

2026 Swing Into Summer Baseball Tournament

May 29-31, 2026

Rules and Information for 9U to 12U Baseball Division

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Copies of birth certificates must be available for review at all times during the Tournament. If any team has a question concerning a player or players your team must produce the Birth Certificates for the team by the conclusion of the game or within 15 minutes if the game has concluded. No exceptions will be allowed. If you do not produce the Birth Certificates your team will forfeit that game. Team receiving the win will be given 1 run for tie breaker purposes.
- Individual awards will be given to the first and second place teams.
- All game balls will be supplied by the tournament.
- All participants are competing at their own risk. By participating, you agree to hold the Tournament Director, tournament officials, tournament hosts, and tournament sponsors harmless from any liability resulting from participation in the tournament. Team insurance is mandatory and must be emailed to swingintosummerbaseball@gmail.com prior to the 1st game and available upon request.
- Issues/concerns: Any questions, issues, or concerns should be directed to Tournament Director.

TEAM ARRIVAL & MINIMUM PLAYERS

- Teams may choose to hit 9, utilize an extra hitter, or bat their entire lineup. Coaches need to declare this prior to each game. Teams that hit their entire lineup may utilize free defensive substitutions. Teams that hit 9, or utilize a DH, will follow USSSA rules regarding substitutions.
- A team must be able to field a minimum of 8 players at the scheduled game time to not forfeit and may not add players after the start of the game without agreement of the other team and the umpire. For each player less than the allowed number of defensive players, an out will be assessed each time through the batting order. If a player is unable to continue playing in a game due to injury, the team will take an out for each time the injured player was to bat.
- Game time is forfeit time. Please have your team warmed up and ready to play. Games may begin earlier than published.

PRE-GAME WARM-UPS

- No infield warm up will be allowed. You may take ground balls in foul territory. You may take fly balls in the outfield playing area.

HOME TEAM DESIGNATION

- Pool games: The home team will be determined by coin flip.

- Bracket games: The higher seed will be the home team. If both teams have an equal seed, a coin toss will be used to determine home team. Home team is responsible for the official scorebook unless teams agree otherwise.

TIEBREAKER CRITERIA

- Rules to determine playoff eligibility/seeding

- 1) Head to head competition
- 2) Runs Allowed
- 3) Run Differential (+10 max per game)
- 4) Coin Toss

- For any forfeited game, the winning team will be awarded a 6-0 victory for tiebreaker purposes.

UMPIRES

- Umpires have complete control of the game. Umpires will settle protests immediately. Umpire has final say on all in game decisions. The Tournament Director will not over rule the umpire. Do not go to the Tournament Director with an on field issue or call. Umpires rulings are final.

- Any player, coach, fan or parent not displaying proper sportsmanship and conduct will be asked to leave the game site for the good of the game. Any player or coach ejected from the game will also be suspended for the remainder of the tournament. No foul language will be allowed. We have a zero tolerance policy in this tournament. Teams not displaying proper sportsmanship will not be allowed back.

WEATHER

- If weather problems occur, the Tournament Directors may elect to shorten the time limit or number of innings for the entire tournament so all games can be played. In the event inclement weather results in shortened playing time, the following will be the general process to reschedule or cancel games:

1. Schedules will be adjusted and game times will be shortened. Game times will be shortened to 1 hour 15 minutes. Schedules will be delayed, but the latest game start time will be 6:30pm Sunday night.
2. Playoff schedules will be changed to give the Championship game the best chance of being played.
3. Semi-final games (ie. 1st Place v 2nd Place of each division) will be cancelled. This may result in only 1st place v. 1st place playing for the championship.
4. Cancellation of championship game.

The above process is a general rule and may be altered based on the circumstances. The priority of the tournament will be to play as many games as possible and ensure the Championship game is played. In the event of a rainout, games played up to that point will be used to determine the winners. In order for a game to count a minimum of 3 innings must have been completed.

CANCELLATION POLICY

- In case tournament is rained out or shortened due to weather here is the refund policy; If your team has played 2 games there is no refund, if your team only played 1 game you will get a 50% refund and if

your team played zero games you will be refunded 75%. The Tournament Director along with the Umpires will be the judges of field playability in the event of rain. We will make every effort to play all games. In the event of a rainout, games played up to that point will be used to determine the winners.

PLAYING RULES

- Pitchers may pitch 6 innings total for the tournament or 18 outs. Once a pitcher is removed from pitching, he may not pitch in that game again. Three outs constitutes having pitched a complete inning.
- All games will consist of 6 innings with a time limit of 1 hour and 45 minutes. No new inning can start after the time limit. In pool play, there can be ties. If the bracket game is tied after regulation time or regulation innings, then the International Tie-Breaker shall be put into effect after the bottom of the last inning. The new inning shall begin with the last player to have an official at-bat in the previous inning on 2nd base to start the new inning with 1 out and no count on the batter. Both teams will have an at bat with this format.
- There will be no time limit for the championship games. For time limit games: the game is considered started the moment before the first pitch is thrown (this will be confirmed by the umpire with the coaches), and the moment the 3rd out is achieved in the bottom of an inning, the next inning is considered started.
- For 9U-12U, unless exceptions are noted, games will be played according to the official 2026 USSSA rules.
- A courtesy runner can be used for the pitcher and catcher at any time. The runner will be the last available out. A courtesy runner can only be used for the pitcher and catcher of record.
- There will be a 12 run mercy rule after 3 innings, 10 run mercy rule after 4 innings, and 8 run after 5. The mercy rule will be in effect for the championship game.
- On contested plays at second, third, or home, all runners will slide or be ruled out. There will be no barreling or fake tagging. Violators will be ejected from the game. It will be the discretion of the umpires and tournament directors on further game suspensions. Umpires will declare what is a contested play.
- If a player is injured while on base, the player who was the last available out may replace him.
- No metal spikes.
- All bats must be stamped with the 1.15 BPF stamp or be BBCOR certified. Any team using a bat other than 1.15 BPF or BBCOR certified will forfeit all runs scored to the point in the game that the violation is discovered. Additionally any runners on base will be ruled out for the team committing the violation. No wooden bats. All models of Demarini Zen bats for year 2017 are banned.

DIVISION SPECIFIC RULES

9U Division

- Base distance will be 60 feet.
- Pitching distance will be 46 feet.

- No leading off until ball crosses home plate. Runner will be called out if leading off early.
- No stealing until the ball crosses home plate.
- Batter is out on a dropped third strike.
- No balks will be called.
- No infield fly rule will be called.
- Ten defensive players, which shall consist of four outfielders on the outfield grass. Rover position will not be allowed.
- Maximum roster size of 14 players.

10U Division

- Base distance will be 60 feet.
- Pitching distance will be 46 feet.
- Runners may lead off and steal.
- Stealing of home will be allowed.
- Balks will be enforced.
- Batter may run on dropped third strike.
- Infield fly rule will be in effect.
- Nine defensive players.
- Maximum roster size of 14 players.

11U/12U Division

- Base distance will be 70 feet.
- Pitching distance will be 50 feet.
- Runners may lead off and steal.
- Stealing home will be allowed.
- Batter may run on dropped third strike.
- Balks will be enforced.
- Infield fly rule is in effect.
- Nine defensive players.
- Maximum roster size of 14 players.