



BRONCO DIVISION GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are for use during Bronco League play and, when applicable are a supplement to the Official Baseball Rules, PONY Baseball Rules and SMYB By-laws utilized in the league. All play shall be governed by 2022 PONY Baseball rules, SMYB By-laws and the SMYB Division Guidelines.

Any violation of the SMYB By-Laws, Division Guidelines or Pony Rules may result in a forfeit of the game and/or the suspension of a player, manager, coach, umpire, or any other person for such period as shall be deemed appropriate by the Board.

Games will be played at Mission Sports Park and Bradley Park. The Home team will occupy the 3rd base dugout; the visiting team will be in the 1st base dugout. Home team is responsible for all needed equipment for their game. First home team each game day will put out bases, rake field where necessary, and chalk foul lines and batter boxes. Each subsequent home team will rake field and chalk where necessary. Last home team each game day is responsible for putting away all equipment including but not limited to bases, scorebook, scoreboard controller, and rakes. **ALL TEAMS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING DUGOUTS CLEAN.**

Only SMYB Board approved managers and coaches will be allowed on the field during practices and games. The team manager is solely responsible for ensuring that each assistant coach submits a "Coach's Application" and that they are approved by the SMYB Board prior to being on the field.

1. A "Slide or avoid" rule shall be enforced. The rule is:

In all instances where it is apparent a defensive player protecting a base is in possession of a live ball and attempting to tag (or force out) an advancing runner out at that base, the runner shall slide if he chooses to continue his advance. Base runners shall not intentionally attempt to dislodge a live ball from the possession of a defensive player attempting to make an out on the player advancing to that base by use of physical force while not in the process of sliding. Base runners shall not run into, strike, attempt to knock them down. If the base runner chooses not to slide, he must avoid contact with the defensive player in possession of the ball, or if allowed, return to the previous base.



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PENALTY: In the event a base runner fails to "Slide or avoid" in a situation described, he shall be declared out.

2. Catchers, or another defensive player covering any base, may not intentionally block the base or base path unless they are in possession of a live ball, or in the process of receiving a live ball being thrown to them to immediately attempt to tag out an advancing runner.

PENALTY: In the event a defensive player commits the described action, he shall be declared to have committed interference and the advancing runner allowed to score.

3. Game Guidelines:

- a. A team must have at least 8 players, in proper uniform, to start a game. After a game has started, a team may finish the game with less than 8 players.
- b. **WEEKEND GAMES (2:00 no new, 2:15 hard stop)** – Game time will be 2 hours and 15 minutes or 7 innings, whichever occurs first. A new inning begins at the time the 3rd out of the previous inning is made. There is no "grace" period while teams take the field, or a pitcher warms up. For example, if the 3rd out of the bottom of an inning is made at 1:59 mark, the top of the following inning begins at the same time. No new inning may begin after 2 hours. If a full inning is not completed by the 2 hour and 15 minute hard stop, the score will revert to the prior completed inning.
- c. **WEEKNIGHT GAMES (1:40 no new, 1:50 hard stop)** – Game time will be 1 hour and 50 minutes or 7 innings, whichever occurs first. A new inning begins at the time the 3rd out of the previous inning is made. There is no "grace" period while the teams take the field, or a pitcher warms up. For example, if the 3rd out of the bottom of an inning is made at 1:39 mark, the top of the following inning begins at the same time. No new inning may begin after 1 hour and 40 minutes. If a full inning is not completed by the 1 hour and 50 minute hard stop, the score will revert to the prior completed inning.



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- d. If a game is tied at the end of the seventh inning and the time limit specified in paragraph 'b or c' has not been reached, an additional inning(s) may be played; however, no new inning may start after the time limit has expired. Games that are tied at the completion of the time limit will be recorded as tie games.
- e. All players present for a game shall play unless unable to play due to illness, injury, or suspension pursuant to the most recent By-laws. Games will include free defensive substitution and full-roster batting in an established batting order. Managers shall provide the opposing manager with a line-up card listing the players present and their batting order prior to the beginning of each game. No player may sit twice before ALL players have sat out once, unless due to injury or illness. In the event a player is unable to play due to injury or illness, it shall be documented in the Official Scoring Book.
- f. No player shall be removed from a game mid-inning by the manager or coach and replaced by a player from the bench unless it is due to injury, illness, or disciplinary reasons. Once a player is designated as sitting during an inning, he must sit the entire inning unless needed to replace a player due to injury, illness, or disciplinary reasons.
- g. No pinch runners are allowed unless it is for an injury incurred during the game or to allow for the catcher to gear up in preparation for the next inning.
- h. Metal cleats are prohibited on all portable mounds.
- i. No player may play in games if they have any type of cast due to previous injury.
- j. Throwing any equipment will not be tolerated. First time the player will be warned. Second time the player will be called out.
- k. Fall Ball - runs will be limited to 5 runs per inning per team. No official scorekeeping is required. SMYB will not maintain game records. No playoffs.

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•OUT H BASEBALL

1. Spring Ball - all innings are open innings, no run rule. Home team provides official scorer.

4. EQUIPMENT

a. If a manager suspects an illegal bat is being used, he/she is to bring it to the attention of the Plate Umpire who will make the determination if the bat is to be removed from play. If the Umpire is uncertain, the bat will be removed from play and evaluated by the Division Director and Umpire Director. If the bat is removed from play, the player and manager may stay in the game, but the player must use an approved bat.