

Brookfield Bulldogs Backyard Bash Tournament Rules

Eligibility:

- 1) A player is eligible for a given age group if he/she is that age on May 1. Proof of age is required, if challenged.
- 2) Rosters may be changed with the Field Marshal prior to their first game. After first pitch of a team's first game rosters are frozen.
- 3) A player may be on ONLY one roster for the tournament weekend.

Equipment

- 4) Throat protectors or hockey style masks are required for all catchers.
- 5) All batters and runners must wear helmets with earflaps. No exceptions.
- 6) Bats may be up to 2 3/4" barrel diameter. There is no restriction on weight to length difference.

Games

- 7) Games will be 1 Hour 45 Minutes, except as noted.
 - a) In the event of an injury the scorer will stop the time and restart after the game is ready for play.

b) Pool Play:

- i) Home team is determined by coin flip.
 - (1) The team traveling the farthest shall have the honor of calling the flip
 - (2) Winner of the flip has the choice of home or away
- ii) 6 Innings, or one hour and forty-five minutes in duration
- iii) No Tie Breakers: Games tied when Game Time expires will be scored as a Tie.
- iv) Run Rule: Team ahead by ten (10) runs at the end of four (4) innings will be declared the winner.

c) Championship Brackets:

- i) Home team determined by Seed. Better seed (lower number) is Home team.
- ii) 7 Innings
- iii) No Time Limit, however we will use California Rules to resolve Championship Bracket games that are tied after regulation time limit/innings.
 - (1) California Rules will begin after one hour and forty-five minutes, or completion of the inning in progress at 1hr 45min.
 - (2) California Rules place the person who made the last out in the previous inning at second base to start the extra inning. Play then continues as usual.

d) Championship Game:

- i) No Time Limits of any kind.

Baseball Rules

- 8) All rules of baseball play follow the National Federation High School Rules with the following exceptions: (See also the age specific exceptions for your age group)
- 9) Runner may score on a passed ball, wild pitch, or a ball returned to the pitcher.
- 10) Substitutions:

- a) may be used at any time.
 - b) A starting player may re-enter once, while a substitute may not re-enter.
 - i) Players may re-enter the game at any time in their original batting order.
 - ii) Exception: Once taken out as a pitcher the player may NOT re-enter as a pitcher in that game.
 - iii)
- 11) Batting:
- a) U9-12: Continuous batting of the entire roster is allowed.
 - b) U13-14: High School Rules
- 12) Courtesy runners:
- a) MAY be used for the Pitcher and Catcher of Record.
 - i) No running for pitchers and catchers who will be substituted into the game.
 - b) MUST be used for the catcher of record when there are two outs.
 - c) The runner must be a player who is currently not in the game and may not be used as a substitute for any other player in that same half inning.
 - i) If no eligible player is available to courtesy run, then the player who made the last batted out will be allowed to run.
- 13) There is no mandatory slide rule. A detailed explanation can be found at the bottom of the rules.

Pitching

- 14) Pitchers may pitch three (3) innings per game in U9-U12 and four (4) innings per game in U13-14.
 - a) Violation of this rule will result in forfeiture of any game by the offending team.
- 15) One pitch is considered an inning.
- 16) Once taken out as a pitcher the player may not re-enter as a pitcher in that game.
- 17) The ball is to be returned directly to the pitcher after an out is recorded. No Around-the-Horn!
- 18) Only five (5) warm-up pitches are allowed between innings or after a pitching change.

Forfeits/Penalties

- 19) A team must have a minimum eight players to start the game, otherwise the game is forfeit.
- 20) Any team, which does not take the field within twenty minutes of the scheduled start time, shall forfeit the game upon the opposing team taking the field and throwing the first pitch.
- 21) A Pool Game, forfeited as a result of a team not appearing to play, will result in the forfeiting team being disqualified from Championship Bracket play.
- 22) Finishing with 8 Players:
- a) If a team finishes with 8 players due to injury, that position in the order is an automatic out the first time it comes up.
 - b) If a team finishes with 8 players because a player leaves a game for other reasons or is ejected, that position in the order is an automatic out **each time it comes up**.

General

- 23) No use of infields before and between games.
- 24) Minimal infield/outfield between innings, at Umpires discretion. Umpires will keep things moving.
- 25) Teams must be at their appropriate field no less than 15 minutes before their scheduled start time in order to be ready in case of forfeit or Run rule game.
- 26) Give Scorer/Field Marshal your line up fifteen (15) minutes prior to game.
- 27) Coaches must sign official score sheet at the end of each game.**
- 28) No protests allowed. Decisions of the umpires, Field Marshals and Tournament Director are final.
- 29) Players, coaches, and spectators are expected to show good sportsmanship at all times.
 - a) Use of noise making devices such as air horns and cow bells is prohibited.

- b) Violation of this rule will start with a warning and may lead to disqualification from the tournament at the discretion of the tournament director.

Rain Delay and Rain Out

- 30) Games rained out MAY be re-scheduled.
 31) To catch up after a rain delay, Games MAY be shortened to 1 hour and fifteen minutes.
 32) No refunds will be issued once the tournament has begun. A partial refund will be given if the tournament is entirely cancelled because of weather.
 a) Game cancellations due to weather are under the control of the City of Brookfield Park and Recreation department, Town of Brookfield Park and Recreation department, and the tournament committee.
 33) Championship Bracket Seeding:
 a) ALL SEEDING will use the following tie breakers to determine seed:
 i) Win/Loss Record
 ii) Head to Head Record
 iii) Least Runs Allowed,
 iv) Run differential (max 10 per game),
 v) Coin Flip.
 b) Seeding may vary by Age Group, due to different pool, or round-robin structures.
 34) The Brookfield Bulldogs reserve the right to make changes to these rules as necessary. All changes will be communicated via email to the email address on the registration form.

Age Specific Variations

	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14
Base Paths	60'	60'	70'	70'	90'	90
Pitchers Mound	46'	46'	50'	50'	60'6"	60'6"
Advance on Drop 3rd Strike	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Leading Off	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stealing	After crossing plate	After leaves pitchers hand	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Infield Fly	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Continuous Batting Order	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	No	No
4th Outfielder	No	No	No	No	No	No
Balks	No	No	Yes – 1 warning per pitcher	Yes – 1 warning per pitcher	Yes – 1 warning per team	Yes – 1 warning per team
Extra Hitter	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional
Metal Spikes	No	No	No	No	No	Allowed

Extra Hitter

The EH (extra hitter) is designed to be used as a 10th hitter in the lineup. The coach at the beginning of the game must designate if he using the EH for the game. Once he has decided to use the EH he must continue to do so throughout the game. If at any time the team is left with less than ten (10) players, the spot vacated in the batting order by the missing player is an automatic out each time that position comes to up to bat. The EH may be used as a player in the field with the player in the field being used as the EH.

There is **NO** MANDATORY SLIDE RULE!

The sliding rules are all the same as the NFHS book rules. There are two main points.

The Force Play Slide Rule

Any runner who is in a force play, must either slide directly into the base or run himself out of the play avoiding contact with the fielder. If this is not done, this is considered interference and the runner is out and the B/R is automatically out for a double play, and all other runners must go back to the base they occupied at the time of the pitch. The runner may not “take out the fielder to break up the double play.” If the runner slides, it must be a legal slide according to book rule and if the second baseman is on the bag and the runner makes a legal slide into the bag and there is contact, interference should not be called.

Plays at the plate: Summary of the NFHS rule.

When there is a potential play at the plate, and the catcher has the ball, the runner must either make a legal slide or avoid contact. The catcher has the right to be in the base-path when he has the ball in his possession. If the catcher does not have possession of the ball and denies the runner access to the plate, then the catcher has committed obstruction and the runner may be awarded home. The runner has the right to reestablish his base path by running no more than 3 feet to either side of the base path to avoid contact. If the runner does attempt to avoid contact and there is incidental contact then this is a judgment call by the umpire. If the runner commits malicious contact, the runner is out and ejected.

Malicious contact supersedes obstruction.