

# DARKE COUNTY 8U FALL BALL RULES

(NFHS rules will apply with the following exceptions)

1. Teams will field 10 players (including 4 outfielders.) Failure to field at least 8 players at any time will result in a forfeit. Forfeit time is 10 minutes after the scheduled game time. Forfeit rules only apply to year end tournament.
2. One defensive coach is encouraged to be in the outfield grass for instructional purposes.
3. A complete game consists of 6 innings. All league games will have a 1 hour and 30 minute time limit. No new inning after 1 hour and 30 minutes. All tournament pool play games will have a 2 hour time limit. No new inning after 2 hours. There is no time limit for tournament championship games.
4. Each half inning will consist of 3 outs or 6 runs. No run limit in the 6<sup>th</sup> inning and extra innings.
5. Run Rule is 15 runs after 4 complete innings and 10 runs after 5 complete innings. It is not necessary to play the bottom of the inning if the home team is winning unless it's a tournament pool play game since runs allowed is a tie breaker.
6. Base runners may not lead off until the ball crosses the plate. An umpire may call a runner out for leaving a base early.
7. Infield fly rule will not be enforced.
8. Batter is out on a dropped third strike. The catcher does not need to catch the third strike to complete the out.
9. The defensive pitcher must be within 6 feet of the rubber while the ball is pitched.
10. A hit ball will remain live until a defensive player has control of the ball in the infield. Once the infielder has control of the ball, time will be called. The baserunner can advance to the base they are going to, but can't advance past that base.
11. Batters will be given 6 pitches or 3 strikes. If the third pitch is fouled off the batter may keep hitting.
12. The maximum amount of 4 coaches allowed on the diamond/dugout.
13. Each half inning will consist of 3 outs or 6 runs. No run limit in the 6<sup>th</sup> inning and extra innings.
14. Courtesy runners are encouraged to help speed up the game. A courtesy runner may be used for the pitcher or catcher with 2 outs. The runner must be the player who made the last out at the plate.
15. Teams must roster bat entire roster with free substitution.
16. No altered or shaved bats allowed.
17. Coaches can pitch anywhere between home plate and the rubber. Any ball that hits the pitcher (coach) will be an immediate dead ball and the pitched again.
18. Batters will be called out for throwing bats. No warnings will be issued.
19. Players will only play on one team's roster for the tournament.
20. The maximum amount of kids on tournament roster is 15.
21. A runner who fails to slide to avoid contact may be called out. A player may face ejection if malicious contact was made. This is at the umpire's discretion.
22. Coin toss will determine home and away in all league and tournament pool play games. Home team in bracket play will be determined by the higher seed. If both teams have the same seed a coin flip will determine home and away.

23. Tie breakers for seeding purposes in tournament:

1. Win-Loss record
2. Head to head
3. Runs allowed
4. Run differential (max run differential is + or – 8 runs)
5. Coin flip

24. No amplified speakers allowed at the ballpark. ie. Walk up music.

25. No pets allowed on property.

26. No chatter from any players in the infield dirt.

7/30/22 KH