

## 2011 Lenz Field & Sports Complex Tournament Rules

- Each game will start with 4 baseballs. You will not receive anymore baseballs from Lenz Field for that game. Please keep your parents and players on foul balls. At Lenz Field no one can retrieve foul balls on the warning track but adults. The game clock will not stop for shortage of baseballs.

- Each team must provide one volunteer person to help run scoreboard and help announce individual players on Lenz Field Field #4 and Field #1.

- Coaches must check in with tournament director at least one hour prior to first game. Parent signed rosters must be presented at this time. Copy of team insurance must also be presented at check in. Signed hotel code of conduct and hotel information must be presented at check in.

-Results will be posted each night 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 hrs. No time limit in Championship game, unless agreed upon by both coaches and/or tournament director before the start of the game.

If time expires in a bottom of an inning and the home team is winning, the game will end at expiration.

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. Play will continue if the time limit wasn't reached. 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. If team is batting the entire roster, the 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 6 inning games and 4 innings for 7 inning games 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.

**BRACKET PROTECTION:** A team may be seeded higher or lower for their protection to insure teams will not have to play the same team from their pool after all teams are re-seeded. For instance a team may be seeded third and not fourth or sixth and not fifth so the same teams do not have to play each other again in the first round of bracket play.

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 team is the higher seed in championship round.

12) Pitching limitation: **There are no pitching limitations for Lenz Field & Sports Complex tournaments except the USSSA 9u & 11u State tournament.** We hope that coaches will have a pitch count for each player.

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

14) The home team will have the official book. During the pre-game meeting with the umpires coaches will need to give the first base umpire a score card. The umpire will fill this card out and have each coach sign after the end of the game. **The head coaches of both teams must sign the score card after each game.** Please make sure the score is correct. The score on the card when it is handed in is the official score and the score will not change. The winning team will then take the scorecard to the tournament director.

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

16) 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 Ripken 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.

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

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

19) 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 (except the position of pitcher). If you choose re-entry you can use an EH or DH but not both, 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. If the player is taken out of the game for disciplinary reasons and can not hit, or is ejected from the umpire, then his spot is counted as an out.

**20)** On deck hitters must stand on outfield side of coaches boxes at Lenz Field & Field #3. On Field #1 and #2 on deck hitters are to stay on the same side as their dugout. A player may not warm up on the opposing sides on deck circles.

**21)** All other rules are same as USSSA rules

**22)** Seeding requirements: Best record, head to head, least runs allowed, run differential (max. of 7), 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.

**23)** In the event a player is removed from a game by the umpire, the player will sit out the remainder of the game. The player will be able to return to their next contest. Coaches and Spectators will out for the remainder of that game and the following game. **NO EXEPTIONS.**

**24)** All other playing rules not mentioned will follow USSSA rules.

**25)** Slide rule: 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.

**26) Disrespect for the Game: A team caught intentionally giving up runs, losing on purpose or otherwise playing the game to change the outcome of pool play or the finals in favor of another team shall be dismissed from the Tournament and reported to their League and any other appropriate sanctioning body. The dismissed teams won/lost record shall stand, and the teams seeded below them will all move up and play, if qualified, based on tournament seeding rules and tie-breakers.**

#### **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 bleachers but there are 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.

For complete list of USSSA rules see: <http://www.usssabaseball.org>