

# **2020 BATTLE AT THE BEACH PLAYING RULES**

## **General Rules**

1. **ALL COVID RULES MUST BE FOLLOWED by players, Coaches and Spectators**
2. Games will be **6** innings. Semi-finals and Championships will play to completion.
3. No Inning is to begin after 2 hours from the start of the game. If games starts are delayed, coaches should make notation of start time with the umpire and opposing coach.
  - a. The umpire may award additional time if it is judged there are delays, stalls or stoppage in play by the team with the lead during the last 15 minutes (Examples include coach visits to the mound, mid-inning pitching changes, injury, equipment malfunction, delays in taking the field)
4. Each team will play with 9 defensive players on the field.
5. Home team is decided by coin-flip for all games for all pool play. *Dugouts are pre-determined.*
6. A team must forfeit a game if at least eight players are not present for the start of the game. If a team should drop below the eight-player minimum during the game, the forfeiture rule shall apply.
7. Stealing of all bases is permitted. Runners may not leave the base until the ball crosses the plate or is struck. One warning per team per game. Second offense, runner is out.
8. Delayed stealing is not permitted. When the catcher has possession of the ball, and the umpire has judged that the runner has no true intent to advance, Play is dead.
9. **The Infield Fly Rule is in effect.**
10. **Bats must contain the USA Bat emblem. Bats shall not exceed 2<sup>5/8</sup>"**
11. A Continuous-Batting Rule will be used. All Players on the bench will be in the batting line-up. **There will be unlimited defensive substitution.** All players present must play at least 2 full innings in the field. If a player is injured and cannot continue to play the player's position in the continuous batting order will be crossed out. A player cannot re-enter the game if batting position is passed.
12. Players showing up late are to be added to the end of the batting order.
13. There will be a **six-run limit per inning** with exception of the 6<sup>th</sup> inning or any extra inning. This will not be in effect for any presumed "last inning" prior to the 6<sup>th</sup> inning.
14. **10 Run Rule** will be in effect so long as the team with fewer runs has had at least 4 at bats. This rule will also apply in all Playoff & Championship Games.
15. A team down by more than 10 runs prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> inning can score unlimited as needed to get within 10 runs to prevent the mathematical end of the game prior to their 4<sup>th</sup> at bat.
16. Batters can be put out at first base from the outfield.
17. Outfielders can participate in any capacity in an out.
18. **Bunting is allowed.**
19. Fake bunts are not allowed, once a batter shows bunt, he/she cannot take a full swing. Penalty is a called strike. Runners cannot advance (steal)
20. There is **no on-deck circle** and there is no swinging of bats or playing catch outside of a fenced-in field by players or spectators.
21. All players and coaches must remain in the dugout, behind the fencing. Players are not permitted to leave the dugout during a game.
22. Throwing a bat will result in a team warning. The next team thrown bat will be a dead ball and the batter called out.
23. With two outs, a pinch runner should be provided for the catcher if he/she is on base. The replacement should be the last batted out.
24. All players must slide feet first unless returning to a base. Sliding headfirst to a new base will be ruled an out.

## **Pitching Rules**

- A player can pitch up to 6 innings in the first 4 games.
- An extra inning is awarded each player for the Championship
- One pitch thrown in an inning constitutes an inning pitched
- Please use good sense related to pitcher use. If a player's arm appears fatigued, replace him/her.

## **Playoffs**

- TBD

## **Tie Breakers**

### 2 Team Tie

- Head-to-head

3 or more team tie (cycle through until one team declared a winner, then cycle through again).

- Least runs allowed
- Run differential (no game to exceed a 10 run win)
- Head to Head
- Coin Flip

Tournament Director

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