**2025 Sanford 8U Baseball/Softball All-Star Tournament Rules**

**June 6th – 8th**

All Little League rules apply with the following exceptions:

* Birth certificates must be available at any time.
* Each team must provide 1 new ball per game.
* One coach is allowed on field during defense.
* 6 innings, no new inning begins after 1 hour 30 min (Finish inning in progress; pool play can end in ties). Next inning starts as soon as 3rd out of previous inning is completed.
* There is NO time limit on the championship game.
* Mercy rule: 12 runs after 3 innings, 10 after 4, 8 after 5
* Max run rule of +5 per inning. Visiting team scores 5 in top of 1, home team can then score 10 to go ‘up 5’ in bottom of 1. If visiting team doesn’t score in top of 2nd, home team can then score 5 in bottom of 2.
* Coin toss determines home team. In bracket play, higher seed has choice.
* Pitching distance is 40 feet for baseball, 35 feet for softball.
* Coach comes in to pitch after ball 4 and assumes count. Coach must pitch from the mound for baseball and within the circle for softball. No walks. Pitcher must stand behind and to one side or other of the coach pitcher.
* Pitcher can pitch 6 consecutive outs per game for baseball – max of 18 outs for tournament. 9 outs for softball – no tourney max. No walks.
* Runner awarded 1st base on hit by pitch (during kid pitch).
* Baseball: Stealing when it hits backstop. No stealing of home. Softball: No stealing
* Ball is dead when an infielder has it. An outfielder on the dirt does not count. We will mark 30 foot line between bases to determine base that kid gets. 1 base on overthrow.
* International Tiebreaker Rule (for elimination games/extra innings within time limit) - The last player to have an official full at bat in the previous inning begins at second base to start the new inning with one out.
* Bunting is allowed with kid pitching.
* Bat roster. Bats must have USA sticker.
* 2 innings defensively per player; 4 outfielders allowed.
* Courtesy runner allowed for the catcher.
* No balks, infield fly rule, or dropped 3rd strike.
* Seeds based on, in order:
  + Win %
  + Head to head (if only 2 teams)
  + Run Differential
  + Runs Against
  + Runs Scored
  + Coin Toss