball Village must be used for infield/outfield practice. Batting practice must be held inside the batting cages. All coaches must abide by batting cage/practice field schedules and ensure all participants wear proper safety equipment.
- **Game time:** Teams must be at their assigned field ready to play **fifteen minutes** before scheduled game time.
- **Any game affected by a weather delay situation will be considered an official game after 4 complete innings.**

Coach's and Player's Code of Conduct

- Coaches and players are expected to comply with all Tournament Rules and Rules of Dreams Park.
- Sportsmanship: Promote good sportsmanship both on and off the field and encourage lifelong friendships.
- Any player ejected from a game will be suspended from the following two consecutive games.
- Any coach ejected from a game will be removed from Dreams Park premises for the remainder of the tournament and closing ceremonies, and may not return as a spectator or parent.
- Coaches have the right, at any time, to call a Director to a field for a rules interpretation (Director Call). This does not include **JUDGMENT CALLS** made by the umpires. This action is to be taken in lieu of protests. In order to properly handle each Director Call, play must be stopped and the Director must be called **BEFORE** the next pitch. If the disputed call involves the last play of the game, the protesting team must appeal before the umpires leave the confines of the field.

Cooperstown Dreams Park reserves the right, at any time, to modify or cancel a team's registration or placement.

In addition, failure to comply with Dreams Park requirements, policies or deadlines will also cause cancellation of a team's registration or placement. Cooperstown Dreams Park prohibits the use of a team's registration or placement for promotions, solicitation of sales or profit.

The Team Contact is the only person eligible to discuss and/or change team information.