

2025 U15/U18 Game Rules

1.) Game length rules:

- a. All games in U15/U18 Advanced and U15 divisions will be 7 inning games
- b. **No New Inning to start after 8:45pm**, according to the home plate umpire's time. Bottom half (if required) can finish

2.) Mercy Rules

- a. U15 division will play with a **5 run rule per inning max**. 7th inning is unlimited runs (must be 7th inning)
- b. All divisions (U15 and U15/U18) will have the following mercy rules applied for total game scores:
 - i. **15 runs after 4 innings**
 - ii. **10 runs after 5 innings**

3.) Divisions:

- a. U15– all players will pitch from 54 feet, the front rubber on the pitching mound
- b. Base paths are 80'
- c. All U15/18 Advanced program pitch from 60'
- d. Base paths are 90'

4.) Pitching Rules: American League Division Teams

- * A pitcher removed from the mound and can remain on defense in the game.
- * U15: (15) Pitchers can pitch **no more than 2 innings or 50 Pitches per game. (whatever comes first)**
 - **Please be mindful of how many pitches your pitcher is throwing during the game, we want to keep the athletes healthy**
- * U15/U18 Advanced Pitching limit: **95 pitches per day**; with the exception of finishing the batter he is facing

Rest days:

- 76 or more pitches in a day, 4 calendar days of rest must be observed;*
- 61-75 pitches in a day, 3 calendar days of rest must be observed;*
- 46-60 pitches in a day, 2 calendar days of rest must be observed;*
- 31-45 pitches in a day, 1 calendar day of rest must be observed;*
- 1-30 pitches in a day, no rest is required*
- * **Pitch count must be verified after every ½ inning**

5.) Pitching Rules: U15

- a. Maximum of **2 innings per game and 4 innings per week for any pitcher**. The weekly limit applies even if a rainout game is rescheduled into a current week (ie you now play 3 games this week instead of 2)
- b. If a rain cancelled game is unable to be played in the same week as originally scheduled, the above pitching rule still applies. Max of 4 innings per week for any pitcher.

c. A single pitch constitutes an inning pitched for the above rule.

d. Catcher – Pitcher Rule: If a player is used in both the pitcher and catcher position, he is limited to a total of **5 innings combined between the two spots**. If a player only plays the position of catcher, there is no limit on his available innings.

e. Once a pitcher is removed from the mound, he is ineligible to return as a pitcher. He can stay in the game at another position (catcher rule may apply).

f. Mound visits: 1 per inning allowed, 2nd visit in the game and the pitcher must be removed

6.) A continuous batting order will be used in all divisions.

7.) Free defensive substitution is used in all divisions.

8.) Base coaches: the base coaches must either be rostered coaches or players. If a player is acting as the base coach, they must wear a helmet.

9.) On Deck Batter – the on-deck batter can practice on the field providing they are positioned behind the current batter. This may require the on-deck batter to move to the other dugout to ensure they are in the correct position.

10.) Coaches can warm up pitchers between innings and in the bullpen if required.

11.) An adult coach must be in the dugout during the game (meaning two players would have to base coach if only one coach is at the game)

12.) To be considered a legal game, a **minimum of 8 players** must be in the lineup. If a team has less than 8 players, they will forfeit the game. Its encouraged to play an exhibition game in this situation by combining teams if needed to not penalize those players who showed up.

13.) Players on the Field: U15 division will be allowed to field 10 players, by utilizing a 4th outfielder.

14.) No jewelry should be worn on the field, however it is permitted

15.) No spitz permitted on the field. Coaches may choose to implement a “spitz free dugout” at their discretion.

16.) Equipment:

a. No restrictions on bats

b. CSA certified batting helmet must be worn

c. **All players must wear a jock**

Game/Field Management:

1. The home team will: (listed as the bottom team on the schedule)
 - Occupy the bench on the third base line of the infield
 - Be responsible for setting up and returning all bases
 - Be responsible for raking home plate, areas around the bases and the pitcher's mound
 - Supply a new game ball
 - No infield prior to the game
2. The visiting team will: (listed as the top team on the schedule)
 - Occupy the bench on the first base line of the infield
 - Supply a decent back up ball for the game

Conduct:

1. During a game, all players not participating on the field must remain in the bench area.
2. Adults in the bench area will be limited to one head coach and three assistant coaches.
3. The Head Coach will be responsible for all discussions with the umpire. If he is unable to attend one of the assistants may fill this role.
4. The penalty for ejection of a player or coach shall automatically include a suspension for the next game. An additional penalty may be imposed by the executive committee.
5. If a coach is to talk to a pitcher or player on the field they need to ASK for time from the Umpire before walking onto the field.
6. Coaches and players require a mask when warming up a pitcher at the start of an inning.