



2013 BASEBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS



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2013 PONY BASEBALL RULE CHANGES

Page 8 (12) (revision) - ADMINISTRATION: Change word - "legality" to "eligibility".

Page 8 (11) (revision) - ADMINISTRATION: League boundaries are recommended by the league, but are subject to the approval of the Division Director.

Page 12 (12) (revision) - Rule 3 A: "Palomino teams shall consist of not more than 1 nor less than 12 players and shall not exceed more than 6 players of age 19." ALSO: 2-(D)-(9): "Six 19 year old..."

Page 14 (12) (revision) - Rule 4 H: Include Passport as a certified birth document.

Page 14 (11) (revision) - Rule 5 A: League boundaries are recommended by the league but are subject to the approval of the Division Director.

Page 16 (12) (addition) - Rule 8 C: Add to last sentence, first paragraph. "No bat shall be used if dented, cracked, modified or misshaped."

Page 16 (11) (revision) - Rule 8 K: Cell phones, pagers or any other types of communication devices cannot be used on the field of play. The field of play includes bullpens, dugouts, coaches' boxes and other such areas where coaches, players, or umpires have access. One (1) laptop or tablet type device (IPAD) may be used for scorekeeping purposes. Wireless communication must not be enabled.

Page 17 (12) (addition) - Rule 8 C (4): Separate entry for 2 3/4" barrel bats. "2 3/4" barrel bats are prohibited in all divisions of PONY Baseball."

Page 18 (12) (addition) - Rule 8 D: "PONY officials take exception to anyone tampering with or altering equipment of any kind for the purpose of gaining advantage against opponents. Equipment includes but is not limited to balls, bats, spikes, head gear, etc. Penalty for violation will be disciplinary actions to expulsion from PONY Baseball."

Page 20 (12) (addition) - Rule 9 O: "Shetland and Pinto players exempt from this rule."

Page 22-23 (12) (revision) - Rule 11 G: 10 Run Rule

(1): "Pinto and Mustang: If the visiting team is leading by at least 10 runs at the end of 4 or more complete innings, the game shall be declared complete and the visiting team shall be declared the winner. If the home team is leading by at least 10 runs after the visiting team has completed batting in the 4th inning or later, the game shall be declared complete and the home team shall be declared the winner."

(2): "Bronco, Pony, Colt, and Palomino: If the visiting team is leading by at least 10 runs at the end of 5 or more complete innings, the game shall be declared complete and the visiting team shall be declared the winner. If the home team is leading by at least 10 runs after the visiting team has completed batting in the 5th inning or later, the game shall be declared complete and the home team shall be declared the winner."

Page 23 (12) (revision) – Rule 14 C: The Official Scorekeeper shall communicate only with the Tournament Director and/or Home plate umpire.

Page 25 (12) (revision) – Rule 18 B: Remove reference to (ten in Shetland).

Page 25 (11) (revision) – Rule 18 D: Penalty for use of an ineligible player, upon appeal by the opposing manager when the official scorebook or other league records verify the ineligibility of the player concerned, shall be immediate removal of the player from the lineup and ejection of the team manager from the game. Both the player and the manager will be ineligible to participate in the next scheduled game played by the team. Please refer to Rule 1A concerning PONY's policy on disabilities.

Page 25 (11) (revision) – Rule 18 D (4): If opposing coach does not appeal the use of an ineligible player during the course of a game, the game will stand as played.

Page 27 (12) (revision) – Rule T 1 A (2): Add Palomino (regarding June 1 deadline for Tournament Application)

Page 28 (12) (revision) – Rule T 2 C: Remove reference to (ten in Shetland).

Page 29 (11) (revision) – Rule T 2 C: Allow Shetland Teams to play with 9 players.

Page 29 (12) (revision) – Rule T 3 A (3): Have participated in at least one-half of their team's games in the league division represented unless excused because of a scholastic competition...

Page 32 (12) (addition) – Rule T 10 E (d): "Any team or manager that violates or refuses the natural sequence of the above rule will be dismissed from tournament play and their games forfeited."



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2013 WORLD SERIES SITES AND DATES



Mustang League World Series
Chisenhall Fields
Burleson, TX
August 1 – 4, 2013 • Report Day, July 31



Bronco-11 League World Series
Harry G. Daniel Park at Ironbridge
Chesterfield, VA
July 25 – July 28, 2013 • Report Day, July 24



Bronco League World Series
Los Alamitos, CA
August 1 – 4, 2013 • Report Day, July 31



Pony-13 League World Series
Amerige Park
Fullerton, CA
July 26 – July 30, 2013 • Report Day, July 25



Pony League World Series
Lew Hays Pony Field
Washington, PA
August 9 – 14, 2013 • Report Day, August 8



Colt League World Series
Bert E. Loeb Stadium, Columbian Park
Lafayette IN
August 2 – 7, 2013 • Report Day, August 1



Palomino League World Series
MLB Urban Youth Academy
Compton, CA
August 1 – 5, 2013 • Report Day, July 31

Official Tournament Team Emblems, made available by PONY Headquarters, are required for all tournament players, managers, coaches and business managers who go onto the playing field including bench and dugout areas

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2013 PONY UMPIRE REGISTRATION



An opportunity for umpires to:

- Receive copies of all PONY Rulebooks and a copy of Official Rules of Major League Baseball.
- Receive a regular umpire emblem.
- Receive an official PONY Baseball Identification Card.
- Have his or her name included on the PONY Registry of Umpires to be maintained at PONY Headquarters for referral to organization league officers and tournament directors.

Join in the effort to organize a fellowship of men and women who wish to provide competent, affordable and dedicated umpiring services to the thousands of PONY Baseball and PONY Girls Softball teams across the United States and elsewhere.

PONY also has umpire liability insurance available only to registered umpires.

Register online at:

www.pony.org

For additional information write, fax or call:
PONY Baseball and Softball
PO Box 225, Washington PA 15301-0225
Phone : 724-225-1060 • FAX : 724-225-9852
info@pony.org

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2013 Rules and Regulations for PONY Baseball, Inc.

P.O. BOX 225
WASHINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA 15301-0225
Telephone: 724-225-1060 • FAX: 724-225-9852
Email: info@pony.org • www.pony.org

ABRAHAM KEY, *President*

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LEAGUE AGE KEY

LEAGUE	AGE	Year												
		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
Palomino Traditional	19	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994
	18	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995
Palomino Ages	17	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996
	16	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997
Palomino And Under	15	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998
	14	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999
Colt Traditional Ages	15	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997
	14	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998
Colt And Under	13	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999
	12	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Pony Traditional Ages	14	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999
	13	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Pony And Under	12	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001
	11	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002
Bronco Traditional Ages	12	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001
	11	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002
Bronco And Under	10	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003
	9	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004
Mustang Traditional Ages	10	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003
	9	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004
Mustang And Under	8	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005
	7	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006
Pinto Traditional Ages	8	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005
	7	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006
Pinto And Under	6	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007
	5	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008
Shetland Traditional Ages	6	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007
	5	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008
Shetland And Under	4	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009
	3	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010

SHOULD AREAS REPRESENT THE AGES THAT CAN NOW USE THE "AND UNDER" PROGRAM. PLAYERS FROM LOW TRADITIONAL AGE BRACKET MAY ONLY PLAY UP IN ANY "AND UNDER" LEAGUE. EXAMPLE: TRADITIONAL AGE BRONCO PLAYERS MAY PLAY WITHIN THE PONY AND UNDER PROGRAM. PLAYERS MAY ONLY PLAY UP ONE AGE BRACKET. THE SHETLAND

PONY Baseball, Inc.
THE LINE UP

PONY Baseball is the administrative organization for a group of organization leagues providing baseball for players from 4 through 19 years of age. These are:

League	Age	Diamond	Pitching
Shetland	4, 5 and 6	50 feet	—
Pinto	7 and 8	50 feet	38 feet
Mustang	9 and 10	60 feet	44 feet
Bronco	11 and 12	70 feet	48 feet
Pony	13 and 14	80 feet	54 feet
Colt	15 and 16	90 feet	60 1/2 feet
Palomino	17, 18 and 19	90 feet	60 1/2 feet

SHETLAND LEAGUE focuses totally on instruction of beginning players. Batting tee recommended. **PINTO LEAGUE** teaches the basic fundamentals of baseball. Coach-pitch recommended. **MUSTANG LEAGUE** begins the players' training in the complete game of baseball. Tournament play is completed through World Series level. **BRONCO LEAGUE** and **PONY LEAGUE** take the developing young players into the full game of baseball, with no restrictions on base stealing, and tournament play complete through World Series level. **COLT LEAGUE** and **PALOMINO LEAGUE** provide players an opportunity to compete against their peers in regulation baseball through the World Series level.

GIRLS SOFTBALL organization leagues are also operated by PONY Baseball based on the and-under age concept. Copies of the PONY GIRLS SOFTBALL rule book may be obtained from PONY Baseball.

ADMINISTRATION

Volunteer Field Directors gather input from local organization leagues for the Board of Directors and Headquarters Staff, and relay information back to the organization leagues. The Field Directors also serve as administrative and service agents to the organization leagues.

Flexibility is a key word in PONY Baseball philosophy, which provides a pattern of organization league operation that may be adapted to the needs of the community, rather than asking the community to adapt to an arbitrary set of rules and regulations. League Age is that age attained by a player prior to May 1 of the current year, and determines the player's eligibility for a particular league age.

Organization league boundaries are recommended by the league, but are subject to the approval of the Division Director.

Membership application forms are filled out annually by each organization league and forwarded to PONY Baseball. The forms are processed at the headquarters and copies distributed to the Field Directors. A Membership Certificate is issued by the Division Director following the Director's approval of organization league operating conditions. Organization league supplies, including rule books, supply catalog and other items, are mailed to each organization league upon receipt of the Membership Application at PONY Baseball.

Equipment: Conventional baseball uniforms are recommended in **SHETLAND**, **PINTO** and **MUSTANG** leagues. They are required in all other league ages. Protective headgear for batters, base runners, on deck batters, player coaches and catchers is required. Regulation size home plate, pitching plate and bases are recommended for all league ages. An official ball, bearing an emblem of PONY BASEBALL, is required in organization league and tournament play.

ZONE DIRECTORS

For purposes of administration and tournament elimination, PONY Baseball divides the United States into four zones, North, East, South and West. The volunteer force of Field Directors at the Division, Region, Section, District and Area are headed by a Zone Director in each zone. There is also an Asia-Pacific and Caribbean Zone.

North Zone Vice President - Steve Miller
1205 Montebello Drive
Herrin, IL 62948
(H) 618-942-2783
s.miller@pony.org

East Zone Vice President - Terry Faust
522 Meadowlark Court
Washington, PA 15301
(H) 724-514-7180
t.faust@pony.org

South Zone Vice President - Lynn Parnell
8903 Magnolia Vale Drive
Granbury, TX 76049
(H) 817-578-3364
l.parnell@pony.org

West Zone Vice President - Joe Gagliardi
2380 S. Bascom Ave. #200
Campbell, CA 95008
(B) 408-369-8095
(F) 408-369-8096
j.gagliardi@pony.org

Asia-Pacific Zone Director - Masatome Inoue
Saplr Tower 8F
1-7-12 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku,
Tokyo, Japan 100-005
Phone: 81-033-626-9040
hq.ponyjp@key.ocn.ne.jp

Caribbean Zone Director - Angel Suarez
PO Box 704
Fajardo, PR 00738
(H) 787-863-1397
arsuarez@prtc.net

CHAMPIONS



PONY Baseball and Softball is proud to announce the formation of a new league, the Champions League. The newest league in the PONY family is for children with special needs. It was unanimously adopted at the PONY Baseball and Softball International Board of Directors on October 13, 2009.

While many of our leagues have had some type of Champions League for years, PONY has officially organized this opportunity for children with special needs. PONY has developed and finalized plans for the language and procedures necessary to create these leagues on an international level. Protect Our Nation's Youth represents a children and young adults regardless of ability.

REGISTRATION - Registration for the Champions League can only be done on-line at www.pony.org. Click on the registration tab and follow the registration instructions. If you need assistance, please call PONY at 724-225-1060.

REGISTRATION COST - The cost of registering your Champions League is \$50.00 per league, regardless of how many teams are in the league.

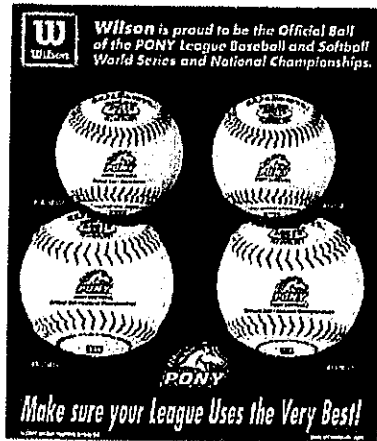
WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP? - PONY is developing a long range plan for the language and procedures necessary to sustain the Champions League on an international level but we need your help. Does your community have a Champions League already? If so help us enhance the rules and guidelines by forwarding your information to info@pony.org. Protect Our Nation's Youth represents all children and young adults regardless of ability.

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE? - For more information on the Champions League contact your local PONY Field Director or contact PONY International Headquarters at 724.225.1060 (M-F 8AM-5PM EST) or by email at info@pony.org.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The following may be adopted by the organization league as a guide for the handling of player or adult discipline problems.

- A. The organization league officers shall have the authority to suspend, discharge or otherwise discipline any player, manager, coach, umpire, organization league officer or other person whose conduct is in violation of the Rules and Regulations of PONY Baseball and/or is considered detrimental to the best interests of the organization league.
 - (1) Persons subject to such discipline shall have the right to a hearing before the organization league officers before such discipline is imposed.
 - (2) In the event of such a hearing involving a player, or other person under the age of 18, that person's parents shall be invited to attend.
- B. Persons, youth or adult, who refuse to comply with the rules of Baseball, PONY Baseball, or the organization league, may be considered for disciplinary action.
- C. Recognizing the difficulty of establishing specific penalties for a variety of violations of acceptable conduct, the following penalties are suggested. Organization league officers may impose the one which, in their opinion, appears to match the severity of the offense.
 - (1) **Warning.** The offending person is to be advised, in writing, of the offense, and further advised that repetition of the offense shall result in a more severe penalty.
 - (2) **Suspension.** The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been suspended from all organization league activity for a specific number of games, or days.
 - (3) **Dismissal.** The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been dismissed from the organization league for the remainder of the current year.
 - (4) **Barred.** The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been barred from present and future participation in the organization league, permanently, or for a specific number of years.



PONY Baseball, Inc.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

This book does not contain a complete set of rules governing play in Shetland, Pinto Mustang, Bronco, Pony, Colt and Palomino Leagues. Play is governed by *Official Rules Major League Baseball*. This book contains only those exceptions to Official Baseball Rules which are necessary in a youth program, as well as regulations governing organization league and administration.

RULES and REGULATIONS

for SHETLAND, PINTO, MUSTANG, BRONCO, PONY, COLT, and PALOMINO LEAGUES (Each rule is applicable to Shetland, Pinto, Mustang, Bronco, Pony, Colt, and Palomino Leagues unless specifically noted otherwise.)

1 - THE ORGANIZATION LEAGUE

- A. PONY Baseball does not limit participants in its organization league on the basis of disability. All organization leagues are required to comply with this policy and failure to do so shall be grounds for revocation of or refusal to renew a organization league's annual membership. Any questions on this rule shall be referred to PONY Baseball Headquarters.
- B. A request for reasonable modification to PONY (Baseball/Softball) Rules by an individual with a disability, or their representative, shall be accepted by an employee of PONY Headquarters and any PONY official with responsibility for organizing or supervising PONY games. PONY shall allow such a modification unless the modification would fundamentally alter an essential aspect of PONY (Baseball/Softball) program. If an official believes that a proposed modification would fundamentally alter an essential aspect of PONY's (Baseball/Softball) program the official should consult the PONY ADA Coordinator. The ADA Coordinator will after an appropriate individualized inquiry that includes consideration of the player's specific circumstances and the purpose of the rule, policy, or practice at issue, decide whether to allow the modification. Written notice shall be provided to the requester of the modification within four (4) business days of the request. Although PONY will respond appropriately and in a reasonable amount of time to a request for reasonable modification regardless of when it is received, it is highly recommended that players and their families provide notice of such a request in organization league registration materials prior to the start of the season and in tournament registration materials prior to the start of a tournament.
- C. PONY (Baseball/Softball) Rules do not limit players' rights to sign language interpreters, or other auxiliary aids, during regular season and tournament game. Rules limiting persons allowed in team dugouts shall not apply to sign language interpreters. In situations where PONY's (Baseball/Softball) Rules allow coaches to be in areas other than the dugout, a sign language interpreter shall be allowed to accompany coaches in order to provide communication to a player. Any concern with the selection of sign language interpreters or the location of such interpreters during games shall be addressed to the PONY ADA Coordinator. Although PONY will respond appropriately and in a reasonable amount of time to a request for a qualified sign language interpreter or other auxiliary aid regardless of when it is received, it is highly recommended that players and their families provide notice of such a request in organization league registration materials prior to the start of the season and in tournament registration materials prior to the start of a tournament.
- D. PONY is a non-discriminatory organization, which prohibits actions against a individual or organization league on the basis of race, sex, creed, religion or national origin.

- E. Organization leagues shall be composed of any number of teams.
- F. The organization league shall apply annually prior to May 1 (June 1 for Colt, Colt/Palomino and Palomino) or prior to playing first organization league game whichever comes first for a "Membership Certificate" to avoid a late fee.
- G. The Membership Certificate shall be issued annually to each organization league, by the Division Director, subject to the following conditions:
 - (1) The Division Director shall have the authority to withdraw or refuse membership for just cause, and shall give written notice to the presiding officers of the organization league, as indicated by the current Membership Application form on file. The organization league has the right to appeal such action to the Vice President in that Zone.
 - (2) The Membership Certificate does not imply that in future seasons a new organization league cannot make application for operation within a portion of the present boundaries of the organization league, but only that no other organization league shall be permitted to operate within the boundaries established for the current season.
 - (3) The Membership Certificate expires at the conclusion of the actual play of the season for which it has been granted and is subject to renewal upon application and re-examination the following year.

2 - INSURANCE

- A. Accidents and injuries can occur while participating in baseball games. To protect our members, all organization leagues and teams must purchase accident insurance coverage and show proof by registration for the players, managers, coaches, official scorekeepers and volunteer umpires in their organization league with a policy provided by the organization league. Such coverage is available through PONY Baseball, Inc.
- B. All affiliated organization leagues and teams must purchase organization league liability insurance with minimum limits of one million dollars, on an occurrence policy basis, and naming PONY Baseball, Inc. as an additional insured. The liability policy must also include participant legal liability coverage of one million dollars. Such coverage is available through PONY Baseball, Inc.

3 - TEAMS

- A. SHETLAND, PINTO, MUSTANG, BRONCO, PONY Teams shall consist of not more than 15, nor less than 12 players and should not exceed more than eight players of the older age. The names of these players shall be registered with the organization league player agent. COLT teams shall consist of not more than 18, nor less than 12 players. PALOMINO teams shall consist of not more than 18, nor less than 12 players and shall not exceed more than 6 players of age 19.
- B. Age, for the organization league purposes, means "league age," which is that age attained by a player prior to May 1 of the season in question.

4 - LEGAL PLAYERS

- A. The organization league has an option to use the Traditional or the AND UNDER in each age group. The decision to use the Traditional or AND UNDER program is strictly an organization league decision.
- B. If the organization league does decide to use the AND UNDER program a player can only move up one age group. (EXAMPLE) A Bronco age player 11 or 12 years old will only be allowed to move up to the Pony age.

- C. Players playing up must abide by the pitching rules of that age group.
- D. Players must abide by all of the PONY rules and regulations in order to be eligible for tournament play.

E. Legal age of players shall be:

- (1) SHETLAND: Players of league age 4, 5 and 6 born between May 1 2006 and April 30, 2009

(2) PINTO:

Traditional: Players of league age 7 & 8, born between May 1, 2004 and April 30, 2006

AND UNDER: Players of league age 8 And Under, born on or between May 1, 200 and April 30, 2009

(3) MUSTANG:

Traditional: Players of league age 9 & 10, born between May 1, 2002 and April 30, 2004

AND UNDER: Players of league age 10 And Under, born on or between May 1 2002 and April 30, 2006

(4) BRONCO:

Traditional: Players of league age 11 & 12, born between May 1, 2000 and April 30, 2002

AND UNDER: Players of league age 12 And Under, born on or between May 1 2000 and April 30, 2004

(5) PONY:

Traditional: Players of league age 13 & 14, born between May 1, 1998 and April 30, 2000

AND UNDER: Players of league age 14 And Under, born on or between May 1 1998 and April 30, 2002

(6) COLT:

Traditional: Players of league age 15 & 16, born between May 1, 1996 and April 30, 1998

AND UNDER: Players of league age 16 And Under, born on or between May 1 1996 and April 30, 2000

(7) PALOMINO:

Traditional: Players of league age 17, 18 & 19, born between May 1, 1993 and April 30, 1995

AND UNDER: Players of league age 19 And Under, born on or between May 1 1993 and April 30, 1998

- F. SHETLAND, PINTO, MUSTANG, BRONCO, PONY and COLT players of proper age whose residence, as determined by the residence of their parents or legal guardians is within the approved organization league boundaries shall be considered "legal players for organization league and tournament competition.

(1) Players shall not participate with more than one PONY Baseball and/or Softball organization league at the same time.

(2) A player shall not move from one organization league to another within common or overlapping boundary in the same season.

- G. PALOMINO League players' residence shall be determined by residence of parents or legal guardians, player's residence while attending school or legal voting residence.

(1) The intent of this rule is to prohibit the recruitment of players who would not otherwise reside within the player selection area of the team,

(2) In the event of a question or protest of team player selection areas within Palomino League, the decision of the Division Director shall be final.

(3) Any player whose parents move and establish a new permanent residence shall submit a written request to compete for the team recruiting in the player's

previous address or the team recruiting from the player's present address. This request shall be received by the Division Director by June 1st.

- H. Dates of birth of candidates shall be certified by birth certificates, hospital certificates, baptismal certificates, driver's licenses, passports or equivalent religious or legal documents which shall be presented to an organization league officer prior to the organization league's first regularly scheduled game.
 - (1) Exact copies of birth documents are acceptable and may be made by anyone on any copy machine or mechanical duplicating process.
 - (2) Documents presented as proof of date of birth shall be legible and bear the signature of an authorized official of the issuing agency.
 - (3) Notarized statements from parents are not acceptable.
- I. PALOMINO players shall not participate in a game unless the Player Contract has been approved by the Player Agent.
- J. Players cannot receive money, favors or gratuities for playing baseball, accept money or favors for reimbursement for time lost at work while playing baseball, or expenses incurred while playing. Such acceptance shall not be direct or indirect, through parents, trustees or guardians, or for future payment. Any player who has signed a professional baseball contract, or who has accepted remuneration for their services as a player shall not be legal.
- K. Organization league officers are given the option of prohibiting players from participating on teams in other non-scholastic baseball programs. Local organization league policy in this matter shall be adopted in written form and made a part of the local organization league Bylaws.
- L. Please refer to rule 1A concerning PONY's policy on disabilities.

5 - BOUNDARIES

- A. Organization league boundaries are recommended by the league, but are subject to the approval of the Division Director.
- B. A map clearly indicating the current boundaries of the organization league shall be sent to the Division Director and shall be replaced upon request.
 - (1) Unless specifically stated otherwise, the center of the street shall be considered the actual dividing line when streets are used as boundaries.
 - (2) Maps shall indicate specific boundaries such as streets, railroad tracks, rivers, or school districts, postal zones, city limits or similarly specified areas. A definition of boundaries such as "five-mile radius" is not acceptable.
- C. The Division Director, based upon the recommendations of the Field Directors concerned, reserves the right to adjust boundaries in the event of overlapping of territorial requests or because of inequitable conditions. Though boundaries are not specifically restricted by population or geographic area, both shall be considered when boundaries are submitted to the Division Director for approval.
- D. SHETLAND, PINTO, MUSTANG, BRONCO, PONY, COLT, and PALOMINO League boundaries need not be identical.
- E. Organization leagues shall identify to the Division Director the boundaries from which they intend to select their players, either on a school population basis, or on a geographical basis.

6 - SELECTION OF PLAYERS

- A. Selection of players shall be in accord with provisions set forth in the Player Selection Plan adopted by the organization league. It is expected that each legal player residing within the approved organization league boundaries shall be given an opportunity to become a player candidate for the organization league.

- B. The selection of players for organization league teams shall be under the direction of a Player Agent who shall be selected by the organization league officers.
- C. PALOMINO League: The Division Director or their designated representative shall be responsible for determining player eligibility as to age, amateur status and residence based upon documentation submitted by the team.
- D. PALOMINO League: The Division Director, or their representative, shall approve all Player Contracts.
 - (1) Organization league and team officials shall be expected to cooperate fully with the Division Director, or their representative, in providing such documentation as shall be requested to verify the age, amateur status and residence of players.
 - (2) It shall be the duty of the team Business Managers to keep the Division Director or their representative, advised of any changes in the players participating with their team.
- E. The original copy of each Player Contract is to be retained by the team. Two copies shall be provided to the Division Palomino Director, not later than June 30. The Division Palomino Director will forward copies to the commissioner's office by July 15th.
- F. PALOMINO League: Players voluntarily leaving the team, or those dropped for disciplinary reasons, before June 30, may be replaced with the approval of organization league officers, but such players shall not participate with any other Palomino team for the remainder of the current playing season.
- G. PALOMINO League: After player contracts have been placed on file with the Division Director, by June 30, replacement of players shall require the approval of the Division Director. Replacement shall be approved only in the event a player becomes ill or injured, or because of a vacancy created by the signing of a player to a professional baseball contract.

7 - PLAYING FIELDS

- A. Distance between bases:
 - SHETLAND & PINTO - 50 feet (15.24m)
 - BRONCO - 70 feet (21.34m)
 - COLT & PALOMINO - 90 feet (27.43m)
- B. Pitching Distance:
 - PINTO - 38 feet (11.58m)
 - BRONCO - 48 feet (14.63m)
 - COLT & PALOMINO - 60 feet, 6 in. (18.44m)
- C. Home plate to center of second base:
 - SHETLAND & PINTO - 70 feet 8 1/2 in (21.56m)
 - MUSTANG - 84 feet 10 inches (25.85m)
 - PONY - 113 feet, 2 in. (34.49m)
 - COLT & PALOMINO - 127 feet, 3 in. (38.78m)
- D. The fair play area shall be within the first base and third base foul lines and a fence or marked line establishing the outfield limits of the playing area, referred to here as "Home Run Distances."



**OFFICIAL BASEBALL CAP OF
PONY BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL**

RECOMMENDED HOME RUN DISTANCES

	Foul Line		Centerfield	
SHETLAND	125 feet	(38.16m)	200 feet	(60.96m)
PINTO	150 feet	(45.72m)	200 feet	(60.96m)
MUSTANG	175 feet	(53.34m)	225 feet	(68.58m)
BRONCO	225 feet	(68.58m)	275 feet	(83.82m)
PONY	275 feet	(83.82m)	315 feet	(96.01m)
COLT	300 feet	(91.44m)	350 feet	(106.68m)
PALOMINO	300 feet	(91.44m)	350 feet	(106.68m)

- E. The height of the pitcher's mound above the level of home plate and the base paths, raised by a gradual slope shall be:
PINTO & MUSTANG — 4 inches (0.1m) **BRONCO** — 6 inches (0.15m)
PONY — 8 inches (0.20m) **COLT & PALOMINO** — 10 inches (0.25m)
- F. There shall be a restraining line, located along the first base line and extending 3 feet (0.91m) beyond first base. This line, paralleling the first base foul line and 3 feet (0.91m) into foul territory, shall be marked with chalk or other white material 2 inches (0.05m) wide. Point of origination for the restraining line from home base shall be one half the distance between home plate and first base.
- G. The recommended distance from home plate to the backstop shall be:
BRONCO — 30 feet (9.14m) **PONY** — 40 feet (12.19m)
COLT & PALOMINO — 50 feet (15.24m)
- H. Home plate, the pitcher's plate and the bases shall be official size as used in regulation baseball. Portable pitching mounds, meeting the correct size requirements are also approved.
- I. By local option the catcher's box may be rectangular in shape, 43 inches (1.09m) wide and eight feet (2.44m) deep from the point of home plate or it may be triangular shape, extended eight feet (2.44m) from the rear of home plate, being a continuation of the foul lines in which case the line closest to the backstop shall be 16 feet (4.88m) in length.

8 - EQUIPMENT

- A. The ball shall weigh not less than five nor more than five and one-quarter ounces (142-149 gms.) avoiddupis, and measure not less than nine nor more than nine and one-quarter inches (22.9-23.5 cm) in circumference. Baseballs, specially manufactured and designed in such a way as to reduce injuries, or the seriousness of injuries, are approved for use in local organization league play. (NOT APPROVED FOR TOURNAMENT PLAY.)
- B. Both leather and vinyl covered baseballs bearing the emblem of PONY Baseball are manufactured to specifications by several companies and are the baseballs required for organization league play and tournament play.
- C. Wooden, metal, graphite or ceramic bats manufactured for baseball play, which are round and not more than two and five eighths inches in diameter at the thickest part, not more than 42 inches in length, are acceptable. No bat shall be used if dented, cracked, modified or misshaped.
- (1) Bats manufactured specifically for use in tee ball play, shall not be used when the ball is pitched by a player, coach or pitching machine. Coach-pitch bats will only be used in coach-pitch using a safety ball.
- (2) Only 2-1/4" barrel non-wood bats which are manufactured to achieve a Bat Performance Factor (BPF) of 1.15 or less through the life of the bat are approved for play in PONY Baseball divisions. Effective January 1, 2012, all newly

manufactured non-wood bats must be stamped "approved for play in PONY Baseball" and stamped with "SPF 1.15" and the year manufactured.

- (3) Effective January 1, 2012, all minus (-) 3 bats must be BBCOR certified. The bat which may be wood or non-wood product shall be not more than two and five-eighths (2-5/8") in diameter at the barrel and shall be a smooth implement, from the top of the cap to the top of the knob. All non-wood bats shall meet the Ball-Bat Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR) testing protocol maintaining the length-to-weight difference of 0.50 limit regardless of length. All BBCOR approved bats shall be labeled with a silk screen or other permanent certification mark.
- (4) 2 3/4" barrel bats are prohibited in all divisions of PONY Baseball.
- D. Metal cleated baseball shoes, rubber soled or rubber cleated shoes are permitted. Alteration of metal cleats, such as sharpening, which might make them dangerous to participants, is specifically prohibited.
- E. The batter, players in the on-deck batting area, baserunners and players coaching in the baseline coaching boxes shall be required to wear protective headgear which gives protection to the top of the head, temples, ears and base of the skull. These items shall be NOCSAE approved.
- (1) Use of face masks and properly fastened chin straps on protective headgear is recommended.
- (2) No decal other than the player's name, number, team name or logo shall be added to the protective headgear. Any headgear in violation of this rule shall be removed from play.
- (3) PONY recommends that all adult base coaches wear a protective helmet while performing their duties.
- F. Catchers are required to wear proper protective equipment including a mask with throat guard, chest protector, shin guards, athletic supporter with cup and NOCSAE approved headgear which gives protection to the top of the head and both ears when catching behind the plate. Any player serving as a catcher to warm up a pitcher shall wear a mask, whether the pitcher is warming up from the mound, in the bullpen or elsewhere.
- G. It is recommended that managers make every effort to encourage the wearing of athletic supporters by all male players.
- H. **SHETLAND, PINTO and MUSTANG:** Conventional baseball uniforms are recommended. Baseball caps and t-shirts or conventional baseball uniforms may be worn.
- BRONCO, PONY, COLT and PALOMINO:** Conventional baseball uniforms required in organization league AND TOURNAMENT PLAY include a shirt, pants, cap, and socks as used by teams in the Major Leagues, and shall be worn by all players.
- (1) This rule prohibits the wearing of shorts (defined as trousers which do not cover the knees of the wearer) or full length slacks by the players.
- (2) Any exception to the uniform rule shall have the specific written approval of the Headquarters Office.
- (3) Where commercial advertising is used on team uniforms it is strongly urged that the letters be limited to two inches or less.
- I. The use of bases with safety features, such as those with tapered sides, those that release upon sufficient impact and the double bag at first base have been approved.
- J. No jewelry shall be worn by any player, except for medical identification. Jewelry is defined as "any ornaments for personal adornment, including but not limited to, necklaces, earrings, bracelets, including those made of base metals, glass, plastic, rubber, cloth, leather or the like." Sweatbands are allowed.
- K. Cell phones, pagers or any other types of communication devices cannot be used on the field of play. The field of play includes bullpens, dugouts, coaches' boxes and other such areas where coaches, players, and umpires have access. One (1) laptop or