



Gopher State Tournament of Champions Rules & Regulations

The following rules and regulations will govern play in the Gopher State Tournament of Champions. The official rules will be the National Federation of State High School rules except where modified below. Any situations not covered here or in the National Federation rule book will be determined by the Tournament Committee, which consists of the Tournament Director, the Umpire in Chief and the Tournament Host. ***It is your responsibility to read, understand and adhere to the rules.***

Notice: **Coaches:** You or an adult representative (team manager) must check your team in at the designated Tournament Headquarters prior to playing your first game. Teams will be withheld from competition until they have completed the pre-event check-in process.

Team Eligibility: All GSTC teams gained entry into this tournament via a GSTC qualifier, GSBL league play or by earning an at-large berth. The GSTC Eligibility Committee reviewed each team's application on a case by case basis.

All teams must be from a bona fide baseball association to participate. The GSTC Eligibility Committee reserves the right to review the eligibility of any team. No "Major" division teams will be allowed to participate. The MYAS organization guidelines are available to view at www.myas.org.

Teams that participate in a AAA level traveling baseball league must compete at the AAA level for the Gopher State Tournament of Champions. AA level traveling teams have the option of competing in the AAA or AA level in the Gopher State Tournament of Champions if they earned a berth at that level of play.

Player Eligibility: May 1, 2009, at 12:00am is the determining date for the age of the competitor. **You must provide proof of age for each player.** Should an eligibility protest be filed during the tournament, you must be able to prove the player's eligibility. If a player is found to be ineligible after a team's first game has started, both the player and the team will be disqualified. **Note:** A player may only be rostered on one team participating in the GSTC.

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Only the following documents are acceptable as proof of age (to be presented at check-in):

- * A photocopy of their birth record from the state, county or municipal bureau of vital statistics on the place of birth. **Hospital records are not accepted.**
- * A photocopy of the delayed registration of birth if the athlete's birth was not recorded on the day of birth, issued by the same bodies.
- * Consular Service form FS-240, "Report on Birth" issued by the U.S. State Department.
- * Immigration and Naturalization forms I-151 and I-25 and form number 43-R311-7 issued by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Ejections and Penalties: **Any player or coach ejected from a game will be suspended for the following game.**

The MYAS Protest Committee may impose penalties against any association, team, coach, manager, player or spectator for unsportsmanlike conduct or other actions considered detrimental to the MYAS baseball program. Any player, coach, manager or spectator ejected from a contest for **flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct will be ejected for the remainder of the tournament and will not be permitted to remain within the tournament facility.** Some examples of "flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct" include but are not limited to cheating (use of a declared ineligible player), fighting, repeated use of profane language, etc. The Protest Committee may review the disqualification only if the situation merits further consideration. Any ruling by the Protest Committee is final. The Protest Committee consists of the Tournament Director, the Tournament Host and the Head of Officials.

MN USSSA Baseball: This tournament is sanctioned with the USSSA baseball program in the state of Minnesota. Each participating team will become USSSA sanctioned for the remainder of the 2009 season.

Gate Fee: Each team must pay their pre-tournament gate fee prior to playing their first game. Any team failing to pay the pre-tournament gate fee will not be eligible to participate in the tournament. This fee eliminates any on-site gate (spectator entrance or parking) fee. The gate fee is \$150 per team and is paid directly to the **Tournament Host**. For more information regarding the gate fee visit our website at www.myas.org.

Home/Visitor: For all Pool Play games the home team will be determined by a coin flip.

In Bracket play games the higher seeded team (from the initial tournament seeding process) will have the option of Home/Visitor.

Game Length: 10-12U: 6 innings 13-15U: 7 innings

Pool Play Time Limits: 10-12U: 1 hour 45 minutes 13-15U: 2 hours

Note: The “stop watch” for pool play games does not begin until the actual start of the game (the first pitch) and not necessarily the time listed on the tournament schedule. No new inning will be started after time has expired. **There will be no time limits for bracket play.**

Pitching/Base Distances: 10U: 46 feet / 60 feet
11U: 46 feet / 65 feet
12-13U: 52 feet / 75 feet
14-15U: 60 feet, 6 inches / 90 feet

Note: Portable or temporary pitching mounds will be used in the 10-13U divisions.

Pitching Restrictions: **10U:** A player may pitch a maximum of 9 innings in a tournament (2-3 days) and no more than six innings in one day.

11U: A player may pitch a maximum of 11 innings in a tournament (2-3 days) and no more than six innings in one day.

12U: A player may pitch a maximum of 12 innings in a tournament (2-3 days) and no more than six innings in one day.

13-14U: A player may pitch a maximum of 14 innings in a tournament (2-3 days) and no more than seven innings in one day.

15U: A player may pitch a maximum of 16 innings in a tournament (2-3 days) and no more than seven innings in one day.

Note: One pitch in an inning constitutes an inning pitched. Pitchers’ innings will be posted at the Tournament Headquarters.

PENALTY: The head coach will be 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, as well as possible imposition of further sanctions subject to the review of the MYAS Protest Committee.

Curve balls are **not** allowed in the 10-11U age divisions. **First offense** - warning; **Second offense** - ejection from the pitcher's position.

Additional Innings: If a team is in an uneven pool/bracket (example: five or more teams in a pool with other pools being four or less, or teams advance into a bracket that has byes for the top teams) and is required to play more games than the other teams, they will be awarded three more innings to each pitcher’s total once during the tournament.

Balk Rule: **10-11U ONLY:** No balks will be called.

Umpires: **10-13U:** One MYAS registered umpire will be used in all games except the semifinals, championship and third place games; for those games two MYAS registered umpires will be used.

14-15U: Two MYAS registered umpires will be used in all games.

Metal Cleats: Metal cleats are prohibited for 10-12U. However, metal cleats may be worn in the 13U and older age divisions.

10-Run Rule: **10-12U:** The game will end at the conclusion of 4 innings (3½ if the home team is ahead by 10 or more runs).

13-15U: The game will end at the conclusion of 5 innings (4½ if the home team is ahead by 10 or more runs).

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| 15-Run Rule: | The 15-run rule will apply after three innings (2½ if the home team is ahead). This rule applies to all ages and divisions. |
| Continuous Batting/ Free Substitution: | <p>10-13U teams will use continuous batting and free substitution. No Exceptions!</p> <p>NOTE for 10-13U Continuous Batting: Replacement of an injured batter or runner that can not continue to participate will be replaced by the last player to be put out. This will end the injured player's participation for the remainder of that game. This will NOT be recorded as an out unless it drops the batting line-up below nine players.</p> |
| Base Running: | <p>10U: A runner may leave the base after the ball crosses the plate. The runner is out upon leaving the base early. On a dropped third strike, the batter is out and the base runners may advance at their own risk.</p> <p>NOTE for 10U tournament play: A runner is allowed to advance/steal home on a passed ball.</p> <p>11U: A runner may leave the base after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. The runner is out upon leaving the base early. On a dropped third strike, the batter is out and the base runners may advance at their own risk.</p> <p>In the 10-11U divisions, a player sliding head first into home plate will be called out.</p> <p>12-15U: National Federation rules apply.</p> <p>Runners are never required to slide but if a runner elects to slide, the slide must be legal. Jumping, hurdling, and leaping are all legal attempts to avoid a fielder as long as the fielder is lying on the ground. Diving over a fielder is illegal (NFHS rule 8-4-2-b-2).</p> |
| Starting Pitcher: | This rule applies for <u>all ages</u> (10-15U): The starting pitcher may be withdrawn and re-enter once. This applies only to the starting pitcher. |
| 14-15U Re-Entry: (NFHS Rule 3-3) | <p>Starting Players: Any of the starting players may withdraw and re-enter once, including a player who was the designated hitter, provided said player occupies the same position in the batting order whenever they are in the lineup. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter.</p> <p>NOTE FOR 14U: The Extra Hitter (EH) option will NOT be used in tournament play.</p> <p>Exception: Replacement of injured players and/or courtesy runners. If an active player sustains an injury that requires them to leave the game and their team has used all of their available substitute players, the coach may substitute for the injured player with the first player on the bench who had previously lost their eligibility via the re-entry rule.</p> |
| Courtesy Runner: | <p>10-13U: A courtesy runner (the last runner to be put out) will be allowed only for the catcher and only when there are two outs.</p> <p>14-15U: The NFHS courtesy runner rule (NFHS pg. 66 Speed Up Rules) will be used. The team at bat may use courtesy runners for the pitcher or catcher at any time.</p> |
| Courtesy Runner: | Projected substitutions are not allowed. Courtesy runners are only allowed for the catcher of record. |
| Baseballs: | Two MYAS/Gopher State baseballs will be provided for all games. |
| Equipment: | All bats, helmets, catcher's gear, footwear and other equipment must conform to National Federation rules and regulations. |
| Bat Rule: | <p>The 15U will use the NFHS -3 bat rule.</p> <p>The 14U age division will use the -5 bat rule.</p> <p>A bat rule DOES NOT apply for 13U and younger age divisions.</p> |
| Uniforms: | Team jerseys should be of <i>identical</i> color and should have at least a six-inch number on the front and/or the back. |

Forfeits:

Tournament officials will administer the rule so that any team that intentionally causes a forfeit will **NOT** benefit and will **NOT** advance to the championship round unless the Tournament Committee determines there were extenuating circumstances causing the forfeit.

A game will be considered a forfeit when a team is unable to provide at least nine players to start the game or cannot provide eight players to finish the game.

A 10-minute grace period will be given for a team's first pool play game. All other tournament games will be considered a forfeit at the scheduled game time.

Fine: If any team forfeits a game they will be assessed a fine.

First Offense: \$100

Second Offense: \$200 and the team will be suspended from MYAS events for one year pending appeal to the MYAS Baseball Executive Committee.

Roster Limit:

Rosters may consist of no more than 18 players. Your roster is frozen once it is submitted to the MYAS office. In the case of injuries players may be added, but coaches must clear additions with the MYAS baseball office. **Players may only be listed on one GSTC roster. It is mandatory that coaches utilize online rosters at www.myas.org.**

Tournament Seeding:

Participating coaches will seed the tournament based on information provided by each team. All information is available in the GSTC portion of the www.myas.org website.

Tournament/Weather Information:

Please call your specific Tournament Director first! In case of rain or inclement weather, contact the MYAS Baseball Voice Mail at (763) 781-2220 ext. 1728 or log onto www.myas.org in order to determine if your game has been canceled, postponed or rescheduled.

Awards:

1st Place: Players receive Jostens custom made Championship rings; team trophy.

Players will be sized for their championship rings at the conclusion of the tournament and will have the opportunity to be awarded their rings before a Twins game on the Metrodome field.

2nd-4th Place: Team trophy and individual awards

MYAS Refund Policy

- If a team drops out of a tournament prior to the entry deadline, a full refund will be issued.
- Teams dropping out of a tournament after the entry deadline will **NOT** receive a refund.
- If a tournament should have to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e. weather, loss of electricity, etc.) a prorated portion of your entry fee will be returned based on the number of games played.
- If a tournament is cancelled, with no games played, due to any of the above reasons, teams can elect a 75% refund of their entry fee or have 100% of their entry fee applied to a future MYAS event.

POOL PLAY TIE BREAKER PROCEDURE

The following procedure is to be used when, at the conclusion of each round of pool play, there is more than one team in a pool with the same win-loss record. Ties in each round of pool play are broken independently using this procedure:

Situation A: When two teams tie for a position, the team which defeated the other is the winner.

Situation B: When three teams tie for a position:



Step 1: If one of the three teams is 2-0 in games against the other two teams, that team is the winner.

Step 2: If all three teams are 1-1 against each other, the team with the least number of runs allowed in games **against each other** is the winner. If two of these three teams tie with the least number of runs allowed, return to Situation A for the winner.

(Note: Refer to Step 6 below if it is necessary to determine the second place team in the pool.)

Step 3: If the three teams are still tied with least runs allowed after Step 2, the team with the least number of runs allowed in **all pool games** is the winner. If two of these three teams tie with least runs allowed, return to Situation A for these two tied teams.

(Note: Refer to Step 6 below if it is necessary to determine the second place team in the pool.)

Step 4: If the three teams are still tied after Step 3, the team with the most number of runs scored in games **against each other** is the winner. If two of these three teams tie with the most number of runs scored, return to Situation A for these two tied teams.

(Note: Refer to Step 6 below if it is necessary to determine the second place team in the pool.)

Step 5: If the three teams are still tied after Step 4, the team with the most number of runs scored in **all the games** is the winner. If two of these three teams tie with the most runs scored, return to Situation A for these two tied teams.

(Note: Refer to Step 6 below if it is necessary to determine the second place team in the pool.)

Step 6: If it is necessary to determine the second place team in the pool, the winning team is dropped and Situation A is used for the two remaining teams.

NOTES: Any forfeits will be recorded as 7-0.

Tie games will be counted as a ½ win and a ½ loss.



COACH AND PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT



1. I will not berate the officials or "trash talk" to my opponent.
2. I will not use profanity.
3. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, contest administrators and officials at every game.
4. I will place the emotional and physical well being of my teammates and opponents ahead of my personal desire to win.
5. I will treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect regardless of race, gender, creed or ability.
6. I will demand a sports environment that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol and will refrain from their use at all MYAS sporting events.
7. I will do my best to remember that youth sports are supposed to be FUN and that winning and losing are part of everyone's experience.
8. I will express my concerns through the proper channels in a dignified manner.
9. I will respect the volunteers that are assisting with the conduct of these events.
10. I will respect and adhere to the rules governing eligibility and competition.

PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

- 1) I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, contest administrators and officials at every game.
- 2) I will place the emotional and physical well being of the athletes ahead of my personal desire to win.
- 3) I will demand a sports environment that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol and will refrain from their use at all MYAS sporting events.
- 4) I will remember that the game is for the kids - not the adults.
- 5) I will do my best to make sure that youth sports are a FUN and POSITIVE experience.
- 6) I will treat other players, coaches, fans, volunteers and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.
- 7) I will not berate the officials!
- 8) I will not undermine the coaches' instructions or directions.
- 9) I will not use profanity!
- 10) I will communicate my concerns through the proper channels in a dignified manner.

PENALTY

Any violation of the above Code of Conduct may result in a temporary or permanent banishment from any MYAS sponsored events.

PLEASE BEHAVE OR BE GONE!