

DEERFIELD WOODEN BAT 2018 Tournament Rules



1. Entries and Documents

A. Each team must complete a registration form including Rosters, Contact information and Insurance forms for each team. There will not be a formal registration. Should you have difficulty uploading the document to your registration page, please email it to woodenbat2@dyba.com with your team or program name (for forms covering multiple teams) in the subject line.

B. Team rosters along with proof of team insurance and DYBA waiver must be uploaded onto the registration by Tuesday, June 12, 2018. Teams must have their player's birth certificates available at all games. In the event of a challenge for proof of age, managers will be required to show a copy of the player's birth certificate. Failure to do so may result in a forfeiture of the game.

C. All players must be **full time members** of the team, and must have participated in at least 75% of the team's games (unless injured). Score books must be made available for review. In the case of a previously injured player who is below the 75% threshold and plans on playing in the Deerfield Wooden Bat Tournament, the player's name must be disclosed to the tournament director before the first pitch of their first pool play game. Any team who plays an ineligible (or undisclosed) player at any point in the tournament shall be disqualified from the elimination round. A disqualified team may (or may not) be replaced in the elimination round, at the sole discretion of the tournament director.

D. Any player participating in the Deerfield Wooden Bat Tournament may only be rostered on one single team. For instance, it is illegal for a player to be rostered in both the "A" and "B" divisions of a certain age group (i.e. 12-A and 12-B), or for a player to be rostered at two different age groups (i.e. 10u and 11u). If it is determined that a player appeared in Wooden Bat games for more than one team, the player will be immediately banned from the tournament and determined ineligible. Any team who plays an ineligible player at any point in the tournament shall be disqualified from the elimination round. A disqualified team may (or may not) be replaced in the elimination round, at the sole discretion of the tournament director.

E. Weather conditions may alter tournament schedule. **Updates will be provided to team managers both directly via email and via DYBA.com. In the event of severe weather, check the website or with your team manager. If the website has not been updated, managers only may call the tournament hotline (number to be announced).**

F. If because of weather, less than three games are played, each team will be refunded either: 1) a portion of the entry fee, or 2) may receive a credit toward next year's tournament. This will only apply to poor weather conditions and does not include forfeits and no-shows.

G. Tournament Format - The tournament format for each division may vary based on the number of teams. Each division will be notified directly of their individual format and schedule. Each team is guaranteed three games which will consist of pool play and may or may not consist of seeded, bracket rounds (depending on the format for that age group).

H. Playoff Seeding - Upon completion of pool play, teams will be seeded based (in order) on:

1. Win-loss record
2. If two teams are tied - Head to Head winner
3. If three or more teams are tied – a team will advance if that team has defeated all other tied teams. If no team has defeated all other tied teams, go to rule #4
4. Total runs allowed in pool play
5. Coin flip

I. Tournament officials may have to cancel games during the weekend because of rain, other weather or field conditions. The tournament director may alter the format based on weather. The same seeding format used in pool play will be used to help determine an alternative, rain- shortened format.

J. In case of lightning or the threat of lightning, the umpire(s) or tournament officials have 100% discretion to pull teams off the field. In Deerfield, we have a very sophisticated lightning tracking system called Thorguard. It will sound an alarm at all parks if lightning is in the immediate area. If the alarm goes off, the game must be stopped immediately and will resume ONLY if and when the all clear signal is sounded. If the game is unable to resume or the time limit expires at the point of the all clear, the result of the game goes back to the last completed inning OR to the current inning if the home team is leading at the time of the Thorguard alert – NO QUESTIONS ASKED and no protests will be accepted. If Thorguard does not sound within 15 minutes of the umpire taking the teams off the field, the game can resume (at the umpire's discretion) until such time that the time limit of the game is maximized or the game is completed, whichever occurs first. The umpire has discretion on when the teams return to the field. To review the complete DYBA lightning policy, visit DYBA.com.

2. Teams

A. Each team must consist of 9 players with a maximum of 15 players. All players must be of the age of the bracket or under as of April 30, 2018.

B. A total of three adults per team will be allowed as official coaches during each game: 1 manager and 2 coaches. All three must be listed on the team roster. They also must be in easily identifiable team apparel. The manager will be responsible for the conduct of all coaches.

3. Fields, Schedules and Scores

A. Before each game, time permitting, each team may practice in the outfield on a split field. No practicing in the infield. Infield/outfield warm-ups will take place on the same side of the field of your dugout. There will be no live batting practice. Only whiffle balls will be allowed.

B. Game schedules and field locations will be posted on DYBA.com and sent to all teams prior to the tournament. It is the manager's responsibility to check the website for all game schedule information and distribute information to his team.

4. Games Rules

All rules will be based on National Federation of High Schools and Illinois High School Association rules, except where noted below. In the case where tournament rules do not explicitly mention a situation, tournament officials and umpires will have complete and sole discretion to rule on these points.

A. The continuous batting and free defensive substitution rule will apply. In the 14-year-old division, teams have the option of roster batting 9 players or batting 9 with substitutions*. They may also continue to use free defensive substitution. ***In the 14u "B" division, the option for batting 9 players will ONLY be during elimination rounds.**

B. A team must have nine players to begin a game. If an injury occurs, reducing a team to eight players, the manager may elect to continue playing, taking an automatic out in the batting position of the injured player. The out does not constitute a play and the ball is dead. The same rule exists in the case of a player ejection, and will be considered batting out of order per NFHS rules.

C. Lead-offs are permitted for all ages except for the 8u and 9u divisions. **In the 8 and 9u age divisions, runners may leave the base after the ball has crossed the plate.** No warnings will be issued for violating this rule; umpires will call runners out immediately and the ball will be dead. In the 8 and 9-year-old division, players may not steal home. They may only score from 3rd base on a batted ball or forced home with bases loaded.

D. Base runners *must* slide on any close play to avoid contact with the defensive player. This is stricter than the NFHS/IHSA rule. Players will be called out at the umpire's discretion and subject to immediate ejection for not sliding and/or attempting to "run through" a defensive player with the ball in his possession. Incidental contact, which in the umpire's sole judgment does not affect play, will result in no action.

No Head-first slides. Runner will be ruled out.

Defensive players may not interfere with a runner without the ball in possession unless they are about to receive it immediately. This is based on the NFHS/IHSA rule.

No fake tags will be permitted. This is obstruction per the NFHS/IHSA rule.

"Slashing" is not allowed; if the batter squares around to bunt, he cannot swing away. If the batter violates this rule, he is out.

E. Catchers and Pitchers (incoming for both) may have a courtesy runner at any time, but must have a courtesy runner with two outs. The runner must be the last player to have been called out.

F. Games are scheduled for 6 innings in length, but may be shorter because of the time limit. Game time limit is **one hour and forty-five minutes**; no inning will start after that time, but the bottom half of an inning may be played, if the home team trails the visiting team. The tournament director may determine completion time in questionable circumstances. Some rescheduling may be required in the event unfinished games are causing a backlog on the fields.

For elimination round games, if the score is tied after the 6th inning, the Speed-Up Rule will apply. The Speed-Up Rule will be based on California rules: for each half inning played beyond the 6th inning, the inning will begin with one out and one runner on second base (the last player called out in the previous inning will be the base runner).

There is no time limit, and consequently no speed-up rule, for the Championship games. Though slaughter rules will still be in effect.

Umpires and tournament officials will keep the official game time.

G. Dropped third strike and infield fly rules are in effect for all ages except the 8 and 9-year-old divisions.

H. Forfeit time is 15 minutes after scheduled game time or 15 minutes after the completion of a previous game completed whichever is later. The tournament is run on a very tight schedule, so teams must be ready to begin games on time or potentially several minutes before. Umpires have discretion to start the clock on teams not ready to play.

I. All managers are responsible for their team's conduct. A team consists of players, coaches and parents/fans. Only the team manager may engage in a discussion with the umpire. All disputes and questions should be directed to the Head of DYBA Umpires at: (847)293-7500 or via email at umpires@dyba.com. Any ejection of a manager, coach or player will result in ineligibility for the game of ejection. A second ejection will result in the disqualification of that individual for the remainder of the tournament. Use of ineligible players, managers or coaches may result in tournament forfeiture.

J. **The winning Manager must report both the score and the pitching records* for BOTH teams immediately after the game. Failure to report the score will result in a forfeit for both teams. Scores should be emailed to: WBTscores@dyba.com. Emails should have the age/division in the subject line, with the final score. **For any team that uses either gamechanger or another scoring program, we will accept a copy/pasted link of the box score in lieu of a manual pitching record.***

K. Tournament officials will rule on any protest of *rule interpretations*, during a game, before play can continue. The protest must be made at the time of the rule interpretation and before any further action occurs – therefore, no pitches may be thrown or other play continued until after a ruling has been made. Umpire judgment calls are not rule interpretations. Tournament officials will be available at a tournament hotline (number to be announced) to rule on any rule interpretation protest *immediately and before play resumes.*

L. Tournament official(s) rulings are final in all cases.

M. Games are official after 4 innings, or 3.5 innings if the home team is ahead.

N. Slaughter rule applies with a 12-run lead after 3 innings, or 2.5 innings if the home team is ahead, with a 10-run lead after 4 innings, or 3.5 innings if the home team is ahead, or with an 8- run lead after 5 innings, or 4.5 if the home team is ahead.

O. In the event of a tie after 6 innings during pool play, and should there be time remaining, the California Speed-Up Rule will go into effect.

1. Each team will be given one opportunity at bat with a man on 2nd base and one out. The last out from the previous inning will be the designated runner at 2nd base. There are no designated runners allowed for this inning.
2. Flip of coin decides which team goes first.
3. In event of a tie after the 7th inning using this rule, the game will be declared a tie.

P. In the event of a forfeit, the score will be recorded as 6-0 in favor of the opposing team. All players on the forfeiting team will be charged with 2 innings pitched. Forfeits may result in disqualification by tournament officials.

No taunting (including “cheers” designed to distract or harass the opposing players) or arguing with the umpires is permitted. The umpires and tournament officials can and will eject players, managers, coaches, parents and fans for taunting or arguing. The Tournament Director and other officials will also have the authority to eject players, managers and coaches for taunting and arguing and suspend them from further participation.

5. Pitching Rules

A. Balks will be called after one warning per pitcher. No balks will be called for 8u and 9u. No warnings will be issued for 14-year-olds.

B. No curve balls are allowed at age levels 9u-12u. 13u and 14u may throw curves.

C. Pitchers removed from the pitching position may not return to pitch again in that game.

D. Hitting three batters with pitched balls in one inning will require the removal of that pitcher.

E. The second trip to the mound, per pitcher, by a manager or coach in one inning will require the removal of the pitcher.

F. A pitcher is charged for a full inning after his first pitch is thrown. He will not be charged for his second until after he has recorded three **consecutive** outs in the game.

G. **Pitching restrictions** are as follows, with innings defined in Rule E*:

8u, 9u, 10u	2 innings per game. 3 innings per day. 8 innings for tournament.
11u, 12u	3 innings per game. 4 innings per day. 9 innings for tournament.
13u	4 innings per game. 5 innings per day. 10 innings for tournament.
14u	6 innings per game. 6 innings per day. 10 innings for tournament.

***Should weather dictate that teams play more than two games in a day, the Tournament and Umpires Directors reserve the right to modify the per-day innings maximum.**

H. Pitching and base path distances:

8u: 42 – 60	11u: 48 – 70	14u: 60 – 90
9u: 44 – 60	12u: 50 – 70	
10u: 46 – 65	13u: 54 – 80	

- I. Injury related trips by a manager to the mound would not constitute a trip to the mound. These must be umpire approved and umpire attended to avoid penalty.

6. Officials and Equipment

A. Umpires and baseballs will be provided by the Tournament. All teams must provide their own wood bats*. Umpires will rule on any bat contested by the defensive team. Rulings are final.

***There are no specific bat restrictions other than ALL BATS MUST HAVE A WOOD BARREL. Composite bats with wood barrel ARE legal for the tournament.**

B. Each team must provide one scorekeeper for each game. Scorekeepers must compare statistics after each inning. The Tournament will provide scoreboard operators for as many Sunday play-off and championship games as possible, but each team must still designate an official scorekeeper for these and all other games.

C. All batters, base runners and **YOUTH BASE COACHES** must wear helmets at all times. All players on the field, including in the batting circle, must also wear helmets. Any catcher warming up a pitcher must wear a full-face mask and helmet. Catchers warming up a pitcher on or directly adjacent to the field of play must wear full protective gear and be protected by another player or coach with a glove for the duration of the warm up.

D. Catchers must wear shin guards, body protectors and helmets. All players must wear a protective cup. Metal cleats are permitted only for the U13 & U14 age groups.

E. Home teams will be determined by a coin flip in pool play. The higher seed will be the home team during the elimination rounds.

7. Championship Games

All Championship games are held on Sunday at Jewett Park, Clavey Park or Woodland Park*. For the purposes of rules and time limits, only the final game in each bracket will be considered a Championship game. Game times will be posted on DYBA.com.

- 9u Championship Game will be held at Clavey Park
- 10u Championship Games will be held at Woodland Park
- 11u Championship Game will be held at Woodland Park
- 12u Championship Game will be held at Jewett Park
- 13u Championship Game will be held at Jewett Park
- 14u Championship Games will be held at Jewett Park

8. Awards

Championship teams and the runner up teams in each age group will receive an award.

During the championship games, each manager will be given an "MVP" Medal. Each coach will select a player on the opposing team to give this medal to before team trophies are presented.

9. Not covered in the Rules: Any rules not stated above will be based on the 2017 IHSA/NFHS rulebooks. As stated, umpires and tournament officials may rule on any and all issues that come up during play. **In the event any item is not covered in the rules, the tournament committee will make the fairest possible ruling and that ruling will be final!**

Contact information for Tournament Officials:

Tournament Director	Joe Sanger	(773) 710-7227
Rules & Umpires	Mike Strauss	(847) 293-7500
Scores	A.J. Price Howie Zouber	(847) 530-6184 (612) 750-6340
Concessions	Ryan Twose	(972) 795-9206
Volunteers	Jen Gandy	(224) 500-2262

