



2025 White Bear Opener Tournament Rules

National Federation of High School rules shall govern play except where modified in this document. These rules are in accordance with MYAS State Tournament Rules. Out-of-state teams are ineligible unless affiliated with MBL or MYAS leagues, or with written waiver from either league.

Coaches are responsible for knowing these rules. Games can be resumed much quicker if the coaches know these rules and have them on the bench for quick referral.

1. The official schedule is posted online through Tournemachine.com and on the tournament website (whitebearbaseball.com). The brackets will be updated at Polar Lakes Park. It is the responsibility of the coach to know the schedule and field assignments.
13AAA, 13AA and 14AA will be 8 team bracket play. 14AAA will be pool play with 5 teams. Each team will play two games and then the final 4 team championship bracket will be determined.

Tie Breakers: 1) Runs Allowed. 2) Run Differential. 3) Coin Flip.
2. Age Divisions. 13u must be 13 or younger on or before April 30th of this year. 14u must be 14 or younger.
3. Teams shall supply 1 new ball and Host will supply 1 new game ball per game. Teams will alternate supplying good used balls as needed. Please turn in all 3 balls to the tournament director upon check-in. Check in is a minimum of 1 hour prior to your first game at the Polar Lakes. Please have team rosters and birth certificates with you at check in and during the tournament. They will only be checked if necessary.
4. Each team shall have a maximum of 3 coaches plus a scorekeeper in the dugout at any time.
5. No protests are allowed on subjective calls. Umpire decisions are final. This includes speed-up rules (example - no around-the-horn at the discretion of the umpire).
6. We reserve the right to reschedule or shorten games should inclement weather be expected or interfere with play.
7. A game that is suspended due to inclement weather, darkness, or any other reason may be resumed from the exact point of suspension. The Tournament Director reserves the right to do whatever necessary to complete the tournament, including changing format, shortening or eliminating games, etc. For games shortened by inclement weather, see winner-loser determinant below in paragraph 18c.
8. If the tournament must be canceled due to unforeseen circumstances (weather, etc.) AND:
 - a. No games have been played teams will be refunded their entry fee **minus a \$50 processing fee**.
 - b. If 1 game is started, **entry fee minus \$150 will be refunded**.
 - c. If 2 or more games are started, **no refund will be issued**.
9. If weather sirens go off, teams will vacate fields immediately and seek shelter. Teams should **not** wait for Tournament Director to visit the field with directions. Tournament Director will determine when play can resume.
10. Lightning appearing to be threatening will cause **immediate** suspension of play to vacate fields and benches. The umpire or Tournament Director can call suspension for lightning. It is the discretion of the Tournament Director to call games in progress for a 15-minute game suspension period or as final at that point. If lightning is witnessed near end of 15-minute suspension mark, games can, at tournament director's discretion, be called as final.
11. For games stopped or shortened due to weather or any reason other than time stoppage, the winner shall be determined in the manner set forth in paragraph 18c.
12. Home team will be determined by a coin toss prior to each game.
13. A 10-minute grace period shall be allowed before a forfeit is declared.

14. The 10-run rule is in effect for all games. Games shall end at the conclusion of 4 ½ innings (home team) or 5 innings (visiting team) if the score differential is 10 or more. The 12-run rule will apply after four innings (3 ½ if the home team is ahead). The 15-run rule will apply after three innings (2 ½ innings if the home team is ahead).
15. Pitching Rules/Pitch Count restrictions:
- Umpires will maintain the official record of pitch counts. Please inform the umpire of the pitch count either between innings or when your pitcher leaves the game.
 - VIOLATION** of pitching restrictions will result in the Head Coach being ejected from that game and the next scheduled game. The offending pitcher will be suspended from the pitching position for the following game. The second offense during the same tournament results in suspension of the coach for the remainder of that tournament.
 - High school rules apply for legal pitch types and balks.
 - The starting pitcher may be withdrawn and re-enter once (at pitcher). Relief pitchers may not re-enter at the pitching position.
 - Trips to the Mound: two trips to the mound are allowed per pitcher, per game. On the second trip the pitcher must be removed from the pitcher position for the remainder of the game.
 - Pitch limits and distances. If a player reaches their pitch limit during an at-bat, they may finish pitching to that batter but then must immediately be removed.

Age	Pitch Limits	Pitching Distance	Base Paths
13U	95 Max per Day/120 Max per Tournament	54'	75' to 80'
14U	95 Max per Day /130 Max per Tournament	60' 6"	90'

16. Equipment

- Decisions made by the umpire regarding equipment are final.
- Metal Spikes. Allowed in accordance with High School rules
- Helmets must be worn while in the on-deck circle, batting, base running and catching.
- Teams must supply their own first-aid kits. Hosts do not provide training equipment, supplies, or personnel.
- All teams must wear numbered jerseys of identical color. Tape numbers are not acceptable. Coaches/managers do not have to be in uniform. Illegally uniformed players must be withheld from competition until they become legal. (Rule Subject to Tournament Directors final ruling).
- Bat restrictions: All bats must have USSSA or USA stamp (unless using a -3 BBCOR bat).

Age	Restriction
13U	Bats must be 2 1/4" with unlimited weight differential or bats must be 2 5/8" or 2 3/4" and have a -11 differential or less (if USA) or -10 differential or less (if USSSA).
14U	Bats must be 2 3/4" with a -5 or less differential

- Differential is the difference between length and weight.
- PENALTY FOR ILLEGAL EQUIPMENT:** On the first violation of 4-1-3b for entering the box with an illegal bat, the penalty for an illegal bat is applied (7-4-1a). A batter is also out as in above penalty or when the batter enters the batter's box with an illegal bat (see 1-3-5) or is discovered having used an illegal bat. If the infraction is discovered before the next pitch following the turn at bat of the player who used an illegal bat, the defense may take the penalty or the result of the play. On the second violation for entering the box with an illegal bat, the penalty for an illegal bat is applied and the head coach shall be ejected. On subsequent violations for entering the box with an illegal bat, the penalty for an illegal bat is applied and the designated head coach shall be ejected. On detected violations of 4-1-3b for the use of a damaged helmet, the helmet shall be immediately removed from play. Any batter found with an illegal bat, either during an "at bat" or prior to the next batter having completed his/her turn at bat, shall be ruled out. A second batter on the same team, within the same game, found with an illegal bat, batting or prior to the next batter having completed his/her turn at bat, shall be declared out and ejected from that game and the next game, as well as the head coach. A third player discovered, on the same offending team, while batting or just having batted with an illegal bat, at any point in the tournament, shall result in an out being recorded and the head or acting head coach being ejected for the remainder of the tournament.

17. Base Running Rules - High School Rules apply. Runners must avoid contact with defensive players.

18. Game Length - Time Limits: (An inning is completed the moment the last out of the inning is recorded). Min innings: 5, Max Innings: 7. No new inning starts after 1 hour 45 minutes, subject to provisions below.

- a. Umpires should announce the time the game starts, but are not required to give notice that time limit may occur during a subsequent inning. Coaches shall record the start time provide by the umpire and track game progress against time accordingly. The umpire's time is the official time.
- b. Game determination for games ended by time limit, weather or any other event.
- c. If the home team is ahead and they have not started their at bat, when the time limit has been reached or the game stopped, but the visiting team has completed its at bat, the game is over. The home team does not get the option to continue batting.
- d. If the home team is batting and leading when the time limit is reached or the game stopped and at least four innings have been completed – the game is over.
- e. There is no time limit for Championship or 3rd Place games on Sunday.

19. Batting/Substitution rules

- a. 13u must use free substitution and must bat the entire bench. 14u will have the option to use continuous batting and free substitution. This must be declared to the umpire and the opposing head coach prior to the start of the game and will continue for the remainder of that game.
- b. **NOTE for Continuous Batting:** An injured batter or runner that cannot continue to participate will be replaced by the last player to be put out. Each team's lineup must list a minimum of nine players to start a game. A game will be forfeited to the offended team when a team is unable to provide nine players to start the game or cannot provide eight players to finish the game (NFHS Rule 4-4-1f). 1. A "rostered" player may be placed at the end of your lineup if he/she is not present at the start of the game (this applies to teams that start a game with nine players).
- c. Courtesy Runner:
 - 13U: A courtesy runner (the last runner to be put out) will be allowed only for the catcher and only when there are two outs.
 - 14U: The NFHS courtesy runner rule (NFHS Speed up Rules) will be used. The team at bat may use courtesy runners for the pitcher or catcher at any time. The catcher must be the current catcher and catch the next inning (must use the player recorded as making the last out.) 15u (or 14u not batting continuously) - Players who have participated in the game in any other capacity are ineligible to serve as courtesy runners until all players have participated. If all players have participated, then the courtesy runner will be the last player that made an out.
- f. Teams must start the game with 9 players. If due to injury or illness, a team may finish a game with 8 players. A team reduced to less than 9 players due to an ejection shall be disqualified from the tournament.
- g. A player who is batting out of order and has taken a pitch will be called out. The next batter will be the player who was due to bat following the incorrect batter.

20. If a team is disqualified from the tournament, it only affects the results of their last game.

21. Any player, coach or spectator ejected from a game will also be suspended from their team's next game. A second game disqualification will result in suspension from the remainder of the team's tournament games.

22. All dogs must be on a leash, not longer than or more than 4 feet from its owner.

23. **Alcohol and tobacco are not permitted anywhere on the premises. This includes parking lots. A team can be immediately disqualified by the Tournament Director if any person associated with a team (coach, parent, player relative, etc.) violates this rule.**