



## 12U – GAME RULES OVERVIEW



### Official Game Rules – 2025 Season

*We play by the official 2025 MLB Rulebook (with youth modifications below!)*

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#### Game Setup

- **Game Length:** 7 Innings
  - **Time Limit:** No new inning may begin after 1 hour 45 minutes
  - **Base Distance:** 70 feet
  - **Pitching Distance:** 50 feet (measured from front of rubber to rear of home plate)
  - **Official Scorebook:**
    - Maintained by home team or League Official in GameChanger
    - Official lineups must be turned in to the scorekeeper 15 minutes before game time
    - Plate Umpire will hold the paper copy of the official lineup during the game
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#### Regulation Game & Run Rules

- **Game is Official after:**
  - 4 innings if the 15-run rule is met
  - 5 innings if the 10-run rule is met

#### Run Limit (Innings 1–3):

- **Maximum 7 runs per half-inning**
  - **If 7 runs are scored, the half-inning ends immediately, even if 3 outs haven't been recorded**
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### Batting & Line-Up

- **Continuous Batting Order:**
    - All players on the roster bat in order
    - No player may switch positions in the batting order once the game begins
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### Safety Rules

- **Batting Helmets must stay on until the player is fully back in the dugout**
  - **Catchers must wear a full catcher's mask (with throat guard) any time they are receiving the ball — with or without a batter present**
  - **No players allowed outside the dugout during live play**
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### Coach & Umpire Guidelines

- **Rule adjustments may be made at the plate meeting if:**
  - Both coaches and the umpire agree
- **Only the Umpire in Chief (UIC) can:**
  - Make official rule changes
  - Cancel a game in advance