

# **ALL-AMERICAN CLASSIC TOURNAMENT RULES**

## **Pre-Game Timing**

- Teams should be prepared and ready to play 45 minutes before their schedule game is set to begin
- Games completed early will result in an early start for the following games, weather permitting.
- There will be a 15 minute period in between games to allow crews time for field maintenance. We will attempt to drag fields after every other game.

## **Infield**

- Unless otherwise noted by a tournament director, no infield practice will be allowed prior to the start of any game.
- Teams will be permitted to take ground/fly balls down the outfield lines prior to the start of their game.
- We will be using different high school complexes, so please abide by any rules that they may note.
- Please remind your players and coaches NOT to use the infield prior to the game.

## **Home/Visiting Team Designation**

- Pool play: Coaches will be subject to a coin flip prior to the start of each game to determine who is home/visitor.
- Please complete this as soon as possible to provide pitchers an adequate amount of time to get loose.
- Championship Rounds: Teams advancing out of pool play will be seeded based on records, higher seed will be home team.
- Seeding will be made available to all advancing coaches as soon as possible to prepare their team.

## **Pitching Restrictions**

- We will not have a mandatory pitching limit on innings pitched.
- PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR PLAYERS AND THEIR FUTURE. BE SMART!

## **In-Game Activities- EH and DH**

- Teams will be allowed to use a DH and/or EH during any game.
- Teams will be allowed to roster bat
- Teams will be allowed up to 3 extra hitters. The first extra hitter will be designated as "EH", and he will be able to enter the field of play, but remain in his current batting position. The additional two extra hitters will be labeled "XH" and they cannot enter the field of play, but instead only maintain their batting position.
- Teams must designate who each player is and for what player the DH will be hitting for in the field of play.

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- Should teams enter the DH in to the field of play, the DH position will be eliminated for the rest of the current game.
- The player for which the EH has replaced in the field will now become the EH but will remain in the same batting position.

## In-Game Activities

- Courtesy Runner- must be used for catcher/pitcher with 2 outs. Optional for catcher/pitcher with less than 2 outs. Must be a player not currently in the game or the player who made the last out should a team not have an extra player on the bench.
  - If a team is using roster bat, the player who made the last out will serve as the courtesy runner.
- Reentry- Starters may reenter once, in their original batting spot.
- Intentional Walks- Automatic intentional walks may be issued
- Slide Rules- Players must try to avoid contact on all players during the game. It will be left to the umpire's judgment to decide if a player purposely intended to cause harm during contact. Players using intent may be subject to ejection from the current game and future games (using OHSAA rules and the tournament director's discretion)
- Mound Visits- We will follow National Federation High School Rules
- Mercy Rule: 8 runs after 5 innings.
- Head First Sliding- Please advise your players to be smart when sliding head first and avoid sliding head first in to home plate. It is not illegal to slide head first into a base.
- Bat Restrictions- 14U teams will not be subjected to -3 High School rules on bats. 15U teams and older will be subject to -3 High School rules on bats.
- Pool Play
  - 7 innings or two hour time limit
    - Two hour time limit starts once ground rules are concluded
  - Pool play games can end in a tie
  - If time limit is reached, teams will complete the last full inning.

## Reporting Scores

- Head coaches will be responsible for reporting scores via TEXT MESSAGE
- Prior to the tournament, each age level will be given a specific phone number to text with the final score of their game
- A text message should read "AGE – WINNING TEAM/SCORE – LOSING TEAM/SCORE"
  - Ex. "15U – Cleveland Indians 6 – Cincinnati Reds 5"

## Seedings and Bracket Play

- Home team will always be higher seed
- No time limit for bracket play games
- Tie Breakers-

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- (1<sup>st</sup>) tie-breaker is head to head; (2<sup>nd</sup>) lowest runs allowed; (3<sup>rd</sup>) run differential; (4<sup>th</sup>) flip of a coin
- 14U Seedings
  - Assuming weather cooperates, this will be completed Sunday afternoon and communicated to teams through phone calls. At this same time, we will notify teams of their consolation game on Monday.
  - The top two teams from each pool will advance to single elimination play as well as two wild cards
  - The pool winners will be seeded 1-5 based on tiebreakers
  - The pool runner-ups and 2 wild cards will be seeded based on tiebreakers.
  - Teams will not play pool play opponents in the first round of bracket play. If this is the case, we will make adjustments accordingly with the runner-up seeds.
- 15U Seedings
  - Assuming weather cooperates, this will be completed Sunday afternoon and communicated to teams through phone calls. At this same time, we will notify teams of their consolation game on Monday.
  - The top two teams from each pool will advance to single elimination play
  - The pool winners will be seeded 1-7 based on tiebreakers.
  - The pool runner-ups will be seeded 8-14 based on tiebreakers.
  - Teams will not play pool play opponents in the first round of bracket play. If this is the case, we will make adjustments accordingly with the runner-up seeds.
- 16U Seedings
  - Assuming weather cooperates, this will be completed Sunday afternoon and communicated to teams through phone calls. At this same time, we will notify teams of their consolation game on Monday.
  - The top two teams from each pool will advance to single elimination
  - The pool winners will be seeded 1-3 based on tiebreakers
  - The pool runner-ups and 2 wild cards will be seeded based on tiebreakers.
  - Teams will not play pool play opponents in the first round of bracket play. If this is the case, we will make adjustments accordingly with the runner-up seeds.
- 18U Seedings
  - Assuming weather cooperates, this will be completed Sunday afternoon and communicated to teams through phone calls. At this same time, we will notify teams of their consolation game on Monday.
  - The top two teams from each pool will advance to single elimination
  - The pool winners will be seeded 1-3 based on tiebreakers
  - The pool runner-ups will be seeded based on tiebreakers.
  - Teams will not play pool play opponents in the first round of bracket play. If this is the case, we will make adjustments accordingly with the runner-up seeds.

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## Weather and Game Delays

- If a game is interrupted due to weather or darkness, it will be suspended with the current score and time. Teams should verify the time the game is suspended and the score. The game will be completed at a time designated by the umpire and/or tournament director
- In the event of rain or other matters beyond the control of the Tournament Director, the Tournament director reserves the right to change the tournament format as he sees fit in order to complete the tournament in the scheduled time period
- Teams will receive a percentage of their total tournament entrance fee should the tournament be cancelled completely having played no games. This must be caused by weather.
- Percentage breakdown:
  - Zero Games: 50% refund
  - 1 Game: 25% refund
  - 2 Games: No Refund

## Insurance, Roster, and Birth Certificate Verification

- All teams must submit proof of insurance for each team participating in this tournament. Please scan and email to [chris.valentine@ohioelitebaseball.com](mailto:chris.valentine@ohioelitebaseball.com) or mail to 4352 Clark Street, Apt D, Dublin, OH 43017.
- All teams must complete the roster document (found on the web site) and submit electronically prior to their first game
- All teams must be able to present birth certificates for any player that may be challenged. In the case of a challenge, the opposing coach must contact the tournament director, who will then proceed to verify the age of the player. If a team is found to have used an illegal player (either not on the roster or age ineligible), the team will be forced to forfeit any games played by the ineligible player. No refund will be given for such circumstances.

## Verifying Tournament Rules

- Each team will be required to send me an email ([chris.valentine@ohioelitebaseball.com](mailto:chris.valentine@ohioelitebaseball.com)) acknowledging that they have fully reviewed the current tournament rules.

## Scores and Tournament Schedule

- In the event there are any changes or modifications to the schedule, an updated schedule will be emailed and posted at [www.ohioelitebaseball.com](http://www.ohioelitebaseball.com) under the All-American Classic link
- Scores will be updated at the end of each night on the web site.

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- We will use a calling system to update teams on changes to the schedule
- Dublin Jerome High School will serve as the tournament headquarters. Updated scores and brackets will be posted at the concession stand or hitting facility.