

LBC Pinto Division 2025 Rules

(Coach Pitch modified 8u)

1. Playing Fields

- A. Base distance is 60 feet. Pitching Coach shall distance themselves in a safe manner.

2. Equipment

- A. The home team shall provide 2 game balls, one new and one used (supplied by LBC). A leather baseball 5 to 5-1/4 ounces and 9 to 9-1/4 inches in circumference shall be used.
- B. Wooden bats are allowed at all levels and no certification is required
- C. Metal, graphite or ceramic bats which are round and not more than 2-5/8 inches in diameter at the thickest part, not more than 42 inches in length, are acceptable. No bat shall be used if dented, cracked, modified or misshaped.
 - 1) With the exception of the -3 bat (BBCOR certified), all other 2-5/8 inch minus factor bats (-5, -7, -9 etc.) and 2-1/4" bats must be certified with the USABat licensing stamp on the bat in order to be used for league and tournament play. 2-1/4" Barrel bats are legal in in this division.
 - 2) Bats specifically made for tee ball, shall not be used when the ball is pitched by a player, coach, or pitching machine. Coach-pitch bats will only be used in coach-pitch using a safety ball. Penalty: removal of bat only.
- D. Shoes with rubber soles/cleats are permitted.
- E. Batters, players in the on-deck area, base runners and players coaching in the base coaching boxes must wear protective headgear (helmet) that protects the top of the head, temples, ears and base of skull and must be NOCSAE approved.
 - 1) Mask and chin strap on protective headgear is recommended.
 - 2) Alteration or modification to the batting helmet not approved by the manufacturer shall nullify the certification of the helmet and cannot be used.
- F. Catchers are required to wear proper protective equipment including a mask with throat guard, chest protector, shin guards, athletic supporter (if applicable) with cup and NOCSAE approved catchers' helmet. Hockey style masks are acceptable, mask extensions are not required. Any player warming up a pitcher must wear a mask.
- G. Male players shall wear athletic supporter with cup.
- H. Baseball cap and jersey (with numbers) will be worn per league direction.
- I. No jewelry shall be worn by players except for medical identification. Sweatbands are allowed.
- J. Cell phones, pagers, or any other communication device cannot be used on the field of play with the exception of medical devices. Laptop computers and

- tablets may be used in the dugout for scorekeeping purposes but must have wireless communications disabled.
- K. Players in the pitching position divisions may wear a protective product to protect the heart and a face mask to protect the face.
 - L. Players in the defensive position or an offensive position may use a protective mouth guard.
 - M. Tampering with or altering any equipment of any kind for the purpose of gaining an advantage will not be tolerated. Penalty for violation will be disciplinary actions ranging from suspension and up to expulsion from LBC.

3. Playing Rules

- A. The official playing rules, with the exceptions and variations contained here, from the Official Rules of Major League Baseball.
- B. Bat the entire lineup.
- C. Emphasis is putting the ball into play.
 - 1) If the batter has not put the ball into play after the coach-pitcher has delivered 5 good pitches, a batting "T" will be used.
 - 2) "T" will not be used in final inning, batter will receive 6 pitches,
 - 3) Foul balls count as pitches.
- D. Batter has one swing utilizing the "T". Swing and miss or foul ball will be considered an out.
 - 1) For Championships, Coaches may withdraw the use of the "T" for the entire game, however must be agreed upon by both Coaches.
- E. Batters may not bunt or soft swing. It will be ruled a strike, and the ball is dead.
- F. There is no dropped third strike rule.
- G. There are no leadoffs and no stolen bases. If a base runner is off the base when a ball is put in play in fair territory the base runner shall be declared out (one warning may be given).
- H. There is no infield fly rule.
- I. Free substitution on defense. Players shall play at least 2 innings on defense.
- J. When an attempt is made on defense and an error occurs, the base runners will receive only one extra base. If the runner is halfway to the next base when the error occurs, they receive one extra base on the umpire's judgment. If an attempt is made to get the ball to the pitcher in the pitching circle the ball will be declared dead by the umpire.
- K. Appeals may only come from the head coach and can be made up to the time of the next pitch.
 - 1) If a batted ball hits the coach pitcher, the ball is dead, and the pitch is a foul.
 - 2) If a live ball hits the coach pitcher, or in the umpire's judgment the coach interferes with the fielder's attempt to make a play, the ball is dead, and the lead runner is out.

- L. Players shall not slide headfirst. PENALTY The player shall be called out. Players shall slide to avoid contact. Inadvertent contact may occur. If, in the umpire's decision, the contact was intentional, the player will be called out and ejected from the game.
- M. If a player arrives after the start of a game and is eligible to play (not injured or ill), that player shall be added to the end of the batting order.

4. Pitching Rules

- A. Players may not actually pitch.
- B. A coach will have discretion to pitch overhand or underhand, and to determine the proper distance from which to deliver a pitch, which may be different for different batters.
- C. Players playing the pitching position must be to the rear of the Pitching Coach on the left or right side.
- D. The coach pitcher may not coach their team in any way on offense.
 - 1) PENALTY: the coach will receive one warning and the second time the coach must be removed.

5. Length of Games

- A. Games will be 5 innings with no new inning after 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- B. If a game is called for any reason, it will be complete after 4 innings are played.
- C. Once a game is stopped for lightning it may not resume for 30 minutes.
- D. There is a 5-run limit in innings 1 through 5. Runs will be unlimited in the 6th inning until 3 outs are registered. If the umpire calls the 4th or 5th inning as last inning, the unlimited runs rule will apply to that inning.
- E. Mercy Rule: The 10-run rule will be in effect after 4 1/2 or 5 innings. A 15-run mercy rule will be in effect after 3 1/2 or 4 innings provided that all players on the team that is trailing has had one plate appearance.
- F. There is no time limit for league playoff games. All other rules apply in the playoffs.

6. Scorekeeping

- A. Home team is the official scorebook.
- B. Both teams are responsible to report the score to league director of statistics within 24 hours. PENALTY: forfeit of the game.

7. Managers and Coaches

- A. Adult coaches may be used in the first and third base coaching boxes.
- B. Players, managers and coaches shall remain in the dugouts, on the benches or in the prescribed areas throughout the game. They are not allowed behind the backstop.
- C. The use of tobacco, including E-cigarettes or any other smoking devices, alcohol or recreational drugs or illegal drugs in any form by players, coaches, adult leaders and spectators is not permitted.
- D. Managers and Coaches and Spectators may not be under the influence of alcohol, recreational drugs or illegal drugs at gametime.

8. Penalties

- A. A team failing to field 8 uniformed players within 15 minutes after the scheduled start time of the game, or any time during the game, shall forfeit the game.
- B. Penalty for use of illegal players shall be forfeiture of games in which the illegal players participated, provided the games are protested within 48 hours in writing to the Director of Operations or Commissioner of Baseball.
 - 1) An illegal player is one who is not properly registered with Lakewood Baseball Club.
- C. Penalty for use of an ineligible player, upon appeal by the opposing manager/head coach, when official scorebook or other records verify the ineligibility of the player concerned, shall be the immediate removal of the player from the lineup and the ejection of the manager/head coach from the game. Both the player and the manager/head coach will be ineligible to participate in the next scheduled game played by the team.
 - 1) An ineligible player is a player who is ineligible to play due to limitations set by these Rules and Regulations, or as a result of previous rules violations or disciplinary action. For the purpose of this rule, a player shall not be declared in violation until the umpire signals play ball in the game in question.
 - 2) In the event the manager/head coach of an ineligible player refuses to remove the player from the lineup and the manager/head coach does not leave the field when the appeal is made, and verified, the game is forfeited.
 - 3) If the opposing manager/head coach does not appeal the use of an ineligible player during the game, the game will stand as played.
- D. Illegal equipment shall be removed from the game.
 - 1) If removal of the equipment causes the player to be in violation, and no replacement can be made, the player must be removed from the lineup.
 - 2) Players who *intentionally* throw bats or protective gear shall be ejected from the game following completion of the play in progress. Such action does not constitute an out and such players shall be replaced as batter or base runner if appropriate.
 - 3) Refusal to remove jewelry will result in immediate ejection of the player.
 - 4) Bats may be checked at any time, if illegal removed from the game.
 - a) If detected before the first pitch, the bat is removed. No out recorded and substitute batter shall complete the at bat. The coach and player shall be removed from the game as well as the next scheduled game.
 - b) If detected after the first pitch the batter is declared out and the coach and player incur the same penalty as in rule D.4.a.

- c) If detected after the ball is hit, the batter is out, and base runners shall return to their original base prior to the hit. The coach and player incur the same penalty as is rule D.4.a.

9. Protests

- A. A protest based on judgment call by an umpire is not permitted.
- B. When a protest involves interpretation of the rules, the objecting manager shall at the time the play occurs, notify the head umpire or game official, the opposing manager and official scorer that the game is being played under protest, and submit the protest in writing to a league representative within 48 hours of the completion of the game.
 - 1) When protests based on a rule's interpretation are upheld by the league, the game will be replayed from the point of protest.
 - 2) Umpire, or game official, will announce to the crowd that the game is being played under protest.
- C. Any coach, manager or adult leader who withdraws a team from the playing field under any circumstances prior to the official completion of the game shall forfeit all rights to protest.

10. General Conduct

- A. Players, all adult volunteers, and spectators who engage in unsportsmanlike conduct, including but not limited to fighting, abusive language or tone, derogatory activity, shall be suspended for one or more games and will not be tolerated.
- B. Anyone suspended must meet with a Lakewood Baseball Club Director of Operations, Commissioner of Baseball or an ATB Board member prior to reinstatement. The rulings are final.

11. COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROCEDURES

- A. While the risk of one athlete infecting another with HIV/AIDS during competition is close to non-existent, there is a remote risk that other blood borne infectious diseases can be transmitted. For example, Hepatitis B can be present in blood as well as in other body fluids. Procedures for reducing potential for transmission of these infectious agents should include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - 1) The bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered and if there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform it must be changed before the athlete may participate.
 - 2) Routine use of gloves or other precautions to prevent skin and mucous membrane exposure when contact with blood or other body fluids is anticipated.
 - 3) Immediately wash hands and other skin surfaces if contaminated (in contact) with blood or other body fluids. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves.
 - 4) Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with an appropriate disinfectant before competition resumes.

- 5) Practice proper disposal procedures to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels and other sharp instruments or devices.
- 6) Although saliva has not been implicated in HIV transmission, to minimize the need for emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, mouthpieces, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices should be available for use.
- 7) Athletic trainers/coaches with bleeding or oozing skin conditions should refrain from all direct athletic care until the condition resolves.
- 8) Contaminated towels should be properly disposed of/disinfected.
- 9) Follow acceptable guidelines in the immediate control of bleeding and when handling bloody dressings, mouth guards and other articles containing body fluids.

12. ILLNESS PROTOCOL

- A. Lakewood Baseball Club is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for our players, coaches, and family. If a player feels ill, the family is encouraged to make the best decision for the family. It is better to miss a game that exposes others to potential illness.
- B. Coaches, players and families shall report to their head coach if anyone has tested positive for a number of common infectious diseases within the time frame of that diseases known infectious period.
- C. These illnesses include but not limited to:
 - 1) Covid, RSV, Colds & the Seasonal Flu, Ear Infections, Strep Throat, Chickenpox and bronchitis.
- D. Coach shall report it to the Director of operations as soon as possible.
- E. A positive Covid test on a player is recommended to delay returning to games or practice until after 5 days of isolation when the following are met.
 - 1) No symptoms or symptoms are resolved.
 - 2) No fever within the past 24-hours without the use of fever reducing medications.
- F. Masks may always be worn at the discretion of the players and families.

Protests

Lakewood Baseball Club, in association with All Things Baseball believes in the utmost expectation of good sportsmanship. In sports, we may not always like the outcome, but learning from the end results is part of building life skills.

If there is a belief that a violation of rules occurred that affected the game or posed a safety risk, there is a Protest Process. Note: Decisions by Umpires may not be protested.

Any protest made will require a \$100 cash deposit handed to an official or board member that will be forfeited if the protest is lost. The forfeited \$100 will go towards a scholarship fund if they lost the protest. If they win the protest, the money will be refunded.