

TEXAS TEEN-AGE BASEBALL/SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

Rule/Procedure Changes for 2014

The following are rule or procedure changes made for 2014:

1. All managers/head coaches must be 18 years of age or older.
2. LEAGUE PLAY IN BOYS BASEBALL DIVISIONS SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE OFFICIAL NATIONAL LEAGUE BASEBALL RULES, EXCEPT IN BOYS 14U, BOYS 15U AND HSE BOYS WHICH SHALL BE GOVERNED BY UIL RULES WITH THE EXCEPTIONS THROUGHOUT THE TTAB SECTIONS
3. Boys 14U and Boys 15U will play under UIL rules except EH rule and TTA pitching regulations will be used.
4. METAL SPIKES OR METAL CLEATS ARE PERMISSIBLE IN BOYS 14U, BOYS 15U AND HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBLE DIVISION ONLY. The penalty shall be ejection from the game. All male catchers are required to wear protective cups (Except Boys 6U T-Ball). All catchers must wear helmets with protective ear flaps and throat guards (Except Boys 6U T-Ball). Penalty is player ejected from the game until violation is corrected.
5. Regular standard baseball equipment, including bats, baseballs, uniforms, gloves, bases, pitcher and home plates will be used with the following exceptions: Boys 6U T-Ball, Boys 8U Machine Pitch, Boys 8U Player Pitch, Boys 9U, Boys 10U and Boys 12U. The bat may not be more than 2 1/4 inches in diameter at the thickest part and not more than 33 inches in length, or a BB-COR bat. Any equipment being used contrary to these requirements will be removed from the game by the umpire.
6. Boys 14U and Boys 15U, the bat may not be more than 2 3/4 inches in diameter at the thickest part and not more than 42 inches in length, or a BB-COR bat with no more than a drop 3 (-3). Any equipment being used contrary to these requirements will be removed from the game by the umpire.
7. PLAYING FIELD (Boys 6U T-Ball) A six-foot (diameter) circle shall be marked for pitcher's fielding position. The center of this circle shall be a point where a line from first base to third base crosses a line from back point of home plate to second base. A pitcher's rubber shall be placed at this point and pitcher must be stationary with one foot in contact with pitcher's plate after ball is placed on tee. PENALTY: Continued violation shall be removal of pitcher from the pitching position.
8. PLAYING FIELD (Boys 15U Division) The distance from home plate to the nearest fence or other obstruction in fair ground shall be two hundred fifty-feet (250') or more.
9. CONTROL OF PLAYING ACTION (Boys 6U T-Ball) Any time a hit ball is retrieved and thrown, carried, or otherwise returned to the six foot circle marked for the pitcher's fielding positions and is in the possession of a player with the intent to stop play or if the lead runner is stopped from advancing, a whistle may be blown by the chief umpire to stop play. If runners have advanced past the halfway mark in the base line, they may continue on to the next base; otherwise, runner must return to the previous base.
10. GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE TO BOYS 6U T-BALL BASEBALL
All outfield player positions must be behind the base line until the ball is hit. If the ball is not put in play move the players back tell them not to move forward before the ball is hit. Give the defensive coach a warning. If violation continues after warning coach, coach is ejected. If the ball is put in play let the play continue and once the play has stopped, let the umpire put the runners in the positions, in his opinion they would have reached if the interference had not happened. If there was no interference, then there would be no penalty.
Bunting is not permitted. Full swing must be taken, or shall be called out and ball is dead.

If the batter slings the bat, the player will receive one warning. Second offense, the batter is out. Dead ball.

11. SPECIAL RULES THAT APPLY TO BOYS 8U MACHINE PITCH

Pitching speed is 37 MPH at the plate for Boys 8U Machine Pitch. Umpires shall make necessary adjustments when needed during all TTA tournament play.

The defensive player listed as pitcher cannot leave the pitching circle until the ball is hit. For added safety, the Pitcher must have both feet in the pitching circle and be no closer to the batter than the front legs of the pitching machine until the ball leaves the machine.

12. There shall be no balks called in Tight Base divisions. Balks will be called in Open Base games. (Tournament play shall also be governed by this rule.)

13. METAL SPIKES OR METAL CLEATS ARE PERMISSIBLE IN GIRLS 15U AND HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBLE GIRLS DIVISION ONLY. The penalty shall be ejection from the game.

14. PLAYING FIELD (Girls 6U T-Ball) A six-foot (diameter) circle shall be marked for pitcher's fielding position. The center of this circle shall be a point where a line from first base to third base crosses a line from back point of home plate to second base. A pitcher's rubber shall be placed at this point and pitcher must be stationary with one foot in contact with pitcher's plate after ball is placed on tee. PENALTY: Continued violation shall be removal of pitcher from the pitching position.

15. PLAYING FIELD (Girls 15U Division) The distance between the point of home plate and the front side of pitcher's plate shall be forty three (43') feet in Girls 15U.

16. CONTROL OF PLAYING ACTION (Girls 6U T-Ball) Anytime a hit ball is retrieved and thrown, carried, or otherwise returned to the six (6) foot circle marked for the pitcher's fielding position and is in the possession of a player with the intent to stop play, or if the lead runner is stopped from advancing, then a whistle may be blown by the chief umpire to stop play. If runners have advanced past the halfway mark in the base line, they may continue on to the next base; otherwise, runner must return to the previous base.

17. GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE TO GIRLS 6U T-BALL SOFTBALL

All outfield player positions must be behind the base line until the ball is hit. If the ball is not put in play move the players back tell them not to move forward before the ball is hit. Give the defensive coach a warning. If violation continues after warning coach, coach is ejected. If the ball is put in play let the play continue and once the play has stopped, let the umpire put the runners in the positions, in his opinion they would have reached if the interference had not happened. If there was no interference, then there would be no penalty.

Bunting is not permitted. Full swing must be taken, or shall be called out and ball is dead. If the batter slings the bat, the player will receive one warning. Second offense, the batter is out. Dead ball.

18. SPECIAL RULES APPLICABLE TO GIRLS 8U COACH PITCH DIVISION

A base runner is out for leaving the base before the ball reaches the plate. Stealing is not allowed.

19. SPECIAL RULES APPLICABLE TO GIRLS 8U MACHINE PITCH DIVISION

Pitching speed is 35 MPH for Girls 8U Machine Pitch at the plate. Officials shall make necessary adjustments when needed during all TTA tournament play.

The defensive player listed as pitcher cannot leave the pitching circle until the ball is hit. For added safety, the Pitcher must have both feet in the pitching circle and be no closer to the batter than the front legs of the pitching machine until the ball leaves the machine.