**Bronco Rules** - **2024**

**SLIDE RULE**: Players are often injured when not necessary.  The purpose of the home plate slide rule is to avoid unnecessary contact at home plate.

1. No player can block a base including home plate without having possession of the ball.
2. If in the umpire’s judgement, any player blocks a runner’s path to any base including home plate, the umpire should call obstruction on the defensive player and the base runner should be awarded the base.
3. If the catcher is holding the ball before the runner reaches home plate, the runner must slide or attempt to go around the catcher. If the runner runs into the catcher without sliding or attempting to go around, the umpire will call the runner out for unnecessary contact.
4. **If the ball and the runner arrive at the same time, the runner does not have to slide.**
5. **If in the umpire’s judgement the contact was intent to cause injury, the player will be ejected from the game.**

**BAT RULE**: Any drop 3 bat needs to be BBCOR and no more than two and five-eights (2 5/8") in diameter.  No 2 3/4" bats are allowed.  If illegal bat is detected before the first pitch of an at bat, the bat shall be removed from the game.  The player is not out and is required to use a legal bat.  If illegal bat is detected after first pitch or after the ball has been hit, the batter is out and base runner shall not advance.  **JAN 1, 2018 all (-5, -7, -9 etc) bats must be YBBCOR certified with the USABat licensing stamp on bat. All bats used in 2017 (or before) will be illegal to use in 2018.**

**TIME LIMITS**: Bronco will be two (2) hours.

1. No inning shall start after the time limit.
2. **When the third out is made before the time limit is reached, play should continue**.
3. If the score is **tied** when the time limit is reached, **one extra inning** will be played.

Games called due to weather or darkness are considered a complete game:

a.  If four and one half (4 ½ ) innings are complete and the home team has scored more

     runs than the visiting team.

b.  If the visiting team has scored more runs than the home team after five (5) complete

                 innings.

c.  If a game in the 6th or 7th inning is called due to weather or darkness and an inning

                 cannot be completed the score will revert to the last inning.

**Exceptions to the time limit**: Games can start with one umpire.  Otherwise, the time limit should start at the scheduled starting time.  It is the manager’s responsibility to have their warmups done and have their team ready to start on time.  Before starting the game, both managers, umpires and official scorekeepers should check and agree on starting time.

**PLAYERS**:

1. Bronco teams can borrow from Mustang (9-10) and Pony teams can borrow from Bronco (11-12) Or you can borrow from your age division to avoid a forfeiture.
2. No more than three players can be borrowed.
3. You can also use a player from the opposing team.
4. Any additional player must play the outfield and bat ninth.  If you borrow a player and your 9th player shows up, the borrowed player must play 2 innings in the field and bat once and then he would exit the game and you player will finish the game.
5. You can start a game with only 8 players and the 9th batter would be an automatic out.
6. Teams will utilize a continuous batting order.
7. Bronco players must play **two innings in the field.**

**TRAVEL PLAYERS** No player shall be a rostered player on two teams.  Any Bronco team that has a player on a travel team or another league will forfeit all games in which this player played and will be removed from the Bronco/DuPage/Crossroads team.

**COURTESY RUNNERS** can be used for pitchers and catcher.

1. Must be 2 outs in an inning.
2. The courtesy runner must be the player that made the last out.

**BALKS**    **Bronco** - There will be one (1) warning on a balk per pitcher until June 1.  After

June 1 all balks will be called.

**TEN RUN RULE**:

1. 10 runs after 5 innings
2. 15 runs after 4 innings

**SPIKES:**  Metal spikes are not allowed.

**RAIN OUTS**

1. All rain outs must be rescheduled within 48 hours of the original scheduled date and                     must be played within 10 days of the original scheduled date.
2. If the home team field is not available, then the visiting team should be asked if they have a field available.
3. If the game is played at the visiting teams field the home team will supply baseballs and bring money for umpires.

**RAIN DELAYS**

1. An additional 15 minutes will be added to the original time limit.
2. If a rain delay (s) is longer than 15 minutes, it will count against the original time limit.
3. Bronco with a rain delay is not to exceed (start an inning after) 2 hours & 15 minutes.

**PROTESTS**

1. Since all teams make the playoffs, no games will be played under protest.

**PITCHING**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **AGE** | **NO REST** | **1 Day Rest** | **2 Days Rest** | **3 Days Rest** | **4 DAYS Rest** | **Max in 1 Day** |
| **11-12** | **1-30** | **31-45** | **46-60** | **61-75** | **75-85** | **85** |

**Example: If a player throws 45 pitches in a game, 1 day must pass until the player can pitch again.  24 hours does not constitute 1 day rest.  The player must have an entire day off from pitching.**

**Any player that throws more than 41 pitches will be ineligible to play the position of Catcher.**

**Any player that plays the Catcher position for more than 4 innings will be ineligible to play the Pitcher position.**

Any rule not specified, will follow the rules of Major League Baseball.