

MADISON BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

2025 EARLY BIRD TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Games will be 6 innings – no new inning will start after 1 hour 45 minutes.
2. Home team will be decided by coin flip before the start of every game.
3. 15 run rule after 3 innings or 10 run rule after 4 innings.
4. Roster bat with free substitutions.
5. Teams must have at least 8 players to start the game. If only 8 players, an out will be recorded in the 9th batter spot in the lineup.
6. During pool play games, in the event of a tie after either 6 innings or the 1 hour 45 minutes time limit, the game will end in a tie.
7. Slide rule is in effect. Umpire discretion will be applied and the decision is final.
8. 10U Division
 - a. Runners may leave once the ball crosses home plate.
 - b. Home is closed, runners may only advance to home on a ball that was put in play by the offense.
 - c. Pitching distance is 46 feet.
 - d. Pitching limits – One pitch constitutes an inning pitched.
 - i. 2 Innings per game
 - ii. 6 Innings for the tournament
9. 12U Division
 - a. Runners may leave once the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.
 - b. Home is open to steal on a passed ball.
 - c. Players may run on a drop 3rd strike.
 - d. Pitching distance is 50 feet.
 - i. 3 innings per game
 - ii. 6 innings for the tournament
10. Once a pitcher is removed they cannot return to pitch during that game.
11. Courtesy runner for the catcher is allowed at any time. The last out will be used as the courtesy runner.
12. All bats must meet the USABAT standards and may not exceed 2 5/8" diameter and include the official USA Baseball stamp. Any illegal bats will be removed from the game and the batter is out.
13. Winning coaches are responsible for reporting game results to the tournament official.
14. Placing games will be determined as follows:
 - a. Head to Head
 - b. Runs Allowed
 - c. Runs Scored
 - d. Coin Flip