Updated: March 9 2025.

## Rules – 12U

1. Diamond Dimensions:

Bases – 70 ft Pitcher's Rubber – 50 ft 2<sup>nd</sup> Base – 99 ft

- 2. Soft toss hitting into approved netting is permitted at games.
- 3. Each game will consist of 6 innings if allowed by the time limit. No inning of a game will start more than 1 hour and 45 minutes after the beginning of the game. If the game is tied after 6 innings one extra inning may be played if allowed by the time limit. If the time limit has been surpassed, a tie game is declared and each team receives ½ win and ½ loss in the standings. Each team may take a 5 minute infield practice before the start of a game.
- 4. It is an official game after 4 ½ innings have been played if the home team is ahead. Otherwise, it is an official game after 5 innings.
- 5. The home team coach has the responsibility to reschedule rain out and incomplete games with his/her town Director and the schedule coordinator. These games should be played at the earliest possible date.
- 6. Scoring is limited to 6 runs in any one inning.
- 7. The ten run rule applies after 5 complete innings unless after 4 ½ innings the home team is ahead by 10 runs. Play may continue if the Coaches both agree and scoreboards can be turned off.
- 8. Free substitution follows Bronco League Rules. Each team player present at a game will be listed in the batting order. Each player will bat according to his turn in the order. A side is retired after 3 outs or 6 runs scored. Each player should play a minimum of 2 innings on defense. You may put your pitcher back into the game once removed in any position except as pitcher. A pitcher may pitch 3 innings per day and all innings are to be consecutive. Pitchers may pitch 9 innings per week calculated Sunday at midnight to the following Sunday at midnight. In the event of a double header, a pitcher may pitch three innings in each game...coaches please remember they are only kids!
- 9. If a balk occurs, the pitcher will receive one warning. After one warning runners will be moved. If there is a runner or runners on base, it is a balk when:
  - **A** The pitcher, while touching the pitching plate, makes any motion naturally associated with his pitch and fails to make such delivery.
  - **B** The pitcher, while touching the pitching plate, feints a throw to first base and fails to complete the throw.
  - **C** The pitcher, while touching the pitching plate, fails to step directly toward a base before throwing to that base.
  - **D** The pitcher, while touching the pitching plate, throws or feints a throw to an unoccupied base except for the purpose of making a play on a runner at that base.
  - E The pitcher makes any motion toward home plate naturally associated with his pitch while he

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is not touching the pitcher's plate.

- **F** The pitcher, without having the ball, stands on or astride the pitcher's plate or, while off the plate, feints a pitch.
- **G** The pitcher, while touching the pitching plate, accidentally or intentionally drops the ball.
- I The pitcher delivers the pitch from set position without coming to a stop.
- J- Once a pitcher makes contact with the pitching plate the front shoulder must not turn toward  $1^{st}$  base. If a throw to  $1^{st}$  does not accompany the shoulder turn it is a balk.
- **K** The pitcher fails to enter the rubber with his hands separated.
- If a runner is on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Pitcher may feint a throw to third then spin and throw to first.
- 10. Stealing along with lead-offs are permitted. All runners should slide on a close play at a base or risk being called out. The umpire may eject the player if, in his judgment, the non-slide was a flagrant attempt to run into the catcher. All such plays will be based on the subjective judgment of the umpire.
- 11. A batter may run after 3 strikes and may advance to first if a third strike is not caught by the catcher or the catcher short hops a third strike from the ground.
- 12. The infield fly rule will be enforced for all appropriate situations.
- 13. If, in the judgment of the umpire, a fielder or runner initiates intentional rough play at a base the player or players may be ejected and outs and bases administered accordingly. It is the responsibility of the runner to avoid collisions with fielders when either leading off or running to a base. Fielders cannot intentionally restrain a runner. Umpires may award bases, outs, and ejections according to judgment if such incidents occur.
- 14. Good sportsmanship is expected to be practiced at all times by coaches, parents, fans, and players. If, in the judgment of the umpire or umpires, someone is abusing the privilege of watching or playing in the game there will be one warning issued. If behavior is not improved the game will be halted and a forfeit declared.
- 15. After each game both home and visiting teams are expected to police their respective side line, dugout, spectator area, and parking lot area for litter. Place the litter in trash containers.
- 16. Any situation not covered above will fall under IESA Rules.
- 17. A team's roster must remain the same throughout the season and into the end-of-year tournament. However, if necessary, teams may add players from a younger division, provided those players have actively participated in the league during the season. Any roster changes or additions must be approved by the league commissioner and all players will wear their league-assigned jersey.