

## **Tournament rules sheet (Baseball): NOTE: MOST LENZ FIELD & SPORTS COMPLEX TOURNAMENTS USE USSSA RULES, UNLESS NOTED BELOW**

Rules: For complete list of USSSA rules see:

<http://www.usssabaseball.org/content/reports/Baseball.Rules.Jan.19.pdf>

### **New rules for 2009**

- Each team provides game balls. You use your game balls when your team is hitting. 1ST base or 3rd base coach should have extra balls and be ready to enter them into the game.
- Each team must provide one volunteer person to help run scoreboard and help announce individual players.
- Coaches must check in with tournament director at least one hour prior to first game. USSSA parent signed rosters must be presented at this time. Copy of team insurance must also be presented at check in.
- All rain delay information will be posted on the weather page at [www.lenzfield.com](http://www.lenzfield.com)

#### 1) Time limits:

9u-12u: 1:45 time limit. No inning may start after 1:45. No time limit in Championship game, unless agreed upon by both coaches and/or tournament director before the start of the game.

13-19u: 1:50 time limit. No inning may start after 1:50. No time limit in Championship game, unless agreed upon by both coaches and/or tournament director before the start of the game.

2) 6 inning games or time limit for 9u-12u games. 7 inning games for 13-19u.

3) Pitching distance/base lengths. USSSA rules.

4) In pool play if game is tied after time limit, then game ends in a tie. In championship rounds if game ends in a tie, then next innings is played normal. If game is still tied the next inning starts with runner on second, 1 out and 2-1 count on the batter. The runner on second base will be the last official hitter from the previous inning. The process continues until the game is over.

5) Courtesy runner for catcher and pitcher allowed any time. Courtesy runner must be last batted out.

6) Run Rule: 6 inning games: 15 after 3, 8 after 4. 7 inning games: 15 after 3, 12 after 4, 8 after 5. Mercy rule is in effect for all games of the tournament.

7) The game is official after 3 innings for 7,8,9,10u and 4 innings for 11&12u if called because of weather. If called before that it will be considered a suspended game and play will resume at that point.

8) We reserve the right to alter the tournament due to weather or other conditions out of our control. Completed games: 6 inning games are complete after 3 innings or 2.5 if home team is ahead. 7 inning games are complete after 4 innings or 3.5 if home team is ahead. Suspended game will begin at the point the game was suspended.

9) Have teams warmed up and ready to go at listed game time.

10) Teams will have a brief time period to warm up in the outfield and on their side of the infield prior to games. There is no full infield before games, but you can take ground balls in your appropriate side of the infield or outfield before games. Starting pitchers are allowed 10 pitches maximum off the game mound.

11) Home team is decided by coin toss except in seeded games and championship rounds. Home teams are higher seeds in these rounds.

12) Pitching limitation: There are no pitching limitations for Lenz Field & Sports Complex tournaments except the USSSA 9u State tournament.. Bat restriction: none.

Pitching limitations for USSSA 9u State tournament:

- A pitcher can only pitch 4 innings in one day and still pitch the next day
- The most innings a pitcher can pitch in one day is 6
- The most innings can pitch in two consecutive days is 8

14) Balks: USSA rules. Lenient at the 9U & 10u level.

15) The home team will have the official book. The head coaches of both teams must complete the tournament scorecard and turn it into the tournament director or concession stand workers. This scorecard must be signed by both head coaches. No protests.

17) Coaches should have team insurance and birth certificates with them at all games.

18) No steel cleats for ages 6-12u.

**Metal Spikes:** 13u and up: We have designed the two high school fields (fields #1 and #2) @ Lenz Sports Complex to allow players to wear metal cleats. This was discussed many times in designing the fields. We talked to many coaches and tournament directors at all levels from all over the midwest regarding this issue. In the end we decided to build these two fields to allow players to wear metal cleats. That being said it should be noted that when we visited the University of Illinois and The Ripkin Experience Fields we discovered the fields played better with rubber cleats. We were informed that all of the U of I players wear rubber cleats, even though they are allowed to wear metal. At Ripkin one coach told us he felt they lost a game because one of their outfielders cleats stuck in the turf and he did not get a good jump on the ball. Our final rule on this issues is that we allow metal cleats but encourage coaches and players to consider rubber cleats on our fields.

19) No chewing gum on turf field. NO SUN FLOWER SEEDS ALLOWED ON FIELDS.

20) Adults only can retrieve foul balls hit over the fence onto railroad property @ Lenz Field.

21) Gate Fee: Certain tournaments at Lenz Field & Sports Complex do require admission.

22) 9u-14u: Open substitution or re-entry for this tournament. If you choose open substitution all players hit and you cannot alter the batting order. In open substitution players may enter and re-enter the game as coaches choose (accept the position of pitcher). If you choose re-entry you only hit 10 (including DH), and all starters can re-enter the game one time. Teams can only play 9 in the field. Once a pitcher leaves the game he cannot re-enter as a pitcher. In open substitution if player is injured and cannot hit, this is NOT counted as an out. This player is out for the remainder of the game, his place in the order is skipped but not counted as an out.

15-19u: Re entry rules only.

23) On deck hitters must stand on outfield side of coaches boxex at Lenz Field & Field #3.

24) All other rules are same as USSSA rules

25) Seeding requirements: Best record, head to head, least runs allowed, run differential (max. of 7), least walks, coin toss. In the event a game is forfeited the winning team receives 6-0 score for 6 inning games, and 7-0 score for 7 inning games for seeding purposes.

26) In the event any person is removed from a game by the umpire that person must immediately leave the sports complex. The tournament director will make a final ruling on when this person may re enter the tournament facilities.

27) All other playing rules not mentioned will follow USSSA rules.

28) Slide rule: Slide rule is in effect. Runners must slide or attempt to avoid contact on close plays where a tag may occur. A collision between runner and fielder will be the umpires decision on ejection, all umpire call are final. Player ejections are for that game only.

## **FACILITY RULES AT LENZ FIELD & SPORTS COMPLEX**

- 1) No carry in food or beverages allowed anywhere at Lenz Field & Sports Complex, please support our concession stand.
- 2) We have covered bleachers for sun and areas for lawn chairs. Covered tents are allowed.
- 3) No Pets
- 4) No smoking unless outside the main gate in designated areas only.
- 5) Please pick up the dug outs after each game
- 6) Admission charges are in effect for all Lenz Field & Sports Complex tournaments. There are no gate refunds. Each team will receive three coaches passes at time of check in.
- 7) Coaches should encourage parents to make a \$1 donation to the light boxes (attached to exit gates) for all night games. This is critical to the success of Lenz Field & Sports Complex.