

tablet type device (IPAD) may be used for scorekeeping purposes. Wireless communication must not be enabled.

- I. **PONY** recommends that players, in the pitching position, at Shetland and Pinto (machine pitch and coach pitch) divisions wear a protective product to protect the heart and a face mask to protect the face.
- M. **PONY** recommends that while a pitcher is in the pitching position or positioned in the pitching area the player should wear an athletic supporter with a cup.
- N. **PONY** recommends the use of protective mouth guards while either in a defensive position or an offensive position.
- O. **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.

9 - PLAYING RULES

- A. The official playing rules, with the exceptions and variations contained in this book, shall be "Official Rules of Major League Baseball" completely revised, as released through the office of the Commissioner of Baseball.
- B. **SHETLAND** and **PINTO**: The entire roster of players present for the game shall bat in rotation.
- C. **SHETLAND**: Ten players shall be used defensively. The four outfielders must be positioned 15 feet behind the baselines when the pitching motion is made.
- D. **SHETLAND**: Batters are not permitted to bunt at the ball on batting tee. The batting tee shall be placed on home plate. The umpire is responsible for removal prior to any play at home plate. The batter will not be allowed to adjust the tee or take practice swings after the pitcher has made the pitching motion with one foot on the rubber. **PENALTY**: Strike. A 10-foot arc shall be inscribed in front of home plate, from the first to the third base foul line, and any batted ball which does not travel beyond that line will be considered a foul-strike for purposes of this rule.
PINTO: Batters are not permitted to bunt or softswing at the ball. **PENALTY**: Pitch is a strike and the ball is dead.
- E. **SHETLAND**: The batter shall be called out after failing to hit the ball after three swings at the ball on the tee. Batter is not out on a foul or foul tip unless it is a third swing.
PINTO: A batter shall be declared out after failing to hit a fair ball after six pitches are delivered by a pitching machine or coach-pitcher. The batter is out if there are three strikes before the sixth pitch. Missed swings are counted as strikes, as are foul balls and foul tips. A batter is not out on a foul ball or a foul tip unless it is also the sixth pitch.
- F. **SHETLAND**: The catcher shall stand away from the plate until the batter swings, then field the position defensively. (There is no dropped third strike rule.)
PINTO: The catcher may assume the catcher's position or stand away until the batter swings, then field the position defensively. (There is no dropped third strike rule.)
- G. **SHETLAND** and **PINTO**: Base runners are not permitted to steal bases and shall remain in contact with the base until ball is hit or crosses home plate. **PENALTY**: If a runner is off the base and the ball is hit, the runner is out and the ball is in play. If the ball is not hit, the runner must return to the base and the ball is dead.
- H. **SHETLAND** and **PINTO**: There is no infield fly rule.
- I. **MUSTANG**: It is recommended that each player on the team play in at least two innings of each game.

- J. **SHETLAND** and **PINTO**: No player participation rule applies. Free substitution or defense including pitching position unless a Pinto player is being utilized. Once removed, a Pinto player may not return to the pitching position.

MUSTANG, BRONCO, PONY, COLT and **PALOMINO**: Any player in the starting lineup who has been removed for a substitute may re-enter the game one time. (NOTE: This rule applies to **STARTERS ONLY**.)

- (1) Players shall return to the line-up in their original place in the batting order. While more than one substitute may be used in that position before the starting player is returned, no substitutions shall be made that shall alter the original batting rotation of any of the starting or substitute players. (See exception in 9-K(2) below.)
- (2) Once removed from the lineup a pitcher may return to the lineup but shall not pitch again in the same game.
- K. **MUSTANG, BRONCO, PONY, COLT** and **PALOMINO**: In any instance in which a team does not have an eligible substitute for a player who becomes ill, is injured, or ejected from the game by the umpire, the player last removed from the lineup by the manager or coach, who is otherwise eligible to play, shall be used as a substitute.
 - (1) When a team's last available substitute enters the game as part of a multiple substitution, the manager shall advise the umpire and official scorekeeper which player is to be considered "the last player removed from the line-up."
 - (2) In this instance only, the substitute player shall take the batting position of the player they replace, even though it may be a different batting position than the one he or she previously occupied.
 - (3) This rule applies to all players, including starters.
- L. **SHETLAND** and **PINTO**: When the ball is in the possession of an infielder and, in the umpire's judgment, all play on the runner or runners has ceased, the umpire shall call "Time". The ball is dead and shall be returned to home plate, if the batting tee is used, or to the mound when the pitching machine or coach-pitcher is used.
 - (1) Appeal plays can be made, following the play that is to be appealed, at any time before the pitcher makes a pitching motion, when the batting tee or coach pitcher method is used, or before the ball is ejected from the pitching machine.
 - (2) An appeal is to be made by the manager/coach to the umpire before the next pitch.
 - (3) **PINTO** only: If a batted ball hits the coach pitcher or the coach operating the pitching machine, the ball is dead. The pitch is a foul strike and no runners may advance. If a live ball hits the coach pitcher or the coach operating the pitching machine, or in the umpire's judgment the coach interferes in the fielder's attempt to make a play, the ball is dead and lead runner is out.
- M. **MUSTANG** Leagues shall adopt one of the following three optional rules for organization league play.
RULE (1) SHALL GOVERN ALL MUSTANG LEAGUE TOURNAMENT PLAY.
 - (1) Runners may lead-off and steal bases, as in Official Baseball Rules.
 - (2) Runners at first and second bases may lead off and steal bases, as in Official Baseball Rules, but runners at third base shall remain in contact with the base from the time the pitcher steps on the rubber with possession of the ball until the pitched ball has been hit or has reached or passed the batter. Once the pitcher has stepped on the rubber, in possession of the ball, runners at third base who leave base before the pitched ball reaches or passes the batter shall be called out and the pitch shall be considered as a dead ball.
 - (3) Runners may steal bases, but shall not leave the base they are occupying at the time of the pitch until the pitched ball has reached or passed the catcher. Once the pitcher has stepped on the rubber with possession of the ball, runners who

- leave base before the pitched ball reaches or passes the catcher shall be called out and the pitch shall be considered as a dead ball.
- N. **COLT/PALOMINO:** The designated hitter rule shall be as stated in the *Official Rules of Major League Baseball*.
- O. The batter must keep one foot in the batter's box at all times in order to speed up play. Shetland and Pinto players exempt from this rule. **PENALTY:** Umpire will call a strike.
- P. **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROCEDURES**
While risk of one athlete infecting another with HIV/AIDS during competition is close to non-existent, there is a remote risk that other blood borne infectious diseases can be transmitted. For example, Hepatitis B can be present in blood as well as in other body fluids. Procedures for reducing potential for transmission of these infectious agents should include, but not be limited to, the following:
- (1) The bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered and if there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform it must be changed before the athlete may participate.
 - (2) Routine use of gloves or other precautions to prevent skin and mucous membrane exposure when contact with blood or other body fluids is anticipated.
 - (3) Immediately wash hands and other skin surfaces if contaminated (in contact) with blood or other body fluids. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves.
 - (4) Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with an appropriate disinfectant before competition resumes.
 - (5) Practice proper disposal procedures to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels and other sharp instruments or devices.
 - (6) Although saliva has not been implicated in HIV transmission, to minimize the need for emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, mouthpieces, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices should be available for use.
 - (7) Athletic trainers/coaches with bleeding or oozing skin conditions should refrain from all direct athletic care until the condition resolves.
 - (8) Contaminated towels should be properly disposed of/disinfected.
 - (9) Follow acceptable guidelines in the immediate control of bleeding and when handling bloody dressings, mouth guards and other articles containing body fluids.

10 - PITCHING RULES

- A. Any team member may pitch, subject to the restrictions of the pitching rules.
- B. **SHETLAND, PINTO and MUSTANG:** Pitching options:
- (1) For use with batting tee:
 - (a) The ball shall be hit off of a batting tee placed on home plate. The umpire is responsible for removal prior to any play at home plate.
 - (b) The batter shall not swing at the ball until the pitcher has made a pitching motion from the pitcher's plate.
 - (c) The pitcher shall remain in contact with the pitcher's plate until the ball is hit by the batter. **PENALTY:** A balk shall be called.
 - (2) For use with pitching machine:
 - (a) The pitching machine shall be located approximately 38 feet (44 feet in **MUSTANG**) from home plate.
 - (b) The pitcher shall take position, **ALWAYS TO THE REAR OF THE PITCHING MACHINE**, and on the left or the right side with one foot on the dirt portion of the mound.
 - (c) If a batted ball strikes the pitching machine and remains in fair territory, the ball is in play.

- (d) If a batted ball strikes the pitching machine and goes into foul territory, the ball is dead, the batter is awarded first base and all runners advance one base.
 - (e) The coach operating the pitching machine shall not direct or coach in any way on offense. **PENALTY:** The coach will receive one warning and the second time he/she must be removed.
- (3) For use with coach pitchers:
- (a) Coaches or managers shall pitch from a pitching plate 38 feet (44 feet in **MUSTANG**) from the point of home plate.
 - (b) The player fielding the pitcher's position shall take position always to the rear of the pitching plate, and on the left or right side of the coach-pitcher with one foot on the dirt portion of the mound.
 - (c) Coach-pitcher must remain in contact with the pitching rubber while pitching. He/she must throw the ball overhand. No kneeling or pitching from the knee is allowed.
 - (d) The coach pitcher shall not direct or coach their team in any way on offense. **PENALTY:** The coach will receive one warning and the second time the coach pitcher must be removed.
- C. **SHETLAND:** Players are not permitted to pitch.
- D. **PINTO:** While **PONY Baseball** does not recommend pitching by players, the following may be used for player pitching at the organization league's discretion:
- (1) Pitchers shall not pitch in more than two innings in a calendar day.
 - (2) Pitchers shall not pitch in more than four innings in a calendar week.
 - (3) Pitchers shall have 40 hours rest after pitching in two innings on the same calendar day.
 - (4) When pitchers are used, a third strike is an out even if the catcher drops the ball.
- E. **MUSTANG** pitchers shall not pitch in more than three and **BRONCO, PONY and COLT** age pitchers shall not pitch in more than seven innings on the same calendar day. **PALOMINO** (league age 17, 18 and 19): Pitchers shall not pitch in more than nine innings on the same calendar day.
- F. When pitching in more than one game on the same calendar day, pitchers may pitch any combination of innings in those games provided they do not exceed the above maximum number of innings in a calendar day.
- G. **MUSTANG** pitchers shall be allowed to pitch in no more than eight innings and **BRONCO, PONY and COLT** age pitchers shall be allowed to pitch in no more than 10 innings in any one calendar week. A calendar week is from 12:01 a.m. Monday to 12 midnight the following Sunday.
- H. Pitchers shall have at least 40 hours rest after pitching on the same calendar day in:
- MUSTANG:** Three innings.
BRONCO, PONY, COLT: Four or more innings.
PALOMINO (league age 17, 18 and 19): Five or more innings.
- I. The 40 hours rest rule is computed from the scheduled starting time of the game in which the pitching occurred, or, in games which begin more than two hours after the scheduled starting time, the actual starting time of the game shall be used to interpret this rule.
- J. Once the umpire-in-chief signals "play" to the pitcher, that pitcher shall become the pitcher of record and their innings begin at that point.
- K. A pitcher is charged with the number of innings pitched in the specific calendar day and week in which they are pitched, regardless of whether they are local organization league games, the playoff of postponed games or suspended games, tie games or exhibition games.
- L. Any pitcher withdrawn from the mound and/or lineup, or a pitcher who is withdrawn from the mound and stays in the game at another position, shall not be permitted to pitch again in the same game.

- M. If a relief pitcher comes in "cold" the umpire shall allow the pitcher to warm up properly with at least ten warmup pitches.
- N. Pitchers in violation of any of the pitching rules shall be considered ineligible players, subject to penalties outlined in Rule 18 - Penalties.
- O. The pitcher named in the batting order turned in prior to the start of the game, shall pitch to the first batter or any substitute batter until such batter is put out or reaches first base, unless the pitcher sustains injury or illness which, in the judgment of the umpire-in-chief, incapacitates him from pitching.
- P. The pitcher may bring their pitching hand in contact with their mouth or lips while in the pitching circle as long as they wipe off their hand or fingers prior to making contact with the pitching rubber. Penalty for violation of this rule is that the umpire will immediately call a ball.

11 - LENGTH OF GAMES

Regulation games shall be:

- A. SHETLAND: Once play has begun in a game the game shall be played to regulation length (six innings) unless the home team is leading and does not need its half of the final inning. Teams shall not score more than five runs per inning except in the sixth or extra inning, where they may score ten runs. Games shall be considered over when it is mathematically impossible for one team to catch up in six innings.
- B. PINTO: Once play has begun, the game shall be played to regulation length (six innings) or five and a fraction if the home team is leading, unless called because of 10-run rule, or forfeited by the decision committee. Maximum five runs per inning except in the sixth or extra inning which is open.
- C. SHETLAND, PINTO and MUSTANG League games shall be six (6) innings and shall not exceed nine (9) innings. BRONCO, PONY, COLT and PALOMINO League games shall be seven (7) innings in duration. When a game is tied at the end of regulation length, it shall go into extra innings until a decision is reached or the game is called by the umpire.
- D. If a game is called for any reason, it shall be a complete game if five innings (four in SHETLAND, PINTO and MUSTANG) have been completed, or if the home team has scored more runs in four (three in SHETLAND, PINTO and MUSTANG) innings or four (three in SHETLAND, PINTO and MUSTANG) and a fraction innings, than the visiting team has scored in five (four in SHETLAND, PINTO and MUSTANG) completed innings.
- E. If a game is called for any reason before it is a complete game, as described in Sections A, B, C, and D, or when the score is tied, it shall be considered a suspended game and shall be resumed from the point of curtailment at the time scheduled by organization league officials.
- F. If a game is called for any reason in an uncompleted inning, after having reached complete-game length as described in Section A, B, C, and D and the visiting team ties the score or takes the lead in the uncompleted inning, and the home team does not tie the score or retake the lead in its portion of the uncompleted inning, the game shall be considered a suspended game and shall be continued from the point of curtailment at the time scheduled by organization league officials.
- 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.
- H. Once a game is stopped for lightning, it cannot be resumed until 30 minutes after last cloud to ground lightning strike.

12 - SCHEDULE

- A. Scheduling and rescheduling of PONY sanctioned organization league games shall be the responsibility of the officers and the executive committee and shall provide not less than 12 regular season games for each team.
- B. Teams and or organization leagues of the same age brackets, operated by the same set of officers or sponsors or organization league from adjacent areas, may play an interlocking schedule as long as all teams are PONY sanctioned.
- C. SHETLAND, PINTO, MUSTANG, BRONCO, PONY and COLT: Under no condition shall organization league officers set up a schedule of games which would require a team to play more than two (one for Shetland) games in one day. PALOMINO: Organization league officers may set up a schedule that requires teams to play in more than two games in one day. It is recommended that this be done only when scheduling problems require it, and should not be a common practice.
 - (1) SHETLAND, PINTO and MUSTANG: No game shall begin after 7:30 p.m. local time. No inning should begin after 9 p.m. local time.
 - (2) BRONCO: No game shall begin after 8:30 p.m., and no inning should begin after 10 p.m. local time.
 - (3) PONY: No game shall begin after 9:30 p.m. and no inning should begin after 11 p.m. local time.
 - (4) COLT - PALOMINO: No game shall begin after 10:30 p.m. and no inning should begin after 12 midnight, local time.
- D. It is recommended that local organization league playing schedules continue into late June.
- E. Night games are not recommended for Shetland and Pinto League.

13 - UMPIRES

- A. Assignment of umpires shall be the responsibility of the organization league officers. At any time the umpires assigned by the organization league fail to report, or are otherwise unavailable, any other umpires used in that game shall be agreed upon by the opposing managers, preferably in writing.
- B. The use of tobacco in any form by umpires on the field is prohibited.

14 - SCOREKEEPERS

- A. The official scorekeeper shall record at-bats, hits, runs, errors, strikeouts, bases on balls, innings pitched in by each pitcher and scheduled starting time of games, or actual starting time if game is delayed more than two hours.
- B. It is recommended that in order to be considered the winning pitcher, pitchers should complete at least three (two in MUSTANG) full innings and leave a lead that stands up for the remainder of the game.
- C. The Official Scorekeeper shall communicate only with the Tournament Director and/or Home plate umpire.

15 - SPONSORS

Teams or organization leagues shall be sponsored only by those organizations, firms or companies whose activities or products are not detrimental to the welfare of youth.

16 - MANAGERS AND COACHES

- A. Adult coaches, if properly dressed in a full baseball uniform, or in a uniform specified by an organization league, may be used in either or both the first and third base coaching boxes. Only players in baseball uniform and wearing helmets shall be used as base coaches when adult coaches are not used.
SHEFLAND: Two adult coaches may be stationed on the playing field, beyond the baselines, to provide verbal instructions to the defensive team. Players are not allowed to coach from the baseline coaching boxes.
- B. A coach or coaches shall not switch coaching boxes during an inning.
- C. Players, managers and coaches shall remain in the dugouts, on the benches or in the prescribed areas throughout the game.
- D. PINTO, MUSTANG, BRONCO, PONY, COLT and PALOMINO: If a manager or coach goes onto the playing field to talk to any player or players more than once (twice in Pinto) in a half inning, while the same player is pitching, a pitching change shall be made. The only exceptions to this rule shall be in case of injury, or if time is called by the opposing team or by an umpire.
- E. PINTO, MUSTANG, BRONCO, PONY, COLT and PALOMINO: Umpires shall not permit more than one offensive time out in each inning to allow a manager or coach to talk with a batter.
- F. The use of tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs in any form by players or adult leaders in the dugout, on the benches or on the playing field shall not be permitted.
- G. PALOMINO team managers and coaches shall not be eligible to play.

17 - ORGANIZATION LEAGUE DECISIONS COMMITTEE

- A. The organization league President shall appoint a Decisions Committee of not less than five persons to receive and resolve all protests lodged during the playing of organization league games. At least three members of the committee shall be present to render a decision.
- B. The Decisions Committee shall concern itself only with game protests, leaving the resolution of other matters in the hands of organization league officers.
- C. The Decisions Committee may solicit testimony and advice from any source it chooses, but actual decisions shall be based on majority vote of the members of the committee only.
 - (1) PONY Baseball Field Directors and the Headquarters staff shall give verbal guidance on the intent and interpretation of a rule when requested to do so by a member of the Decisions Committee.
 - (2) Where it is deemed desirable, by majority vote of the Decisions Committee, an official written interpretation shall be provided by the Headquarters staff upon receipt of a written request from the Decisions Committee, outlining the protest under consideration.
- D. When feasible, the Decisions Committee shall make every effort to render a decision on a protest within 48 hours of receipt of the protest in written form.
- E. Decisions of the Decisions Committee shall be final and are not subject to appeal. Managers may request confirmation of a ruling by a Decisions Committee from Field Directors or the Headquarters staff. Such requests shall be submitted in writing, and

shall be answered for informational purposes only, and shall not affect the specific official decision of the Decisions Committee.

18 - PENALTIES

- A. Violations of Rule 1, or general failure of the organization league to comply with the concept, as defined in these Rules and Regulations, and as expressed in the Blue Book of PONY Baseball, may result in refusal to accept the organization league membership application, or a revoking of the membership status of the organization league if the violation occurs after membership for the current season has been granted. Please refer to rule 1A concerning PONY's policy on disabilities.
- B. A team failing to field at least nine uniformed players within 15 minutes after scheduled starting time of a game, or at any time during the game, shall forfeit the game.
- C. Penalty for use of illegal players shall be forfeiture of games in which illegal players participated, provided such games are protested by any of the organization league managers or officers in writing within 48 hours of the game or games in question. An illegal player is one who is not legally a member of the organization league because the player does not meet the requirements as to age and/or residence as stated in Rules 4, 5 and 6. Please refer to rule 1A concerning PONY's policy on disabilities.
- 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.
 - (1) An ineligible player is one who is legally a member of the organization league, but who is ineligible to play or to pitch in a particular game or games because of the limitations set forth in these Rules and Regulations, or as the result of a previous rules violation or disciplinary action.
 - (2) For purposes of interpreting this rule, a player shall not be considered in violation of the rules until at least one pitch has been thrown to the batter after the point of violation.
 - (3) In the event the manager of an ineligible player refuses to remove the player from the lineup and the manager does not leave the field when the appeal is made, and verified, the game is subject to forfeit.
 - (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.
- E. Illegal equipment shall be removed from the game.
 - (1) Players are not permitted to use illegal headgear even if no other headgear is available. When proper headgear is not available, the game shall be delayed until the equipment can be obtained, or postponed and rescheduled by the organization league officers.
 - (2) Penalty for use of illegal shoes shall be removal of the shoes from the game, and, if no other legal footwear is available, removal of the affected player or players from the lineup.
 - (3) Players who do not wear complete conventional uniforms, protective headgear and catching equipment as required by these rules, shall be removed from the lineup.
 - (4) Players who intentionally, in the judgment of the umpire, throw bats or protective headgear, or discard protective headgear while batting or running the bases, shall be ejected from the game following completion of any play in progress at the

time the violation occurs. Such action does not constitute an out and such players shall be replaced as batters or base runners if appropriate.

(5) Refusal to remove jewelry will result in immediate ejection of the player.

(6) Penalty for use of an illegal bat:

(a) If detected before the first pitch of an at-bat, the bat shall be removed from the game. The batter is not out and is required to use a bat that conforms to bat regulations. The manager of the team shall be removed from the game as well as the next scheduled game.

(b) If detected after the first pitch (whether the pitch is swung at or not) the batter is declared out and base runners shall not advance. The manager of the team shall be removed from the game as well as the next scheduled game.

(c) If detected after a ball is hit, the batter is out and base runners shall return to their original base prior to the hit. The manager of the team shall be removed from the game as well as the next scheduled game.

F. Pitchers in violation of any of the pitching rules shall be considered ineligible players, subject to the penalties stated for use of an ineligible player in this rule.

19 - PROTESTS

A. A protest based on a play which involves an umpire's judgment shall not be permitted.

B. When protests are based on an interpretation of the rules, the objecting manager shall, at the time the play occurs, notify the head umpire, the opposing manager and official scorer that the game is being played under protest, and submit the protest in writing to the organization league president or secretary, or to the Decisions Committee, within 48 hours of the completion of the game.

(1) When protests based on the interpretation of a rule are upheld by the Decisions Committee, the game concerned shall be replayed from the point of protest.

(2) Umpires should make a public announcement to the crowd when a game is being played under protest.

C. Any team manager or other adult leader who withdraws a team from the playing field under any circumstances prior to the official completion of the game shall forfeit all rights to protests as prescribed in this section.

20 - GENERAL CONDUCT

A. PONY Baseball, Inc., through its headquarters staff and its designated Field Directors, shall reserve the right to withdraw membership from any organization league, team, player or adult volunteer whose conduct, on or off the playing field, reflects in a manner that is detrimental to the best interests of PONY Baseball, Inc. Please refer to rule 1A concerning PONY's policy on disabilities.

B. Players or adult volunteers who engage in unsportsmanlike conduct, such as fighting, abusive language or similarly derogatory activity, may be suspended for one or more games.

C. Teams, players or adult volunteers in violation of this General Conduct policy may be refused entry, OR MAY BE REMOVED FROM TOURNAMENT PLAY

TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

These rules are for use in PONY sanctioned tournament play ONLY.

TOURNAMENT BASEBALLS SHALL BEAR OFFICIAL PONY STAMP

As stated in Rule 8-8, baseballs bearing the emblem of PONY Baseball, Inc., are required in tournament play.

SHETLAND and PINTO: Tournament play in some zones may be conducted with other teams in the local area and is to be conducted with organization league or "All Star" teams at the discretion of the Division Director. PONY sanctioned tournaments may include District, Section, Region and Zone levels of tournament play.

RULES AND REGULATIONS for TOURNAMENT PLAY

Play is governed by *Official Rules of Major League Baseball*, unless superseded by the Rules and Regulations for Shetland League, Pinto League, Mustang League, Bronco League, Pony League, Colt League and Palomino League or by these Rules and Regulations for Tournament Play.

T-1 - ORGANIZATION LEAGUE ELIGIBILITY

A. To be eligible for tournament competition an organization league shall have:

(1) Filed the membership application form; paid the team membership fee and met all other membership regulations as set forth in the *2013 Rules and Regulations for PONY Baseball Inc.*

(2) Filed the Tournament Application Form and paid to the Division Director the Tournament Entry Fee not later than: SHETLAND - PINTO - MUSTANG - BRONCO - PONY - COLT - PALOMINO : June 1. The tournament application form shall be provided to each organization league by the Division Director after receipt of the organization league membership application by PONY Baseball headquarters.

B. Shetland, Pinto, Mustang, Bronco, Pony, Colt, and Colt-Palomino Combined Leagues may enter as many teams as desired in tournament play. All-Star teams can be selected from any team in the organization league, regardless of the number of times a team is used. The number of teams the organization league desires to enter in tournament play shall be indicated on the membership application form. Colt-Palomino Combined League teams may enter Palomino tournament play and/or form an all-star team of 15 and 16 year olds and enter Colt League tournament play. All-Star teams may be entered into Palomino tournament play, that are formed from a Colt-Palomino Combined League. Palomino League "All-Star" teams are not permitted.

C. Documentary evidence of accident medical insurance, preferably in the form of a certificate of insurance, shall be carried to all tournament games in the event a team member needs medical attention.

D. A medical release form for each player, bearing the signature of the player's parent or legal guardian, shall be carried to all tournament games. (See page 36.)

T-2 - TEAM ELIGIBILITY

A. SHETLAND, PINTO, MUSTANG, BRONCO and PONY: Tournament teams shall consist of a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 15 players. COLT, PALOMINO and COLT-PALOMINO COMBINED, teams shall consist of a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 18 players.

8. At their first level of tournament competition, tournament teams that do not list 12 or more eligible players on their tournament eligibility affidavit shall be disqualified from tournament play.
- C. Tournament teams shall have a minimum of 9 eligible players, who are physically able to play, present at the start of all tournament games. If 9 eligible players are not present within 15 minutes after the scheduled starting time of the game, the game shall be forfeited.
- D. At each organization league's option, tournament teams shall be composed as follows:
- (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, 2004 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-11: TRADITIONAL: Players of league age 11, born between May 1, 2001 and April 30, 2002
AND UNDER: Players of league age 11, born between May 1, 2001 and April 30, 2004
 - (5) 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
 - (6) PONY-13: TRADITIONAL: Players of league age 13, born between May 1, 1999 and April 30, 2000
AND UNDER: Players of league age 13 And Under, born between May 1, 1998 and April 30, 2002
 - (7) 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
 - (8) 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
 - (9) COLT-PALOMINO: TRADITIONAL: Players of league age 17, 18 & 19, born between May 1, 1993 and April 30, 1996
AND UNDER: Players of league age 19 And Under, born on or between May 1, 1993 and April 30, 1998. Six 19 year olds players are allowed per team. No 13 or 14 year olds are permitted to participate.
 - (10) PALOMINO: TRADITIONAL: Players of league age 17, 18 & 19, born between May 1, 1993 and April 30, 1996
AND UNDER: Players of league age 19 And Under, born on or between May 1, 1993 and April 30, 1998
- E. Only players listed on the tournament team eligibility affidavit, one manager, one coach and one business manager (one extra coach is permitted in SHETLAND and PINTO League when coach-pitchers are used), all of whom shall be dressed in full baseball uniform with the official tournament team emblem, sewn or ironed on the

- right sleeve or right part of vest (chest area) of the uniform, shall be on the field or bench. Under this ruling, "bat boys," male or female, or "mascots", animals or human, shall not be permitted on the field or bench.
- F. Competing youth league organization's logos and marks are prohibited from being worn on uniforms of coaches, players and umpires in all levels of tournament play. PENALTY: These logos or marks must be removed immediately. If not removed immediately, the individual, or team shall be removed from tournament play.
- G. All tournament teams shall have a team photo available when they begin Section level tournament play.

T-3 - LEGAL PLAYERS

- A. Tournament players shall:
- (1) Be of proper age, as stated in these rules;
 - (2) Reside within the boundaries of the organization league represented by the tournament team;
 - (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. Upon written request from a organization league, Region Directors may lower this requirement to participation in one-third of a team's games for a player or players who are engaged in a state high school baseball tournament and are prohibited from PONY Baseball play until scholastic competition is completed. Any players who participate in the USA Baseball Tournament of Stars will have those games count towards this total.
 - (4) Comply with the rules and regulations for organization league and tournament play.
- B. Tournament team players shall be required to wear an official tournament team emblem, sewn or ironed on the right sleeve or right part of vest (chest area) of the uniform, when participating in tournament play at all levels. Same team members must wear patches in the same location. These emblems are available through PONY Baseball.

T-4 - ELIGIBILITY AFFIDAVIT

- A. Each organization league president or designated organization league officer shall examine the birth certification documents of all players on the organization league tournament team and, using the eligibility affidavit form provided by PONY Baseball, shall confirm by this affidavit the eligibility of the players on the tournament team representing the organization league.
- B. The name of the player shall be listed on the eligibility affidavit exactly as it is shown on the birth document. (Example: "John William Jones," not "Johnny Jones").
- C. Two copies of the eligibility affidavit shall be presented to the tournament director at the team's first tournament game.
- (1) The original copy, bearing the team pitching record on the reverse side, shall be returned to the winning team following completion of the tournament and shall be presented for examination at all future tournament games.
 - (2) A copy of the winning team's eligibility affidavit shall be forwarded to the Division Director by the Tournament Director at the team's first level of tournament play.

T-5 - BIRTH CERTIFICATION

Tournament team business managers shall carry with them to all tournament games evidence of each player's date of birth as described in Rule 4-H, Birth certification

documents shall be presented to a credentials committee appointed by the Tournament Director before each level of tournament play begins. If of Palomino age, player contracts must also be presented.

T-6 - REPLACEMENT OF TOURNAMENT PLAYERS

- A. Once the eligibility affidavit has been presented to the Tournament Director of the team's first tournament game, no change or addition shall be made on the player roster for any reason except illness of, or injury to, a player, or for those who sign professional baseball contracts. Any changes or corrections of the eligibility affidavit shall be made in the presence of the Tournament Director, who shall initial and date approval of the changes or additions on the affidavit.
- B. Any replacement of a player on a tournament team for reasons of illness of, or injury to, the player only, shall be supported by written certification from an attending physician as to the conditions necessitating the replacement.
 - (1) The original statement or statements shall be attached to the original copy of the eligibility affidavit and carried with the team to all future tournament games.
 - (2) Replacement players shall be selected from among other legal and eligible players in the organization league in which the team played during the regular season.
- C. Players shall not participate with more than one PONY Baseball tournament team within a season, and once removed from that tournament team roster, a player shall not be considered eligible for further tournament play that season.

T-7 - PLAYING FIELDS

Only regulation playing fields as described in the "Rules and Regulations of PONY Baseball" shall be considered as sites for tournament competition. The only exception to this rule is in tournament competition where organization leagues, by written consent, agree on a playing field in order to reduce travel problems or when there is no regulation field available. In any such case, approval shall be given by the Division Director or their representative.

T-8 - TOURNAMENT PITCHING

- A. A tournament pitcher is allowed to pitch:
MUSTANG: In not more than six innings in one calendar day.
BRONCO, PONY and COLT: In not more than seven innings in one calendar day.
PALOMINO: In not more than nine innings in one calendar day.
- B. Pitchers who pitch in more than one game on the same calendar day may pitch any combination of innings in those games provided they do not pitch in more than:
MUSTANG: six innings on that calendar day.
BRONCO, PONY and COLT: seven innings on that calendar day.
PALOMINO: nine innings on that calendar day.
- C. BRONCO, PONY, and COLT: In tournaments involving four or less teams, a pitcher is allowed to pitch in not more than 16 (12 in MUSTANG) innings in a level of tournament play, regardless of the number of calendar weeks involved in that level of play.
- D. BRONCO, PONY, and COLT: In tournaments involving five or more teams, a pitcher is allowed to pitch in not more than 16 innings (12 in MUSTANG) in the pitcher's team's first three games. After a team has played three games, all pitchers on these teams then have 16 (12 in MUSTANG) innings of pitching eligibility remaining for that level of tournament play, provided they meet the 40 hour rest requirement. A level of play (area, district, section, region, zone) is a tournament or series of playoffs to

reduce the teams assigned to that level to a winner who shall advance to the next level of play.

- E. All pitchers become eligible at each level of tournament play, provided the following 40 hour rest requirement is met, even if it falls within the same calendar week MUSTANG, BRONCO, PONY and COLT pitchers shall have 40 hours rest after pitching in four (five for PALOMINO) or more innings on the same calendar day.
- F. Names of all pitchers actually appearing in the game, along with the number of innings in which they pitched, shall be recorded on the "Tournament Pitching Record" form on the reverse side of the first sheet of the eligibility affidavit form. This record shall be signed by the manager, coach or business manager of the opposing team, the official scorekeeper of the game, or the Tournament Director or their representative.

T-9 - LENGTH OF GAMES

Once play has begun in a tournament game, the game shall be played to regulation length, unless called because of the 10-run rule, or forfeited by the decisions committee. Games called for any other reason shall be continued as suspended games at the next possible scheduled time, as determined by the Tournament Director. The ten run rule does not apply for SHETLAND League.

T-10 - SCHEDULE

- A. Tournament teams shall play until eliminated, at the sites and times designated by the Tournament Director or their representative, with the full realization that to do so may require competition with teams composed of players of various race, creed, color and sex.
- B. When a team wins the championship of any level of tournament play and refuses to advance to play in the next level of tournament play, that team shall be replaced by the runner-up team. When a team refuses to advance to the next level of play, the Division Director will review the action and may suspend the organization league's membership in PONY Baseball, Inc. indefinitely for that age group.
- C. The various field directors of PONY Baseball shall have full responsibility for determination of team pairings, playing brackets, scheduling and rescheduling of tournament games.
- D. Teams may be required to play three (3) games in a calendar day, but must have Division Director's approval in area where the tournament is being played. If approval is granted by the Division Director, at any point, these can be five (5) inning games.
- E. PONY Tournament Tie-Breaker/Pool Play.
 - (1) When two teams within a division have identical win-loss records, the winner of the head-to-head competition between those two teams shall advance.
 - (2) When three teams within a division have identical win-loss records, the following will apply:
 - (a) The least number of runs allowed by a team in all games played will advance that team as champion. If a second place team is required revert back to number 1.
 - (b) When all three teams have allowed the same number of runs, the team with the most net runs (runs scored minus runs allowed) will advance. If a second place team is required revert back to number 1.
 - (c) If teams remain tied after consideration of "a" and "b" the team that scored the most runs in their games will advance. If a second place team is required revert back to number 1.

- (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.

T-11 - UMPIRES

- A. The various tournament directors shall have full responsibility for providing competent umpires for tournament play under their jurisdiction. Tournament umpires shall be 18 years of age or older.
- B. When circumstances permit, umpires who have not worked in the games of the two competing organization league shall be assigned. When it is necessary to assign umpires from the organization leagues in competition, the umpire-in-chief shall be selected by the toss of a coin or some other mutually satisfactory method.
- C. All umpires shall be familiar with the rules and regulations, particularly that phase which deals with forfeiture and protest.
- D. No organization league officer shall umpire in a tournament game when the organization league of which he is an officer is participating.
- E. National officers of PONY Baseball, Inc., field directors, tournament chairmen and tournament directors shall not be permitted to umpire in a tournament game.
- F. Only Pony Baseball registered umpires are eligible to umpire Pony sanctioned tournament play. Those umpires who are calling Pony tournament play shall wear the Pony umpire emblem on their right sleeve or a Pony Umpire hat.

T-12 - MANAGERS AND COACHES

- A. A field manager and a coach, who shall each be of legal age in the state in which they reside, shall be selected with each tournament team.
 - (1) SHETLAND and PINTO: Teams may have a total of four coaches (including manager and business manager) in the dugout.
 - a. Coaches shall not assist batters in the batters box or coach defensively from the field.
 - b. Umpires shall not permit more than one timeout per 1/2 inning.
- B. The field manager, assisted by the coach, shall direct the team on the field of play and shall be responsible for the conduct of players both on and off the field.
- C. The manager and coach shall be attired in full baseball uniform with an official tournament team emblem.
- D. A manager or coach shall not be replaced during a game, except in an emergency, and once replaced shall not resume managing or coaching during that game.
- E. When a manager and/or coach is replaced between games or levels of play, the Tournament Director shall be notified before the next game.
- F. At least one adult (manager, coach or business manager) shall be with the team at all times when a tournament team is traveling or is housed as a unit.
- G. National officers of PONY Baseball, Inc., field directors, tournament chairmen and tournament directors are not permitted to sponsor, manage or coach a tournament team.

T-13 - BUSINESS MANAGER

- A. A business manager, who shall be 21 years of age, or older, shall be selected with each tournament team.
- B. The business manager shall share in the responsibility for the conduct of players and shall be responsible for handling the business affairs of the team, including arrangements for transportation, feeding, housing and financial matters, as well as the acquisition and handling of birth documents, medical release forms, evidence of

accident insurance, and the eligibility affidavit. When a business manager is replaced the Tournament Director shall be notified.

- C. Business managers shall be attired in a full baseball uniform with the official tournament team emblem, while in the dugout, bench area or on the playing field and may serve as a coach.
- D. Field directors at each level of tournament play shall assist the business manager matters pertaining to transportation, feeding and housing in cooperation with tournament hosts or sponsors who may be involved.
- E. National officers of PONY Baseball, Inc., field directors, tournament chairmen and tournament directors shall not be permitted to serve as business manager for tournament team.

T-14 - TOURNAMENT DECISIONS COMMITTEE

- A. If necessary the Tournament Director shall appoint a Decision's Committee of at least three persons and one of whom shall be the Tournament Director. All members of the Decision's Committee shall be in attendance throughout the game or game concerned.
- B. This committee shall accept any protest of an umpire's decision, other than those based on an umpire's judgment. It shall immediately consider the protest in conference with the umpires and managers and then render a decision before play resumed. Such decisions shall be arrived at by the members of the committee only based upon information received from the umpires, and managers, and the committee's own observation of the play or situation in question.
- C. Decisions of the decisions committee are final and are not subject to appeal.
- D. If a decisions committee has not been appointed, an appeal shall be directed to the Tournament Director or their representative, whose decision shall be final.
- E. Managers shall agree on a decisions committee if none is appointed and the Tournament Director or their appointed representative is not present. Should the fail to do so, the decision of the umpire-in-chief shall be final.

T-15 - TOURNAMENT DIRECTION

- A. The Tournament Director, as a representative of PONY Baseball, Inc., shall be directly responsible for the supervision of the actual playing of games and shall serve as liaison between adult leaders of the competing teams and the sponsoring group.
- B. The Tournament Chairman is charged with arranging the adequate housing and feeding of participants where applicable; proper preparation of playing facilities and overall supervision of the sponsoring group.

T-16 - PROTESTS AND PENALTIES

- A. Protest of any umpire's ruling or other tournament condition shall be made to the decisions committee immediately, before play is resumed.
- B. Under no condition shall a protest be made after a game is completed.
- C. Penalty for use of an illegal player shall be removal of the player and the team manager from the game, and disqualification of the manager for the remainder of the tournament season.
 - (1) An illegal player is one not qualified to be a member of the team because of failure to meet the requirements of participation, residence or age.
 - (2) Illegal players shall not be replaced on the team roster.
 - (3) When the illegal status of a player is not established until after a game has started, or has been completed, the player and manager shall be removed at the

time, but the game, or any portion of the game played up to that point, shall stand as played.

(4) For interpretation of this rule, the penalty shall be assessed against the person in charge, (manager, coach or business manager) when an illegal player is used.

(5) A manager (coach or business manager) removed under this rule may not be replaced on the team roster.

Should the manager, coach and business manager all be eliminated under this rule, the team shall be removed from tournament competition at that point, and current bracketing adjusted by the tournament director.

D. It is basis for protest when the business manager, coach or manager of a tournament team fails to present the eligibility affidavit, birth certification documents, medical release forms and evidence of accident insurance at least one hour before scheduled game time when requested to do so by the Tournament Director or their representative. PALOMINO LEAGUE: Player contracts are also required.

E. Penalty for use of an ineligible player shall be the immediate removal of both the player and the manager from the game and continued ineligibility for the next scheduled tournament game played by that team. If such ineligibility carries over from one level of tournament play to the next, the tournament director concerned shall notify the tournament director at the next level of play.

F. The manager, coach and business manager with a tournament team are considered representatives of the organization league which the team represents. Seriously inappropriate conduct on the part of these adult leaders, on or off the playing field, may result in penalties assessed against the organization league. Such penalties, to be imposed by the Zone Vice-Presidents following consultation with headquarters, may involve rejection of the organization league's application for membership in PONY Baseball the following year, or acceptance of the membership application on a probationary status.

G. Grievous individual misconduct, on the part of adult leaders or players, on or off the field, such as, but not limited to, fighting, drinking, publicly audible use of foul or abusive language, may result in the removal of an individual from further tournament play for the remainder of the tournament season. Adult leaders and players removed under this section shall not be replaced on the tournament roster.

H. The use of artificial noisemakers is prohibited.

T-17 - TOURNAMENT FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

A. Each organization league shall assume full responsibility for expenses incurred in tournament competition. Expenses shall be reimbursed to as great a degree as possible from tournament entry fee receipts and host guarantees. When possible and practical, arrangements shall be made to have food and housing costs at the tournament site wholly, or partially assumed by the tournament sponsor or host.

B. The sponsoring organization at any tournament level shall not assume responsibility, under any circumstances, for transporting, feeding, housing or otherwise providing for any players, other than those listed on the tournament team eligibility affidavit, a manager, a coach and a business manager with each participating team, as covered by the tournament agreement.

T-18 - WORLD SERIES

A. The World Series level of tournament play shall be by pairings and format determined annually by the Board of Directors of PONY Baseball, Inc.

B. Travel expense reimbursement for participating teams shall be at the rate that is determined by the Board of Directors of PONY Baseball, Inc.

C. Transportation arrangements to and from World Series sites shall be made and approved by the Division Director, working in cooperation with the business manager of the team concerned.

D. World Series sponsoring organizations shall provide housing in private homes, motel, hotel, college, military or similar facilities which have been approved by the World Series Tournament Director.

E. Sponsoring organizations shall provide meals, or a meal allowance, for a participating teams. Host and host area teams do not receive a meal allotment.

F. Participating teams which choose not to accept housing and/or meals provided by the sponsoring organization shall reside and eat elsewhere at their own expense, and shall be responsible for their own local transportation.

BEHAVIOR

Tournament play is exciting. Disputes will arise. Tempers may flare. The example set by managers and coaches will be reflected by the players and coaches. As adults guiding setting an example for young people, make it a good example. Violent displays of temper will not only give the program a bad name, but may cost the organization league fan and financial support in future years.

NOTES TO TOURNAMENT TEAM MANAGING PERSONNEL: — DECISIONS COMMITTEE —

SINCE TIME AND DISTANCE ARE A FACTOR IN TOURNAMENT PLAY, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PONY BASEBALL HAS RULED THAT TOURNAMENT PROTESTS SHALL BE DECIDED ON THE SPOT — THAT NO APPEAL OF RULINGS MADE BY THE DECISION COMMITTEE IS TO BE ACCEPTED. THE DECISION COMMITTEE IS THE FINAL ARBITRATOR. Managers are urged not to begin play in any tournament game until a Decision Committee has been appointed and its members made known to them.

If, for any reason, a Decisions Committee is not present, and the Tournament Director is not present, and has not designated anyone to serve as a representative of the Tournament Director, the competing managers shall agree upon a Decisions Committee before play begins.

If a Tournament Director is not present and a Decisions Committee is not appointed, the decision of the umpire-in-chief shall be final.

entertainment.com
FUNDRAISING

**OFFICIAL PONY
BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL
FUNDRAISER**

- EARN UP TO \$10 PER BOOK
- CUSTOMIZED WITH YOUR TEAM NAME, LOGO AND PHOTO
- 40 COUPONS SELECTED FROM ENTERTAINMENT'S FAMOUS DATABASE OF OVER 500,000 OFFERS
- NO UPFRONT COSTS OR SETUP FEES

855.517.4572

entertainment.com/PONY