

22-Feb-10

Dakota Ridge Baseball Association
March Madness
Littleton, Colorado

2010 TOURNAMENT RULES AND GUIDELINES

1 Summary Tourney Rules

General	USSSA Rules will apply for all divisions, with highlights and any exceptions noted below.
Time Limits	All 9 and 10 year old divisions will have a game time limit of 1:45 minutes, with no new inning starting after 1 hour and 45 minutes regardless of the score. All 11 through 14 year old divisions will have a game time limit of 2:00 hours. All pool games will finish at the end of the inning in which the 2 hour limit expires regardless of score. See below for tie-game situation rules for pool games. There is no time limit for championship. The mercy run rule is in effect for the Championship.
Innings/Game	(6) inning games for ages 9, 10, & 11; and (7) inning games for ages 12, 13, & 14. A game is considered "complete" at the conclusion of the 4th inning in the event of darkness or inclement weather conditions. If a game is considered complete because of weather in the middle of an inning after the 4th inning, the score will revert to the previous full inning played.
Pitching	Pitching rules revert to the JCJBL rule sheet attached to these rules for each age/level. One pitch equals 1/3 inning. Only the starting pitcher can return to pitch in the same game if he remained in the batting order.
Run Rule	Games shall end if a team is ahead by 15 runs after 3 innings, or 12 runs after 4 innings, or 8 runs after 5 innings for all divisions. This run rule remains in effect for championship and consolation games. There is no time limit for Championship or Consolation games.
Mound Trips	1 per inning; pitcher must be removed on 2nd trip during the same inning.
Courtesy Runner	Courtesy runners are allowed for catchers in all situations, with the player making the last recorded out being the designated runner in this situation. Only the last catcher from the last inning is eligible for a courtesy runner.
Warm-ups	No pre-game infield is allowed on the game fields with the exception of the (10) warm up pitches for each starting pitcher at the start of the game. Teams should conduct all pre-game drills and warm-ups on any open space they can find.
Seeding	Seeding for each division will be based on the following criteria/priority -- (1) overall record in pool play, (2) head-to-head record, (3) total runs allowed, (4) total run differential, and finally, (5) coin flip.
On Field	Only rostered team players and coaches are allowed on the playing field and in dugouts before, during, and after games. Other assistants and helpers must remain outside the fenced area of the field for safety and liability reasons.
Batting Line-up	Coaches may bat the entire lineup (free substitution), or bat 10 players with an EH. The entire lineup choice must be used for the entire game.
Home/Away	Pool play...a coin toss will determine the home team (and official scorekeeper). In the playoffs and championship games the home team is the higher seed.
Protests	No protests are allowed. All issues will be addressed on the field, and all umpire/tournament director decisions are final.

Pitching Chart	The official pitching chart must be signed by the opposing coach at the end of each game. Pitching sheets are included in this attachment or can be downloaded at www.dakotaridgebaseball.org
Forfeits	A forfeit is reported as 6-0 for all 9 year old through 11 year old divisions. A forfeit is reported as 7-0 for all 12 year old through 14 year old divisions. PLEASE NOTE: If it is determined that a team forfeited a pool game in order to save pitching for the playoffs or championship game; the tournament director will eject the team from the playoffs or championship and move the next highest team in.
Tiebreakers	Tiebreaker rules for the playoffs are as follows: (1) overall winning percentage in pool play, (2) head-to-head record, (3) total runs allowed, (4) total run differential, (5) coin flip.
Scoresheets	Both coaches of each team must sign the scoresheet verifying the score at the conclusion of the game before leaving the field.
Scores	Scores will be posted at www.dakotaridgebaseball.org as soon as possible after the first day's games are played. Schedules and results will be posted at each complex for the respected division playing there.
Playoff seeding & Championship game	All teams need to be at the complex where their division will be playing at the conclusion of pool play. The tournament site coordinator along with the tournament director will determine the playoff seedings as soon as possible after the last pool game and will let each team know who made the playoffs or championship game.

2 Awards

Champion	The division champion will receive a team award at the conclusion of play, and each player will receive an individual champion award
Runner-up	The division runner-up will receive a team award at the conclusion of play, and each player will received an individual finalist award.

3 Rosters & Eligibility

Roster	There will be no coaches meeting. However, coaches must check in with tournament officials at their field before their first game to provide an official, USSSA signed roster. No USSSA state berths will be awarded without an official, signed roster.
Conduct	Any conduct by players, coaches, parents and/or spectators, deemed to be detrimental to the game and tourney, may result in immediate ejection of that person from the facility, and may include additional actions including forfeiture of game(s), and possible ejection of that team for the remainder of the tourney.

4

Weather	All decisions regarding play during inclement weather will be made by the tourney director and site directors, after collaboration with the umpires and coaches for each respective situation. We will make all reasonable attempts to complete the tourney, including the option of a shortened format to assure a championship game in each division.
Cancellation	In the event that no games are played and the tourney is cancelled entirely, teams will be refunded their entire registration fee less \$50 to cover fixed and committed costs for field rental and umpire fees. In the event that 1 pool game is played, 50 percent of the entry fee will be due to each eligible team. If two or more games are played, irrespective of conclusion, no refunds can be made due to fixed and committed costs for fields, umpires, awards, and USSSA fees.