



## 2018 USSSA High School Rules

1. All Rosters **MUST** be entered on USSSA website before beginning of play.
2. All teams **MUST** have proper insurance. If it is not USSSA insurance, proof **MUST** be sent to the tournament director before play begins.
3. All tournaments will be played under USSSA Baseball Rules, except where noted.
4. The tournament director reserves the right to amend any rule, schedule, diamond location, or format, to accommodate time constraints, weather situations, etc.
5. All High School Games will be 7 innings.
  - a. 14u teams playing in high school events will play 7 innings
  - b. 13u teams playing in showcase style events will still play 6 innings (This is for the safety of our younger players), but there will be no pitching restrictions. Please use caution!
6. **There are NO PITCHING LIMITATIONS at the high school (15u-18u) level. If 14u teams are playing in a high school event then there will be no limitations for them as well.**
  - a. Coaches, PLEASE USE DISCRETION with this rule. Remember that your players' safety and longevity of their career is critical!
7. The point system will be in effect: 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie.
8. There will be no batting practice OR infield practice prior to games.
  - a. Teams can hit whiffles, take grounders/fly balls in the outfield unless otherwise noted by the Site Director.
  - b. Please refrain from doing drills/ground balls on the infield skirting in front of dugouts.
9. Bats **MUST** be drop 3 with BBCORE Cert
  - a. Check USSSA site for any illegal bats
  - b. 14u teams playing in a 14u high school event are allowed to use 14u certified bats. If they are playing "UP" in a 15u event then they **MUST** comply with the BBCORE restrictions.
10. **Mercy Rules – 15 after 3, 12 after 4, 8 after 5**
11. There is a 2 hour time limit for ALL POOL PLAY GAMES AND BRACKET PLAY until the final. THERE IS NO TIME LIMIT IN THE FINAL.
  - a. Extra innings will be played in POOL PLAY as long as time permits.
  - b. After 9 Innings a player (last batted out in previous inning) will be placed on second base with nobody out and the inning will start from there.
12. Teams may choose to use an Extra Hitter (EH)
  - a. If team only has 10 players, uses an EH (hits entire lineup), and a player gets injured...every time that players place comes up in the lineup he is recorded as an out.
13. A Designated Hitter (DH) may be used for any defensive player, but must be noted in the lineup card.
14. **A team CAN use a DH (for a position player) and an EH.**
  - a. This rule allows coaches to get more players into the game which is important at this level
15. Courtesy runners may be used and are encouraged for the Pitcher and Catcher.
  - a. Runner must be a player not in the game
  - b. If all players are in the game then last batted out will be used.
  - c. PLEASE use a courtesy runner! Especially with TWO outs. This helps keep the pace of the game moving and is best for all teams.
16. Ties will be allowed in POOL PLAY ONLY
17. Major League baseball rules apply for pitcher changes. One visit per inning per pitcher. On the second visit the pitcher must be taken out.
18. **No Third to First move by pitchers.**
19. Each game will start with two NEW game balls that are supplied by USSSA, PLEASE make sure your players or parents are going after ALL balls out of play.
20. ALL participants are competing at their own risk and by participating agrees to hold USSSA, all Tournament Officials, all facilities and their owner/directors, all umpires, and directors harmless from any liability resulting from participating in the tournament.
21. Bracket winners will automatically advance to the championship bracket, and will ALWAYS be the higher seed than a wild card team. Seeds for bracket play will be determined by the tournament tie-breakers. Wildcard teams will also be determined by tournament tie-breakers.
22. Removal of coaches, players, OR parents from a game will result in one additional game suspension.  
\*Coach/Player/Parent misses the rest of the game being played and the entirety of the next.
23. Rules Questions should always be brought to the umpire first. If there are questions after this meeting, then they can be brought to the site director. USSSA will have a Site Director at all fields.