

# **2022 WCVL Baseball League**

## **Rulebook Addendums**

**These addendums are just for the WCVL Pre-Season and Regular Season, unless otherwise noted. Our LEAGUE Post-Season (except for 2 addendums) and OK Kids Regionals and State will follow straight OK KIDS RULES.**

- 1. 7 runs per inning rule (all ages)**
- 2. Run rule of 15 after 3 innings and 8 after 4 innings.**
- 3. Free sub in T-ball/CP, “Bat Lineup/Free Sub” coach’s choice in PW/Midget (what a team starts the game doing, you have to continue through completion of the game).**
- 4. In 6u T-Ball, a batting coach is allowed. NOTE: This will NOT be the case in POSTSEASON or any OK KIDS REGIONAL OR STATE.**
- 5. There is a time limit of the “scheduled” time. 60 min – 5U and 6U, 75 min – 8U, 90 min or 5 inn – 10U, and 90 min or 6 inn – 12U.**

### **FOR WCVL POSTSEASON TOURNEY:**

- 6. Time limit for 10U is 105 min (1 hr 45 min). Time limit for 12U is 120 min (2 hrs).**
- 7. Run Rule is held in both 10U and 12U.**

## **2021 Rules Changes**

### **NEW REGISTRATION SYSTEM**

All team registrations must be made on-line and a fee of \$25.00 per team submitted at the time of registration. The registration should be done before the first league game and must be done no later than May 1. If a team is not registered by May 1, it will not be allowed to participate in OK Kids playoffs. Coaches should print a copy of their roster to provide to their league president. If a league cannot obtain a roster from a team, it should contact OK Kids to verify that the team is registered and request a copy. Changes can be made to rosters until May 1. To make a change, OK Kids must be notified by email. If a change is made, the league president will be notified by OK Kids. Leagues will no longer pay league dues to OK Kids as the \$25.00 payment will now cover the previous league dues. The \$25.00 fee is non-refundable if a team folds. Leagues may still collect a fee from teams to operate the league, for example to pay for trophies, umpires, etc. Leagues will still receive one automatic playoff spot for each four teams registered. It is important that all teams register to guarantee a league its maximum number of playoff teams. At-Large playoff spots are still available, however they are not guaranteed, emphasizing the need for all teams to register.

### **PLAYERS THAT DO NOT MEET EITHER THE SCHOOL OR CLOSEST TEAM ELIGIBILITY RULE (PREVIOUSLY REQUIRING RELEASES)**

Releases are no longer required for players that are not eligible for a team under the school or residence rule. To be eligible for a team, a player must play for a team where he/she attends school or the team nearest his/her residence. That part of the rule stays the same. However, instead of being allowed three players not meeting the school/residence rule, those players requiring releases in previous years, a team may have up to three “at large” players that do not meet the school/residence rule. The “at large” players do not require releases as in the past, but they must reside in the county of the team or a contiguous county. In other words, the “at large” players do not need a release, but they must come from the team’s county or an adjoining county. Nothing about the rule has changed except (1) the three players that were allowed with releases no longer require a release and (2) those three players must live within the county of the team or a contiguous county.

## **SOFTBALL STATE TOURNAMENT BIDS**

Bids are now required to host the Softball State Tournaments in the 8u, 10u and 12u age groups. The maximum bid is \$2,000.00.

## **PREP STATE TOURNAMENT—15u JUNIOR HIGH BASEBALL**

The 15u Junior High Baseball (formerly Preps) State Tournament will be held the week of June 21-27. The actual dates will be determined by the participating teams.

## **8u, 10u and 12u BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT**

The championship format for the 8u, 10u and 12u State Baseball Tournaments has been changed. Both the winner and runner-up of each bracket will advance to a four-team single elimination tournament Championship Bracket. Last year, the two bracket winners played a two-of-three championship series.

## **TEAMS THAT DO NOT HAVE A LEAGUE IN 2021**

Teams may register with OK Kids and be eligible for the playoffs if their league does not play this season due to COVID. This is the same procedure used last year. However, if a team's league does play this season, the team must be a member of that league and cannot just register without playing in their available league.

## **ITEMS TABLED UNTIL 2022**

Any changes in the pitching distance for 10u and 12u baseball were tabled until 2022. The Board of Directors will receive input and address any possible changes again next year.

## **POINTS OF EMPHASIS FOR 2021**

Teams should have enough players on its roster to be able to play in the playoffs in July, even if player(s) are injured or leave the team. In the past for example, teams have rostered only 10 players, but at playoff time have players with injuries and players on vacation, leaving the team with only eight players and unable to play.

Leagues must notify the OK Kids office of their league officers so we have a contact person we can reach.

### **GARY D. RADER VOLUNTEER AWARD**

Phil Wilkerson of Coalgate was selected at the Gary D. Rader Volunteer Award recipient.

### **PRESIDENT AND BOARD MEMBERS**

Randy L. Wintz, Stroud, was re-elected President for a two-year term. Mark Hudson, Preston, was re-elected to the Board for a second seven-year term. Bryan White, Vici, will serve as Chairman in 2021.

# **OK Kids Baseball Association, Inc.**

## **2021**

### **Official Rules and Regulations**

---

#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- I. Current Officers and Board Members
- II. By-Laws Organization
- III. Membership of Leagues
- IV. Registration of Players, Managers and Coaches
- V. Eligibility of Players
- VI. Tournament Regulations
- VII. Special Playing Rules
- VIII. Protests
- IX. Conduct
- X. Amendments
- XI. Definition of League
- XII. 8u Baseball
- XIII. Softball Rules
- XIV. 6u Tee Ball Rules
- XV. Notes

## I – OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Randy L. Wintz, P.O. Box 367, Stroud, 74079 \*2023  
OK Kids Office (918) 987-1120 – OK Kids Fax (918) 987-1119  
Email: [okkidsbaseball@cotc.net](mailto:okkidsbaseball@cotc.net)

### VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Schoonmaker, 2211 Berry, Weatherford, 73096 \*2022  
Res (580) 774-2236

### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Bobbie Wintz, P.O. Box 367, Stroud, 74079  
OK Kids Office (918) 987-1120 - OK Kids Fax (918) 987-1119  
Email: [okkidsbaseball@cotc.net](mailto:okkidsbaseball@cotc.net)

### CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Bryan White, 60188 SCR 201, Vici, 73859 \*2022

## BOARD MEMBERS

Mike Elkins, 9 North Day, Coalgate, 74538 \*2023

Frank Sullivan, 2016 Hillside Circle, Sallisaw, 74955 \*2024

Kurt Klutts, P.O. Box 187, Poteau, 74953 \*2025 (2<sup>nd</sup> term)

Fred Schamburg, 24269 E. 1000 Rd, Weatherford, 73096 \*2026 (2<sup>nd</sup> term)

Kenny Jorgensen, 4015 NBU, Prague, 74864 \*2027

Mark Hudson, P.O. Box 66, Preston, 74456 \*2028 (2<sup>nd</sup> term)

\*Year Term Expires

## **II - BY-LAWS ORGANIZATION**

The organization shall be known as the OK Kids Baseball Association, Inc. The Board of Directors will determine the overall policy and will provide for operation of the Association through the Executive Committee. The Board will have the power to replace any or all of the members of the Executive Committee if in its opinion such action would be to the benefit of the Association.

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the organization is to promote the playing of amateur baseball, to coordinate and standardize the activities of various organized leagues and to develop future citizens with the proper attitude toward life.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors of the Association shall consist of seven (7) Directors, the President and the Vice President. The Directors will be elected at the annual meeting on an "At Large" basis for a term of seven (7) years, staggering the terms so a new Director is elected each year. No town, league or affiliated association can have more than one (1) Director at the same time. A Director can serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms. In the event the President, Vice President or a Director resigns from his position or dies the Board of Directors may appoint someone to complete his or her unexpired term. The Chairman of the Board of Directors will be the Director serving the final year of his or her term.

The Board may issue "Policy Directives" for the guidance of the Executive Committee when, and, as necessary, in the opinion of such Board. Such Directives will constitute amendments to the Rules and Regulations, if necessary, to prevent conflict therewith.

The Board of Directors shall meet annually after the State Tournaments and prior to the Annual Meeting. Officers and Directors may be reimbursed for expenses of a meeting or receive a nominal payment for this or any other purpose as determined by such Board. At this meeting the President will present an operational review of the past season and plans for the next season, including a proposed budget. Such budget is subject to approval or change by the Board. At this meeting, the Board should also consider, as a "Rules Committee," any proposed changes in the playing rules properly submitted by the membership.

Other meetings may be called by the Chairman, after consultation with a majority of the Directors as to the need therefore.

Any action required of, or responsibility placed upon, the Chairman shall pass to the next member in seniority, if the Chairman should be incapacitated, or for any reason should be unable, or simply fail, to take action or fulfill such responsibility.

Five (5) of the nine (9) members of the Board of Directors will constitute a quorum for the conduct of business, including changes to the Rules and Regulations. A majority vote of members present will be sufficient to approve or reject a motion. In the absence of a called meeting, or between meetings, the Chairman may circulate a motion and ballot, by mail, for the resolution of any question he deems of sufficient importance. In this instance and in the instance of a motion of removal of an officer, a majority vote of four (4) of the Directors will be required for approval.

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee shall consist of a President, Vice President and Executive Secretary-Treasurer. The President and Vice President are elected at the annual meeting for a two (2) year term. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer is appointed by the President.

**President** - The President is the chief operations officer. He has authority and responsibility for the general and "everyday" management of the business of the Association as required by the Rules and Regulations, or as prescribed by the Board of Directors. The President may delegate to other members of the Executive Committee such portions of his responsibilities as he deems appropriate but will be held accountable for their actions and the result thereof.

**Vice President** - The Vice President functions as an assistant to the President. In the absence of or disability of the President he shall assume and perform the duties of the President.

**Executive Secretary-Treasurer** - The Executive Secretary-Treasurer will maintain the records of the Association and will prepare a Financial Statement for presentation at the annual meeting. Such statement shall reflect, in reasonable detail, the income and expenses of the past year and the amount of assets and liabilities of the Association as of the third Sunday in January preceding the

Annual Meeting. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer, and any other Officer authorized to sign checks of the Association shall each be bonded for an amount determined by the Board of Directors. Such surety bond shall be in an amount not less than Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00).

Whenever the title "Rules Committee," "Tournament Committee" or "Protest Committee" is used in these Rules and Regulations, such title shall mean the Executive Committee and Board Chairman (or his designate) acting together. In the event of a tie vote on any issue, the position taken by the Board Chairman shall negate that taken by the Executive Secretary, in effect producing only three (3) votes all from elected officers.

### **III - MEMBERSHIP OF LEAGUES**

**(See Section XI for definition of League)**

1. The membership shall consist of regularly organized leagues of not less than four (4) teams, playing a minimum of six league games. League game schedules and league post season tournaments (if a post season tournament is played) cannot finish earlier than June 19.

Each member league is entitled to a voting representative at the annual meeting of the OK Kids Baseball Association. This representative will be designated on league rosters. Typically, this is the league president. NOTE: No proxy voting.

2. Leagues must apply each year for membership. All applications should be made on the official application form and be approved by the Executive Committee. **All team registrations must be made on-line and a fee of \$25.00 per team submitted at the time of registration. The registration should be done before the first league game and must be done no later than May 1. If a team is not registered by May 1, it will not be allowed to participate in OK Kids playoffs. Coaches should print a copy of their roster to provide to their league president. If a league cannot obtain a roster from a team, it should contact OK Kids to verify that the team is registered and request a copy. Changes can be made to rosters until May 1. To make a change, OK Kids must be notified by email. If a change is made, the league president will be notified by OK Kids. Leagues will no longer pay league dues to OK Kids as**

**the \$25.00 payment will now cover the previous league dues. The \$25.00 fee is non-refundable if a team folds. Leagues may still collect a fee from teams to operate the league, for example to pay for trophies, umpires, etc. Leagues will still receive one automatic playoff spot for each four teams registered. It is important that all teams register to guarantee a league its maximum number of playoff teams. At-Large playoff spots are still available, however they are not guaranteed, emphasizing the need for all teams to register. No application will be accepted after the deadline without unanimous approval of the Executive Committee. Note: This rule will be strictly enforced.**

**3. There is no longer a league entry fee. The \$25.00 team registration fee, collected on-line during team registration, will serve as the league fee. However, individual leagues may collect a local league fee from each individual team. Leagues are still allowed one playoff team for each four teams in a league.**

4. Any community or area may form its own league or leagues and become affiliated with the Association by organizing and administering its own affairs in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Association. The league area must not encroach on the area of an established league. No league may permit the participation of a team from the area of an established league without a written release from the officers of the established league.

A team may be a member of another organization while holding membership in the OK Kids Baseball Association.

A league shall designate a president who shall carry on negotiations, whenever necessary, with the proper officers of the OK Kids Baseball Association. He shall prepare the schedules of his league or leagues. The winner of each league, as designated by the president of his league, shall be eligible to compete in a Regional Tournament. The Executive Secretary must be notified by the president of the league of its winners (or qualifiers) on or before the deadline set by the Board in all Baseball and Softball age divisions and Tee Ball. These dates can be found on page 5 on this rulebook under Important Dates. The Executive Secretary must be advised of the names of the teams as well as the names, mailing addresses and the telephone numbers of the managers. Dates and locations of all tournaments will be designated by the Association. The dates will fluctuate according to the calendar each year.

Playoff Tournament brackets cannot be completed until all member leagues have advised the Executive Secretary of all league teams that are eligible for the Playoff Tournaments. This must be done no later than the deadlines set by the Board for all Baseball and Softball age divisions and Tee Ball. Brackets will be completed as soon as possible on or after the deadline date. (The dates are listed on page 5 of this rulebook.) Please do not call the OK Kids officers to ask about bracket pairings. The brackets will be released on the website as soon as they are completed. Packets will not be mailed to coaches. Please obtain Regional and State Tournament information from the website.

5. In the 6u Tee Ball, 8u Baseball, 10u Baseball and 12u Baseball divisions any city or town wanting to host a State Tournament must submit a bid in writing, on the proper form provided by OK Kids, with a bid check attached to the OK Kids Executive Secretary-Treasurer. The bid must be received no later than May 10, 2021. The city or town awarded the winning bid will receive two automatic teams in the State Tournament and will not play in a Regional Tournament. The State Tournaments will be awarded to the highest and best bid as determined by the OK Kids Executive Committee. The minimum bid is \$500.00. The maximum bid is \$5,000.00. Unsuccessful bidders' checks will be returned.

**In the 8u Softball, 10u Softball and 12u Softball divisions any city or town wanting to host a State Tournament must submit a bid in writing, on the proper form provided by OK Kids, with a bid check attached, to the OK Kids Executive Secretary-Treasurer. The bid must be received no later than May 10, 2021. The city or town awarded the winning bid will receive two automatic teams in the State Tournament. The State Tournaments will be awarded to the highest and best bid as determined by the OK Kids Executive Committee. The minimum bid is \$500.00. The maximum bid is \$2,000.00. Unsuccessful bidders' checks will be returned.**

All teams hosting State Tournaments must still be a member of an OK Kids league and comply with all OK Kids rules.

State Baseball and Tee Ball Tournament brackets will be determined by a blind draw. The blind draw will be conducted before the Regional Tournaments are played. Each State Tournament will have two eight-team brackets. First, the two host teams will be randomly assigned to different brackets. Then four Regional Champions and three Runners Up will be randomly placed in one bracket. The

other three Regional Champions and four Runners Up will be placed in the other bracket. Teams from the same Regional Tournament will be automatically placed in different brackets. Both the winner and runner-up of each bracket will advance to a four-team single elimination tournament Championship Bracket.

The Board voted on January 28, 2007 to suspend the 18u Baseball age division due to lack of participation. However, anybody wanting to participate in a 18u Baseball State Tournament should contact the OK Kids President. If enough interest is indicated for this age group, the Executive Committee will consider implementing a state tournament for 2021. The 18u Baseball State Tournament would be played on a dates agreed to by the participating teams.

Any city or town wanting to host the OK Kids 18u Baseball State Tournament should notify the OK Kids Executive Secretary. The Executive Committee reserves the right to determine if a state tournament will be held and to choose the best site available.

6. Some OK Kids rules can be amended to assist local leagues. Any league may adopt special playing rules to use during league play. However, OK Kids rules shall apply in both Regional and State Tournaments.

The eligibility and pitching rules cannot be changed or amended in any way.  
EXAMPLE: 15u Baseball would be able to play on 82 ft. bases during league play, but 90 ft. bases would be used during Regional and State Tournament play.  
NOTE: Should questions arise concerning special playing rules, contact the OK Kids President or Executive Secretary and obtain a written opinion.

7. In applying for membership, a league agrees to provide any and all information, requested at any time, by the President of OK Kids.

8. It is the responsibility of each local league president or secretary to notify the OK Kids Executive Secretary each year of the approximate number of teams anticipated in each age division. Notification in writing is greatly appreciated.

**EXAMPLE:**

Coach Pitch	12 teams
10u Baseball	8 teams
12u Baseball	6 teams
15u JH Baseball	4 teams

This should be done as soon as possible, after the Annual Meeting in January. Upon receiving this information, the OK Kids Executive Secretary will make league supplies available for the upcoming season.

9. Any league may adopt a “non-intra league transfer of players” rule within its own league. An example is the Bridge Creek, Tuttle, Blanchard and Newcastle league. Bridge Creek is a school district, not a city or town. This rule would apply only within the league, but not apply to the transfers of players outside to a non-league city or town.

**IV - REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS, MANAGERS AND COACHES**

1. The local league president and/or local league secretary are to keep on file player contract cards, team roster sheets and copies of all hospital or birth certificates. Copies of all birth and hospital certificates, along with a final copy of the team roster sheet should be returned to each manager or coach just prior to the start of the Regional Tournaments, but no sooner than July 1 of each year. League presidents must obtain individual contract cards, league applications and team roster sheets from the office of the Association. Players, managers and coaches are officially registered for the current season only. The individual contract card must be properly completed in ink or typed with the signature written and not printed. Names on the cards must match the names listed on the team roster sheet.

NOTE: No player shall be considered duly registered and eligible to participate unless he is properly registered on both a contract card and the team roster form. The manager and coaches should also complete a contract card. They must give their full names in order to preserve their identities. A change of registration and roster must be forwarded to the office of the local league president before the regularly scheduled or re-scheduled league game in which the player is to participate.

2. No team shall have at any one time more than eighteen (18) players on its roster, but in addition may have a non-playing manager and three (3) non-playing coaches.

Team rosters are required to include the date signed by the coach (done on-line), the school each player attends and players' physical addresses (no P.O. Boxes). The town or school represented must be a part of the team name. The team's home field address where league home games are played must also be designated on the team roster form.

Rosters must include a league contact (preferably the league president. Players cannot be added to a roster between the time the roster is submitted on-line and May 1 without the league president's approval.

The penalty for submitting an incomplete roster is that any player without complete information is not eligible for Regional or State Tournaments. If the team information is not complete then the entire team is ineligible for Regional or State Tournaments.

3. Officers of the OK Kids Baseball Association have the right to declare any player a "free agent" at any time for just cause or reject an individual contract card of a prospective player, manager or coach.

4. The Executive Committee, upon proper evidence presented to the OK Kids Baseball Association, may declare a player in question ineligible at any time. If he is declared ineligible, his team must forfeit all games in which he has participated.

5. The local league president and/or local league secretary must have player contract cards, team roster sheets and copies of birth or hospital certificates in their possession prior to any player playing in his first league game. Failure to comply

with this rule could result in teams or leagues being ruled ineligible for OK Kids Regional and State Tournaments.

6. A manager or coach should have a team meeting with all his players and their parents prior to playing the first league game, or as soon as possible, and discuss all the items that pertain to them, such as birth and hospital certificates, the pitching rules, team roster, eligibility of players, etc. This will help everyone understand the rules and know what is expected of them. Each league president is provided rule books for all teams.

## **V - ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

1. Players will be classified as follows:

(A) Tee Ball: 4-5-6, must be 4 and cannot be 7 years old prior to January 1, 2021.

(B) 8u Baseball: 8 and under, cannot be 9 years old prior to January 1, 2021.

(C) 10u Baseball: 9-10, cannot be 11 years old prior to January 1, 2021.

(D) 12u Baseball: 11-12, cannot be 13 years old prior to January 1, 2021.

(E) 15u Baseball: 13-14-15, cannot be 16 years old prior to January 1, 2021.

(F) 18u Baseball: 16-17-18, cannot be 19 years old prior to January 1, 2021.

NOTE: A player may play above his age classification. If he does play above his classification, he can only be registered on one team.

EXAMPLE: A player on the roster of a 10u Baseball team plays on a 12u Baseball team. The 12u Baseball team must forfeit any league games in which the 10u Baseball player participated. Many other problems can arise from allowing this to happen. Please contact the OK Kids President or Executive Secretary for more information.

2. Managers and coaches shall be held accountable for statements of the players regarding age. Players in all six age divisions (Tee Ball, 8u Baseball, 10u Baseball,

12u Baseball, 15u Baseball and 18u Baseball) must file copies of birth certificates or hospital certificates with the local league president.

3. No player shall be eligible:

(A) To play a game under the jurisdiction of the Association, if he shall have received a monetary consideration for his services rendered as a player.

(B) To receive compensation for his services rendered to a team of the Association. This rule is not to prevent suitable prizes being given to players. Automatic approval is granted for presentation of trophies, medals and plaques.

NOTE: A player participating in baseball games played for a monetary consideration, pecuniary stakes or wages shall be considered as having personally received a monetary consideration.

4. A player must play with a team from the school he attends or with the team nearest his residence that has a team of his age classification. Initial assignments of players must be made within this rule. When a league plays all of its games at one location (e.g. field or complex) a player must play with a team from the school he attends or with a team representing the school physically closest to his residence.

NOTE: Most families change residences after the end of the school year. Players' eligibility can be affected by a change of residence during the season. Managers and coaches should verify a player's eligibility to avoid having to forfeit games or possibly become ineligible to advance to the Regional and State Tournaments. Please contact the OK Kids President or Executive Secretary for clarification of players' eligibility during the season or after the end of the school year. Exceptions may be made only by written approval of the Executive Committee. This rule is often misunderstood. If you are not sure about a player's eligibility or if you do not understand this rule, please call the OK Kids President or Executive Secretary for clarification and explanation. Please do not wait until a problem arises or the rule has been broken to ask for help. Player eligibility must be established prior to playing in first league game.

5. Transfers of players (at-large players) may be made after initial assignments to accommodate change of residence by the player's family, to provide opportunities

for more players to play and to balance the teams as to numbers of players, if accomplished prior to the June 1 deadline.

**Releases are no longer required for players that are not eligible for a team under the school or residence rule. To be eligible for a team, a player must play for a team where he/she attends school or the team nearest his/her residence. That part of the rule stays the same. However, instead of being allowed three players not meeting the school/residence rule, those players requiring releases in previous years, a team may have up to three “at large” players that do not meet the school/ residence rule. The “at large” players do not require releases as in the past, but they must reside in the county of the team or a contiguous county. In other words, the “at large” players do not need a release, but they must come from the team’s county or an adjoining county. Nothing about the rule has changed except (1) the three players that were allowed with releases no longer require a release and (2) the at-large players must live within the county of the team or a contiguous county.**

A team can have no more than three (3) **at-large** players **That is, players formerly requiring a release.**

6. A player playing on, or on the roster of, a baseball team in another organized league or organization during the same period they are registered with an OK Kids team, is eligible to play on the OK Kids team as long as the OK Kids pitching rule is not violated.

7. No player may be added to a team roster after May 1 of each current year. The final complete official player roster of each team will be submitted to and approved by the league president and OK Kids.

NOTE: The intent of the May 1 rule is to prevent teams from finishing league play early and then forming an "All Star" team to compete in Regional and State Tournaments. Our purpose is to play Regional and State Tournaments with regular league champions and qualifiers. Any team or league not complying with the rules will be ineligible to participate in the OK Kids Regional or State Tournaments. Manager/coaches are totally responsible for checking the final team roster. The OK Kids Baseball Association will not accept the excuse from the local league officer or team manager/coach that we forgot to add a player or the wrong roster

was entered by mistake. The responsibility is yours. Please be sure that your roster is correct. Special exceptions cannot be made.

8. All players must wear headgear, with ear protectors, while at bat or on base as a runner. Penalty for failure to comply with this rule will be handled by individual leagues and should comply with Rule 7(A), Section VI.

9. All catchers shall wear, in addition to a head protector, a mask, body protector, protective cup and baseball protective shin guards. A throat protector, which is either a part of, or attached to, the catcher's mask, is mandatory.

10. A player must live within the boundaries of the State of Oklahoma, attend an Oklahoma school or live with a parent or legal guardian that lives in the state during baseball season in order to participate in OK Kids. Legal documentation may be required to prove residence and must be provided to the Executive Committee upon request.

11. It is illegal for any manager, coach, parent or player to attempt to recruit anyone from an OK Kids team or league to play with another OK Kids team anywhere in the State of Oklahoma. If it is proven that this has taken place, the person or persons involved could receive a lifetime ban from associating with OK Kids in any capacity. The OK Kids President will determine the punishment for the violation of this rule. If a lifetime ban is proposed, a majority vote of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee will be required to implement the lifetime ban.

## **VI - TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS**

The state will be divided into regions by the Executive Committee for the purpose of establishing Regional Tournaments. A city or town may request a Regional Tournament by writing the OK Kids President or Executive Secretary. All requests should be at the Association office no later than May 10 of the current year. Cities and towns must be willing to host the tournament even if they do not have a team in the tournament. Each league winner or qualifier will be eligible to compete in a Regional Tournament in each age division. The sites of the Regional Tournaments and the sites of the State Tournaments will be determined by the

Tournament Committee. The Tournament Committee will determine sites as soon as possible after May 10.

No fee will be charged for hosting a Regional Tournament. For State Tournament bidding, see Rule III, Number 5.

1. All OK Kids teams will play by National Federation (high school) and Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association (O.S.S.A.A.) rules.

EXCEPTION: 8u Baseball, 10u Baseball and 12u Baseball will use all current OK Kids rules. National Federation and O.S.S.A.A. rules will apply when anything is not covered by OK Kids rules. 15u Junior High Baseball and 18u Baseball will play by National Federation rules exclusively.

2. Listed below are the only approved baseballs for OK Kids Regional and State Tournament play. All baseballs used in Regional and State Tournaments must be of this quality or better:

MacGregor 87	Rawlings RCC	Diamond DOLA
--------------	--------------	--------------

Wilson A1075B	Braden BB2
---------------	------------

Rawlings RLLB-1 9"	Kelly KB-2
--------------------	------------

3. 15u Junior High Baseball and 18u Baseball will follow National Federation and O.S.S.A.A. rules and guidelines as to the use and size of bats.

The following are the only bats approved for use in OK Kids Baseball games for 8u Baseball, 10u Baseball and 12u Baseball:

1. A wood bat.
2. Any bat permanently stamped by the manufacturer with the Official BBCOR Baseball logo.
3. Any bat permanently stamped by the manufacturer with the Official USA Baseball logo.
4. Any bat permanently stamped by the manufacturer with the Official bpf 1.15 logo.

\*OK kids reserves the right to disallow any bat at any time. If a bat is disallowed, it will be specifically listed.

4. The "home" team in all Regional and State Tournament games shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the umpire-in-chief or tournament director.
  
5. When a manager or team submits its official batting order to the umpire and the opposing manager, as required by the official baseball rules, he must give the full names of his players participating in the game exactly as registered in the office of the Association.
  
6. Shoes with spikes or metal cleats are strictly prohibited on players in Tee Ball, 8u Baseball, 10u Baseball and 12u Baseball. NOTE: In the event the Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association should declare metal cleats illegal, then OK Kids will adopt the same policy in the same year. Individual leagues may adopt a "No Metal Cleat" rule but must remember that the OK Kids rule applies in Regional and State Tournaments.
  
7. Every team must provide helmets with ear protectors for the use of its players. The protective headgear must be worn while batting or as a runner.

In all cases the umpire will notify the violating team's manager/coach about a violation of this rule prior to calling a player out. This allows the manager/coach the opportunity to keep the player from being called out or being injured. In tournament play if a player comes to bat without a helmet the umpire will warn the player to put on a helmet. If he does not comply with the umpire's request he will be called out before the first pitch is made to him. If a base runner fails to wear his helmet, the umpire will warn him to put on a helmet. If he does not comply with the umpire's request, he will be called out before the first pitch is made to the batter.

8. Dimensions of the diamond. The pitching distance is measured from the back of home plate to the front edge of the pitcher's plate.

	Tee Ball & 8u Baseball	10u Baseball	12u Baseball	15u Baseball	18u Baseball
Bases	60'	70'	70'	90'	90'
Pitching	42'	42'	47'	60' 6"	60' 6"
Home to 2nd Base	84' 10 1/4"	98' 11 15/16"	98' 11 15/16"	127' 3 3/8"	127' 3 3/8"

9. No pick up players will be allowed.

10. Players or teams may participate in tournaments sponsored by other organizations, providing the OK Kids teams and players follow OK Kids rules, such as the pitching rule. OK Kids rules, such as the pitching rule, apply when returning to league play after a tournament.

11. Tee Ball, 8u Baseball, 10u Baseball, 12u Baseball and 15u Baseball divisions will play double elimination tournaments in both Regional and State Tournaments.

12. Regional Tournaments for Baseball and Tee Ball will be played on the dates set by the Board. See page 5 in this rulebook. Tee Ball and 8u Baseball Regional Tournaments will only be three days.

The 15u State Baseball Tournament will be held at a time agreed upon by the participants.

Tee Ball, 8u Baseball, 10u Baseball, and 12u Baseball State Tournaments will be played on the dates set by the Board. See page 5 in this rulebook.

The 18u Baseball State Tournament, if held, will be held at a time agreed upon by the participants.

13. The Regional or State Tournament Director will hold a meeting of all team managers/coaches and tournament officials at least three (3) hours prior to the starting time of the first game in that tournament. The purpose of this meeting is to explain and discuss all rules that will apply in the tournament. Every team in the Regional or State Tournament must have a manager or coach at the Tournament Director's meeting. This rule cannot be waived by the Tournament Director. Failure to comply can result in forfeiture of a team's first round game. The Executive Committee will make the final ruling regarding failure to comply.

(A) Certification of eligibility must be presented by the manager or coach of any team participating in an OK Kids Regional or State Tournament to the Tournament Director before his team will be permitted to take the field. Certification for all age groups must include:

(1) An official team roster that includes all of the players' names.

(2) A readable copy of the birth certificate or hospital record for each player listed on the roster. NOTE: The names of players on the roster must match the names on the birth certificate or hospital record or a player must have a legal document (copies) supporting the name difference. A note of the name difference on the team roster is also required.

(B) A player not listed on the official team roster or not having a copy of his birth certificate or hospital record will be ineligible to participate in an OK Kids Regional or State Tournament. NOTE: Managers or coaches are solely responsible for the eligibility and proper registration of their players under OK Kids rules.

Any protests of player eligibility during Regional and State Tournaments must be made during the three hour period from the start of the mandatory Coaches Meeting until the scheduled start of the Regional or State Tournament. Rosters will be available for all head coaches to review during this time period and, if possible, before the Coaches Meeting.

14. The OK Kids Baseball Association will award team trophies and individual rings to the winners and runners-up in the State Tournaments.

15. Regional Tournament hosts must provide team trophies or plaques of the same quality to the champions and the runners-up. The minimum height for the championship team trophy is 24" and the minimum height for the runner-up team trophy is 18". Host towns will also be required to furnish individual trophies or plaques of the same quality. The individual championship trophies are to be at least 12" in height and the individual runners-up trophies are to be at least 10" in height. A total of 18 individual trophies or plaques for the champion and the runner-up are required. Failure to comply with this rule could result in the town losing the opportunity to host any further Regional Tournaments.

16. Regional and State Tournaments must be run off on successive days, to include Sunday, unless postponed by rain or by approval of Executive Committee.

17. Admission to Regional and State Tournaments is limited to a maximum of \$5.00 per person, per day. Children under five (5) years of age receive free admission.

18. A minimum of two umpires must be used in all Regional and State Tournaments. Both umpires must be registered with the Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association. All umpires must be 21 years of age or older. Exception: In Regional Tournament play only, one of the two umpires on the field may be 18, 19 or 20 years old, providing he is registered with the Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association and has graduated from high school.

19. Players participating in an OK Kids Regional or State Tournaments must wear a shirt with an identifying number.

20. A donation of \$25.00 per game to OK Kids would be greatly appreciated for each game broadcast on radio or television. All donations should be sent to OK Kids Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

21. At any time, the team may use courtesy runners for the pitcher and/or the catcher. The same individual runner may not be used for both positions (pitcher and catcher) during the game. Neither the pitcher nor the catcher will be required to leave the game under such circumstances. Players who have participated in the game in any other capacity are ineligible to serve as courtesy runners. A player may not run as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or the catcher and then be used as a substitute for another player in that half inning.

22. The Executive Committee may award "At Large" berths in Tee Ball, 8u Baseball, 10u Baseball, 12u Baseball and 15u Junior High Baseball age groups for Regional Tournaments when necessary to help fill brackets, when some league does not want to send a team or if a team withdraws after the brackets have been set. Any team receiving an at large berth must pay \$100.00 to OK Kids. Only a request in writing with a \$100.00 "At Large" fee attached will be put into the drawing pool. All checks will be returned to teams not receiving an "At Large" berth. The OK Kids President may waive the "At Large" fee at his discretion.

This rule is only intended to help the Executive Committee when it is warranted and is not to be interpreted or used by a team to "buy" their way into a Regional Tournament each year. Only teams that have submitted a request in writing will be considered. All requests must be received in the OK Kids office by the date set by the Board (see page 5). Requests must include day and night phone numbers and the complete mailing address of the manager or coach along with the team name

and the league name. To apply for an at-large berth, a team must be a member of an OK Kids league for the current season.

23. OK Kids will complete the brackets for all Regional and State Tournaments, including the pairings, game times, dates and the tournament director meeting times and dates. These cannot be changed without approval of the OK Kids President or Executive Secretary.

24. Any manager, coach, player, fan or dugout personnel ejected during an OK Kids Regional or State Tournament for unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended from his or her team's next Regional or State Tournament game. The suspension will carry over from the Regional Tournament final game to the first State Tournament game. The ejected person will not be allowed to enter the baseball complex during the one game suspension.

25. There are no time limits on games in the Regional or State Tournaments for all age groups.

## **VII - SPECIAL PLAYING RULES**

1. Play shall be governed by the current National Federation and O.S.S.A.A baseball rules, except when those rules are specifically changed or modified by the rules and regulations in this book, by other changes made by the Board of Directors or as voted by the membership.

Exceptions to National Federation rules follow.

NOTE: 15u Junior High Baseball and 18u Baseball age divisions will play by National Federation/O.S.S.A.A. rules. This applies to the actual game itself, not eligibility, registration, etc.

2. Re-substitution (Re-entry) Rule applying to 8u Baseball, 10u Baseballs and 12u Baseballs classifications: Any player removed from the game by the manager/coach may re-enter the game, one time. Upon re-entry, he must return to the same batting position he previously occupied. A player removed from the game for the second time is no longer eligible to re-enter that game.

If necessary, because a player becomes ill, injured or ejected, a team will be allowed to complete a game with eight players. An out will be called each time that spot in the order is due to bat. If a team cannot finish the game with at least eight (8) players then that team must forfeit the game.

A team that has started the game with nine (9) players but is only playing with eight (8) players due to illness, injury or ejection may go back to nine (9) players if the injured or ill player is able to re-enter the game or if another player arrives at the game to fill the open spot in the lineup.

NOTE: It is the responsibility of the team manager to be familiar with this rule. In tournament play the official scorer should assist the manager in preventing the violation of this rule. However, it is still the responsibility of the team managers.

If a team is playing with only nine (9) players when injury, illness or ejection occurs to a non-retired runner, on an award or after reaching base, reducing the team to only eight (8) players, the most recent batter not on base is allowed to run for that player leaving the game due to injury, illness or ejection.

15u Baseball and 18u Baseball Note: Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, provided the player occupies the same batting position whenever he is in the lineup. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter.

3. Regulation games shall be five (5) innings for 8u Baseball and 10u Baseball, six (6) innings for 12u Baseball and seven (7) innings for 15u Baseball and 18u Baseball.

(A) In Regional and State Tournament play there will be a 12-run rule for 8u Baseball and 10u Baseball and a 10-run rule for 12u Baseball, 15u Baseball and 18u Baseball if all the innings have been completed except two. That is, if three (3) full innings have been played, or two and one-half (2 ½) innings when the home team, is ahead in 8u Baseball and 10u Baseball; if four (4) innings have been played, or three and one-half (3 ½) innings, when the home team is ahead in 12u Baseball; or if five (5) innings have been played, or four and one-half (4 ½) innings, when the home team is ahead in 15u Baseball and 18u Baseball. This rule can apply in league play.

(B) If a game is called because of rain or inclement weather in Regional or State Tournament play, the game will be suspended at the point of interruption. A suspended game shall continue from the point of suspension on the earliest possible day, with the line-up and batting order for each team the same as it was at the time of suspension. The pitching and re-substitution (re-entry) rules remain in effect for the suspended game. CLARIFICATION: Pitching eligibility is based upon the innings pitched per day, regardless of the suspension of a game. For example, a pitcher may have only pitched one inning in a suspended game, but he could be ineligible to pitch the next day when the game is resumed.

This rule can apply in league play or a league can implement its own rule regarding games being called due to rain or inclement weather. For example, allowing a game to be complete if all innings but two have been played.

4. In the 8u Baseball and 10u Baseball age divisions a player may not advance to first base when the catcher misses or drops the third strike. In 10u Baseballs the batter is out but the ball is in play, hence, other runners can advance at their own risk.

5. The pitching rule applies to the number of outs a player may pitch in one day in the 10u Baseball and 12u Baseball age divisions.

10u Baseball - 15 outs; 12u Baseball - 18 outs.

A pitcher must retire one (1) batter, or an out occur, while he is in the game as pitcher to be charged with an appearance during that inning or game; however, should he leave the game and then return later at another position this would constitute the re-substitution rule being used for that player. Further explanation or more in depth clarification may be requested by calling the OK Kids President or Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

The pitching rule for 15u Baseball and 18u Baseball is as follows:

A pitcher may pitch a full game of any length in a day. If he pitches less than six innings in a game, he may pitch in a second game that day, but he may not pitch more than a total of ten innings in the two games. (NOTE: A pitcher who pitches five innings in the first game and makes an appearance in the second game the same day shall not be eligible the next day.) An appearance during an inning shall

count as a full inning. The pitcher taking the mound and the ball becoming live constitutes an appearance. A player who has pitched six innings or more in a day shall not be used as a pitcher the following day. A player who has pitched five (5) innings or less in a day is eligible to pitch the next day, with the same restrictions as a player who had not pitched. (Example: In a doubleheader, a pitcher may go 1-9, 2-8, 3-7, 4-6, 5-5, but cannot go 6-4, 7-3, 8-2, 9-1, in the same day.)

6. If a player in the 10u Baseball or 12u Baseball age divisions pitches nine (9) outs or less he may pitch again the second day later. If he pitches one pitch more than nine (9) outs he cannot pitch again until the third day later.

EXAMPLE: If a 10u Baseball or 12u Baseball pitcher pitches nine (9) outs or less on Monday, he may pitch again on Wednesday; if he pitches more than nine (9) outs, he cannot pitch again until Thursday. Violation of this rule forfeits the game from the violating team.

NOTE: This pitching rule for 10u Baseball and 12u Baseball will be relaxed for tournament play, allowing the pitcher to pitch one day sooner than the rules allow for regular league play. This can be done only one time for each pitcher in a tournament. This rule applies only to tournament games. It cannot be used going into or out of tournament play. The pitching rule for 15u Baseball and 18u Baseball cannot be relaxed.

7. Any special rules concerning the starting times of games, postponements, rained out games, playoffs, etc., shall be determined by the individual leagues. The special rules should not conflict with the rules of OK Kids or cause any of the teams or players to be ineligible.

8. A manager, coach, player, substitute, attendant or other bench personnel shall not:

(A) Deliberately throw a bat or helmet; or

(B) Call "time" or use any command or commit any act for the purpose of trying to cause the opposing pitcher to balk; or

(C) Use word or act to incite or try to incite spectators to demonstrations, or use profanity or remarks which reflect upon opposing players, umpires, or spectators;  
or

(D) Maliciously or flagrantly run into a fielder who has the ball; or

(E) Use unnecessary roughness (fighting, etc.) which might inflict injury to any player; or

(F) As a fielder, fake a tag without the ball; or

(G) Fail to slide or attempt to get around a fielder who has the ball and is waiting to make the tag.

Penalties: The intent of rule (D), (E), and (G) is to have no "deliberate contact". Umpires will advise managers that intentional contact will be considered to be a violation of (D), (E), and (G). In (B), (D), and (E) umpires shall banish the offender from the game. In (D) or (E), if offender was base runner or a batter, banishment constitutes an out. Failure to comply shall result in the game being forfeited. However, in (A) and (C), if the offense is judged to be minor in nature, the umpire may warn the offender and disqualify him if he repeats the offense. In (F) obstruction will be called and umpire shall award a minimum of one base beyond player position on base when the incident occurred. Preceding runners forced to advance will be moved to the necessary bases. In (G) the runner will be called out. All of these rules are judgement calls by the umpire.

9. The following are the only bats approved for use in OK Kids Baseball games for Tee Ball, 8u Baseball, 10u Baseballs and 10u Baseballs:

1. A wood bat.
2. Any bat permanently stamped by the manufacturer with the Official BBCOR Baseball logo.
3. Any bat permanently stamped by the manufacturer with the Official USA Baseball logo.
4. Any bat permanently stamped by the manufacturer with the Official bpf 1.15 logo.

\*OK kids reserves the right to disallow any bat at any time. If a bat is disallowed, it will be specifically listed.

10. The on-deck batter may warm up in the on-deck circle on the side of the field behind the batter for safety reasons.

## VIII - PROTESTS

1. A protest of any kind must be submitted to the local league president within 48 hours following the regularly scheduled or re-scheduled game affected or 24 hours following a playoff game. If the pitching rule or the player eligibility rule is violated, the president of the local league can make the ruling without consulting the protest committee. The protest fee, which should be determined prior to the start of the season, must accompany the protest. One-half of the protest fee should be returned if the protest is upheld.

2. A protest may be made to the Executive Committee of OK Kids if the individual league protest committee has already heard the protest and issued its ruling. Any manager contemplating filing a protest with OK Kids must do so within 72 hours of receiving the outcome of the protest from his local league. The protesting manager is responsible for getting all pertinent information to OK Kids; such as day and night phone numbers and the mailing addresses of anyone having information pertaining to the protest. A copy of the local protest ruling must accompany the protest. All protests made to OK Kids must be accompanied by a protest fee of \$200.00. One-half of the protest fee will be returned if the protest is upheld.

This applies to regular season games. No protests will be allowed to the OK Kids Executive Committee regarding Regional or State Tournaments except for player eligibility explained below in number four (4).

3. A manager contemplating a protest on a violation of playing rules on the field of play must notify the umpire-in-chief immediately of his desire. The umpire must announce that the game is being played under protest.

4. Protests during Regional and State Tournaments will be handled according to tournament rules. There is no protest fee during OK Kids Regional or State Tournaments. Any protests of player eligibility during Regional and State Tournaments must be made during the three hour period from the start of the mandatory Coaches Meeting until the scheduled start of the Regional or State Tournament. Rosters will be available for all head coaches to review during this time period and, if possible, before the Coaches Meeting.

5. Decisions by the Executive Committee shall be final on all protests that they accept to hear.

## **IX - CONDUCT**

1. In order to help in the promotion of a greater OK Kids Baseball Association, it is required that the use of tobacco products in any form by managers, coaches, players, officials, etc., be prohibited on the playing field during preliminary practice and during the game.

2. Any person affiliated with an OK Kids team who directly or indirectly approaches a player of a team for the purpose of inducing him to leave that team during the current season shall be liable to a punishment that OK Kids deems fit.

3. Any team that is a member of a league holding membership in OK Kids must agree to abide by all rules of the OK Kids Baseball Association, and it also must agree that the Executive Committee will have the final ruling on all matters, such as eligibility of players, playing rules or anything pertaining to the OK Kids Baseball Association. Any team or teams seeking or taking action outside the Association, such as involving the OK Kids Baseball Association or any of its "agents" in a lawsuit for the purpose of delaying or reversing any decision made by the Executive Committee or for the postponement of any games or tournaments, will have the following penalty invoked on its team and/or its league:

**PENALTY:** The team or league will not be allowed to participate in any OK Kids post season tournament, such as Regional or State Tournaments for a period not less than one (1) year or not more than seven (7) years. The Executive Committee will decide the final penalty, not to be less than or more than the above penalty.

4. League officers or coaches submitting or providing false information to OK Kids will be banned from OK Kids for life.

## **X - AMENDMENTS**

1. Any section in the Rules and Regulations of the OK Kids Baseball Association may be altered by the Executive Committee to facilitate the efficient and effective

administration of the Association, provided the change be properly approved by the majority of the Board of Directors.

2. All proposed amendments to the Rules and Regulations must be submitted in writing to the Executive Secretary before November 1 of the current year. The proposed changes will be received by the Rules Committee prior to the Annual Meeting. At the Annual Meeting the Rules Committee may present proposed changes to the members present for their approval.

EXAMPLE: A rule change is submitted to the Executive Secretary-Treasurer on August 15, 2021. The rule will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on January 30, 2022. If the rule is approved, it will be effective at the beginning of the 2023 season.

3. Only changes submitted in the above manner will be considered. The Board of Directors will then determine what proposed rules changes are to be brought to the general membership at the Annual Meeting for discussion and/or vote.

4. Following the approval of a rule change, if 75% of the voting league representatives attending the Annual Meeting vote in favor of an emergency clause the rule change will become effective the same year it passed.

## **XI - DEFINITION OF LEAGUE**

A league consists of at least four (4) teams in an age division.

EXAMPLE: If five (5) small towns formed an association and each town had one team in each age division (8u Baseball, 10u Baseball, 12u Baseball and 15u Baseball) they would have four leagues. **The entry fee would be \$25.00 per team.**

## XII – 8U BASEBALL (COACH PITCH)

1. **Age Limit:** 8 years old and under, cannot be 9 before January 1, 2021.
2. **Base Distance:** 60 Feet
3. **Pitching Distance:** 42 Feet
4. **Ball Size:** 9" regulation baseball.
5. **8u Baseball Pitcher:** The pitcher must pitch overhand only from a standing position on the rubber.
6. **8u Baseball Pitcher Coaching Restrictions:** The pitcher cannot talk to anyone while he/she is in fair territory. **PENALTY:** First violation--warning by umpire must be recorded in the official score book. Second violation--must be removed from the game, the playing field and the complex. He/she must be at least 16 years old.
7. **Starting Line-up:** A team must have nine (9) players to start the game or forfeit the game. The official batting order contains only nine (9) players. OK Kids substitution and re-substitution (re-entry) rules apply. Only nine (9) players will play in the field.
8. **Batters:** See VII—Special Playing Rules, rule #2.
9. **Number of pitches:** Five (5) pitches or three (3) missed swings, whichever comes first. If the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) pitch is hit foul, the pitcher will pitch again until batter misses the pitch, hits the ball fair or fouls out to a defensive player in the game. There can be no walks, including intentional walks. **CLARIFICATION:** If the batter has one strike after four pitches and hits a foul ball (a foul ball that is not caught or a foul tip that the catcher catches) on the fifth pitch he is allowed another pitch. If the batter has two strikes after four pitches and hits a foul ball that is not caught he is allowed another pitch but if the swing results in a foul tip caught by the catcher the batter is out.
10. **Bunts:** No “fake” bunting. Bunting is allowed; however, the batter is not allowed to indicate bunting to the degree that a fielder or fielders (other than the

pitcher - Section XII - #15) may charge toward the batter, and then withdraw the indicated bunt/position/stance in order to swing at the pitched ball. **PENALTY:** The ball/play is “dead” regardless of the result of the action and the batter will be called out. A bunt that goes foul on the third strike is an out.

11. **Base Running:** A base runner must have one foot on base once the ball is live and cannot leave the base until the batter has contacted the ball with the bat.

12. **Stopping play:** The lead runner has stopped advancing at the discretion of the umpire.

13. **Base Runners:** If a base runner has not passed a line one-half (1/2) the distance between the bases, including between third base and home plate, when play is stopped the runner must return to the previous base.

14. **Fielder Positions:** At least three (3) outfielders must stand behind the baselines.

15. **Player/Pitcher Position:** The player/pitcher must stand three (3) feet to the left or right of the pitching rubber. He cannot charge until the batter has contacted the ball with the bat. **PENALTY:** If the ball is contacted fair, batter is awarded first base and all base runners will be awarded one base OR the result of the play. The head coach of the batting team will select the penalty to be enforced.

16. **Overthrows:** The batter and/or base runners cannot advance on a dropped third (3<sup>rd</sup>) strike, passed ball, wild pitch or on a throw from the catcher to the pitcher following a pitch.

17. **Pitching Coach Interference:** The pitching coach must exit fair territory after the ball is hit and avoid contact.

**PENALTIES:** Runners return to the base they occupied as if it were a foul ball. Hit by thrown ball is the same penalty. Interfering with a player attempt to make a play results in the batter being out and no runners can advance.

18. **Run Rule:** Six (6) per inning or three (3) outs, whichever comes first. Game ending run rule same as 10u Baseball. **CLARIFICATION:** A team is allowed to score a maximum of six runs per inning. This applies in every inning, including the fifth inning or any extra inning.

19. **Game Length:** Five (5) innings and no time limit.
20. **Infield Fly Rule:** Does not apply, no infield fly rule.
21. **Umpires:** League games must have at least one umpire behind the plate. OK Kids Regional or State Tournaments must have at least two umpires per game.
22. **Number of Coaches:** Each team will be allowed a pitching coach, 1st base coach, 3rd base coach and a bench coach. The team scorekeeper will be allowed to sit in the dugout as well.
23. **Other Rules:** Any other rules not covered in the above set of rules will fall under OK Kids Baseball Rules.

## XIV – 6U TEE BALL

1. **Age Limit:** Boys and girls that were four (4), five (5) and six (6) years old as of January 1, 2021. A player must have been four (4) by January 1, 2021 and could not have been seven (7) before January 1, 2021. In 2021, boys and girls will play on the same team. In future years, OK Kids will consider creating a boys division and a girls division for Tee Ball.
2. **Base Distance:** 60 Feet
3. **Pitching Distance:** 42 Feet
4. **Ball:** A regular 9” baseball will be used for Tee Ball competition in the Regional and State Tournaments.
5. **Bat:** The following are the only bats approved for use in OK Kids 6u Tee Ball.
  - A. A wood bat.
  - B. Any bat permanently stamped by the manufacturer with the Official BBCOR Baseball logo.
  - C. Any bat permanently stamped by the manufacturer with the Official USA Baseball logo.
  - D. Any bat permanently stamped by the manufacturer with the Official bpf 1.15 logo.

\*OK kids reserves the right to disallow any bat at any time. If a bat is disallowed, it will be specifically listed.
6. **Fair Ball Arc:** There shall be a fifteen (15) foot arc, measured from the back of home plate, drawn from the 1<sup>st</sup> baseline to the 3<sup>rd</sup> baseline in front of home plate. A batted ball must touch this line or go past it to be considered a fair ball. If the ball is touched before reaching this line it is a foul ball.

7. **Defensive Safety Line:** A line shall exist, whether marked on the field or not marked, that begins 10 feet in front of first base on the foul line, then extends to the pitching rubber and from the pitching rubber to 10 feet in front of third base on the foul line. Infielders must stay behind this line until the ball is hit.
8. **Tee Ball Pitcher:** The pitcher must stand on the pitching rubber until the ball is hit. The pitcher cannot leave the rubber until the batter has contacted the ball with the bat. PENALTY: If the ball is contacted fair, the batter is awarded first base and all base runners will be awarded one base OR the result of the play. The head coach of the batting team will select which of the two possible penalties to be enforced.
9. **Number of Players:** A complete team is a minimum of ten (10) players to start a game. However, a team can start a game with nine (9) players and take an automatic out for the 10<sup>th</sup> batting spot. If a 10<sup>th</sup> player becomes available that player may take the place of the automatic out. There is free substitution on defense.
10. **Batters:** All players present when the game starts will bat in a batting order determined before the game by the head coach. Any players arriving late will be added to the bottom of the order. The batting order cannot change during a game. If a batter is unable to bat for any reason (for example: injury, illness, left the game), then the batting team must take an automatic out every time that batter is unable to bat. If a player is unable to bat, but then later in the game is able to bat, the player may bat and the team is not required to take an automatic out.
11. **Number of swings:** A batter shall receive a maximum of three (3) swings to put the ball in play or be called out. No additional swings shall be awarded on foul balls. If the bat strikes the tee, that is considered a swing but the ball is dead.
12. **Bunts:** Bunting is not allowed.
13. **Base Running:** A base runner must have one foot on base once the ball is live and cannot leave the base until the batter has contacted the ball with the bat. PENALTY: The runner shall be called out.

14. **Stopping play:** The lead runner has stopped advancing at the discretion of the umpire. When a runner stands off a base and “jukes” or “feints” back and forth, this is to be interpreted as “not attempting to advance” and “Time” shall be called.
15. **Base Runners:** If a base runner has not passed a line one-half (1/2) the distance between the bases, including between third base and home plate, when play is stopped the runner must return to the previous base.
16. **Fielder Positions:** There are ten (10) fielder positions, P, C, 1b, 2b, 3b, SS and four (4) OF. All four (4) outfielders must stand behind the baselines.
17. **Overthrows:** The Tee Ball overthrow rule has been revoked.
18. **Intentional Walks:** There are no intentional walks.
19. **Run Rule:** Six (6) per inning or three (3) outs, whichever comes first. Game ending run rule same as 10u Baseballs. **CLARIFICATION:** A team is allowed to score a maximum of six runs per inning. This applies in every inning, including the fifth inning or any extra inning.
20. **Game Length:** Five (5) innings and no time limit.
21. **Infield Fly Rule:** Does not apply, no infield fly rule.
22. **Umpires:** League games must have at least one umpire behind the plate. OK Kids Regional or State Tournaments must have at least two umpires per game.
23. **Number of Coaches:** Each team will be allowed four (4) coaches. When batting, a team can have a first base coach and third base coach. The other two coaches must remain in the dugout area. A home plate coach is not allowed. While playing defense, all four coaches must remain in the dugout area. Defensive coaches are not allowed on the field. The team scorekeeper will be allowed to sit in the dugout as well.

24. **Registration:** All league, team and player registration requirements will be the same as baseball unless specifically changed.
25. **Other Rules:** Any other rules not covered in the above set of rules will fall under OK Kids Baseball Rules.
26. **Important Dates:** See page 5 for reporting, Regional Tournament and State Tournament dates.

## XV - NOTES

OK Kids believes that no participant should be subjected to discrimination because of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, disability or parental status and encourages its member organizations to adopt the same policy.

Because all participants are selected at the local level, OK Kids encourages its member organizations to adopt appropriate procedures for selecting league officials, coaches, umpires and all persons involved with their organizations.

Individual organizations and leagues determine the fee for participation and the procedure for placing players on different teams. OK Kids is not involved in the fees and procedures at the local level.

### Communicable Disease Statement

While the risk of one athlete infecting another with HIV/AIDS or Hepatitis B during competition is close to non-existent, coaches, parents and players should be aware of this remote risk. Procedures for reducing the potential for transmission of these infectious diseases should be followed. Contact your local county health department or hospital for additional information.

If a league needs help organizing, solving problems or needs a copy of sample league rules for them to follow on a local level it should contact the President of OK Kids for help. The OK Kids President is available to visit your organization to assist your program.

The OK Kids Baseball Association welcomes any and all suggestions for the improvement of the Association.

It is not necessary for players to wear uniforms.

Publishing sources for ordering National Federation baseball rule books are: O.S.S.A.A., P.O. Box 14590, Oklahoma City, OK 73113-0592.

Advertising space is available in the OK Kids Baseball Association Rule Book. Anyone wishing to advertise should submit their bid or bids, to the OK Kids President or Executive Secretary-Treasurer on or before 2:00 p.m. on the day of the

Annual Meeting each year. Bids will be solicited on an annual basis. If you need further information, please contact the OK Kids President or Executive Secretary. Payment in full is due within seven (7) days of acceptance of the bid. The minimum bid is \$250.00.

If any city, town or organization hosting a tournament will send the OK Kids office this information we will post it on the OK Kids website.

The OK Kids Baseball Association Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. at the Oklahoma City Airport Hilton Garden Inn, 801 S. Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK 73108. The hotel phone number is (405) 942-1400. Everyone is welcome.

The referral to "he" in this rule book is for printing purposes only and should not be construed in any way as a discriminatory statement. "He" stands for he/she.

An OK Kids financial statement is available upon request. Write to the Executive Secretary-Treasurer at PO Box 367, Stroud, OK 74079,

**THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT:**

Any league president, that sponsors or manages a team, cannot rule on any protest involving his team.

Nobody should be elected president of a league in which he sponsors or manages a team if this can feasibly be prevented.

Each league should establish a sound and acceptable procedure for securing and assigning umpires.

**THESE ARE RECOMMENDATIONS, NOT PLAYING RULES**

The OK Kids Baseball Association reserves the right to make any corrections to these rules, as printed herein, due to human or printing error.