

2024 Pre-Game Checklist

____ **Score books or tablets must have players full names and uniform numbers listed**
Uniforms: MUST have numbers on uniforms to participate in the game

____ **Declared prior to the start of the game if any of these are used**

Extra Hitter (EH)
DESIGNATED HITTER (DH)
ALL PLAYERS IN LINE UP (APL)

____ **Reviewed TIME LIMIT / MERCY RULE**

DIDGET: Any Inning started after Eighty (80) minutes or (7:20pm) will be the
"OPEN INNING" - No Exceptions.

____ **BRONCO:** Starts when 1st batter gets into batter's box and NO NEW INNING starts
after 2 Hour Time Limit.

The 2 Hour rule SUPERCEDES the Mercy Run Rule

____ **PONY:** 15 after 3 - 10 after 4 - 8 after 5

____ **Pitches Allowed Between Innings**

Returning pitcher is FIVE (5)
NEW PITCHERS is EIGHT (8) (New inning or relief)

____ **Strike Zone**

Didgets - Bottom of chin to top of ankle's.
Bronco and Pony - Armpits to top of knees
ALL DIVISIONS - Outside to outside of plate including black border.

____ **Slide Rule**

Runners MUST make an attempt to avoid contact with an opposing player.
On any plays on 1st - 2nd and 3rd bases SLIDING IS NOT REQUIRED.

Catchers / Players MUST allow runners the opportunity to home plate
THEY CANNOT BLOCK BASE PATH

Catchers / Players may NOT go up the third base line & block the runner from reaching
home plate.

If this occurs, then the Catcher / Player will be called for interference and runner will be
Called SAFE - awarded home plate and the run.

Umpire's decisions ARE FINAL

Sliding is ONLY REQUIRED AT HOME PLATE IF THERE IS PLAY for an out and a player is
protecting home plate and the ball is catchable then the runner **MUST** slide.

Failure to slide will result in the runner being CALL OUT (NO EXCEPTIONS!)

Umpire's decisions in these situations ARE FINAL.

If an umpire feels there was CLEAR INTENT to CAUSE BODILY INJURY BY EXCESSIVE
CONTACT THE UMPIRE MAY EJECT THE PLAYER FROM THE GAME.

____ **Defensive Substitution** – Must be reported immediately (cannot wait till up to bat). Those

Players are then married together for rest of game.

Violation's will result in a "WARNING and incident reported to League President.

Offensive Substitution - MUST be reported when player reports to bat.

If a violation occurs then follow League Flow Chart that was provided at coaches meeting.

Base Running

Didget Division

No leading off of any base until ball crosses over home plate

No running on dropped 3rd strikes

Cannot steal bases when ball is being returned to pitcher

Home is CLOSED on pass balls & attempted throwbacks to the pitcher (from anywhere on field)

Bronco Division

8 Foot rule is observed at first base - Player **CANNOT** touch the 8-foot chalk line.

(This is measured from side of 1st base facing 2nd base)

Runner may attempt to steal 2nd base as soon as the pitcher makes any movement toward home plate or to pick off a runner on a base

1st Offense: All runners will return to their original base and the pitch is considered a dead ball.

2nd Offense: **ANY** runner at 1st base that crosses the line a second time during the game,

That player will be called OUT and the pitch is considered a dead ball.

All other runners will return to their original base.

Players can lead off of any other base without any restrictions.

Pony Division - Normal baseball rules

Balks

Pitchers in both Bronco & Pony divisions will receive one warning per game.

2nd balk by same pitcher follows normal baseball rules.

NOTE: Movement by the pitcher to 3rd base then to 1st base is considered a balk

Check Base & Mound Distances

BASES: Didget - 60 feet Bronco - 70 feet Pony - 80 feet

MOUND: Didget - 42 feet Bronco - 48 feet Pony - 54 feet

Equipment

Helmets: MUST have face guards or chin guards

Shoes: Rubber Cleats or football style cleats (Steel Cleats NOT ALLOWED)

Bats: Max diameter is 2 3/4 inches / Max length is thirty-four (34) inches