



## SOUTHEASTERN CAL RIPKEN BASEBALL

### 9U DIVISION – OFFICIAL RULES & ROSTER GUIDELINES

#### **DIVISION STRUCTURE**

The 9U Division will consist of six (6) teams. Each team shall play twelve (12) regular season games and participate in a single-elimination postseason tournament.

#### **1. ROSTER ELIGIBILITY & PARTICIPATION**

All nine (9) year-old players will be rostered in the 9U Division. A nine (9) year-old player may also be drafted into the Major Division or selected as a sibling pick in the Minor Division. In the event a player's 9U game conflicts with a divisional game of their Major or Minor team, the Major or Minor divisional game shall take priority.

#### **2. FIELD, EQUIPMENT & GAME FORMAT**

46/60 field dimensions. USA Baseball–certified bats only. All teams are required to bat all available rostered players. A regulation game shall consist of seven (7) innings. Games are one (1) hour and forty-five (45) minutes in length with no new inning starting after one (1) hour and twenty (20) minutes.

#### **3. COUNT, RUN LIMITS & PACE OF PLAY**

Batters begin with a one (1) ball / one (1) strike count. A maximum of six (6) runs may be scored per inning. Games may be called early if the losing team is mathematically eliminated after four (4) innings.

#### **4. DEFENSIVE PLAY REQUIREMENT**

All players must play a minimum of two (2) defensive innings per game.

#### **5. BASERUNNING & BATTING RULES**

No lead-offs are permitted. Baserunners may advance once the ball crosses home plate. Courtesy runners for pitchers and catchers are permitted but not mandatory. The dropped third strike rule is not in effect. Balks shall not be called. The Infield Fly Rule shall be enforced.

#### **6. SCOREKEEPING**

The league will provide an official scorekeeper. The official scorekeeper shall maintain official statistics for pitch count compliance and any end-of-season awards. GameChanger will be utilized for official record keeping. The home team GameChanger shall serve as the official book. The visiting team shall operate the scoreboard.

#### **7. TIE GAMES & EXTRA INNINGS**

If a game is tied at the conclusion of regulation play, one (1) additional inning shall be played. Extra innings will utilize the International Tie-Breaker Rule, with the runner placed on second base being the final out from the previous inning.

#### **8. PITCHING RULES**

Pitching limits shall follow Cal Ripken Pitch Smart guidelines with age-appropriate adjustments. Each pitcher is permitted a maximum of two (2) mound visits per appearance and shall be removed upon the second mound visit.

#### **9. RULE INTERPRETATION & AUTHORITY**

The Vice President of the 9U Division reserves the right to amend, modify, or interpret any rule for the good of the Division, particularly to ensure fairness and to protect the competitive integrity of the Division.