

# TENN-TOM DIZZY DEAN POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

## I. Common Rules (Rules applied to all age groups)

- a. Game time is 75 minutes or 6 innings.
  - i. New inning will begin if there is anytime remaining on the game clock.
  - ii. If the game is tied at the end of regulation in the regular season the game will be over.
- b. There will be no run rule applied in regular season matches.
- c. 7 runs per inning or 3 outs.
- d. There is a minimum of 8 players required for a regulation game to be played.
  - i. At the discretion of the opposing park director, they can agree to play if a team has under the minimum requirement for game play.
  - ii. If teams agree to play umpire shall remain to officiate the game.
- e. Each team is responsible for providing opposing team and umpire with batting lineup at pregame meeting with coaching staff and umpires.
  - i. Any player found batting out of order will result in an out.
- f. Host site is responsible for supplying game balls and umpires for each regular season and post season game.
- g. If any player is contacted in the head or face area by a batted ball the umpire shall immediately announce dead ball.
  - i. If the contact occurred in the infield all base runners shall advance only one base.
  - ii. If the contact occurred in the outfield all base runners shall advance two bases.
    1. Runners will advance from the base they occupied at the time of the pitch.
- h. If at any point during the game an injury occurs that results in a player leaving the game, there shall be no forfeiture or out charged to the team.
- i. All rostered players are to be placed in the batting lineup for regular season and post season games.
  - i. Late arrivals shall be placed at the bottom of the lineup.
- j. All rosters shall be completed by a scheduled draft.
  - i. Head coaches and assistant coaches shall be the only players selected for a specific team prior to the draft. Each team shall have a total of 3 coaches including the head coach except for coach pitch.
    1. Coach pitch – 4 coaches allowed including the head coach.
  - ii. Scheduled draft shall be communicated to other site directors and open for directors to join.
    1. Opposing site coaches are not permitted to attend drafts.
  - iii. During tournament play, any team found using a player not on the teams roster will automatically forfeit the contest.
- k. If a player squares to bunt and then swings the batter shall automatically be called out.
  - i. If the same player does this twice in one game the player shall be ejected from the contest
- l. All batters and base runners must always wear a helmet.

# TENN-TOM DIZZY DEAN POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

- m. No metal spikes (cleats) are allowed.
- n. Free substitutions on defense.
  - i. Baseball pitcher removed from the mound cannot return to the mound in the same contest.
  - ii. Softball can return if they don't leave the field during the inning.
  - iii. Softball pitchers can only return 1 time.
- o. No defensive coaches are allowed on the playing field in any age group.
- p. All league sites prohibit the use of all tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco and vapes inside the fence area.
  - i. Any coach found using tobacco on the playing field will be asked to leave the field by umpires or host site directors.
- q. Bats must meet the USSSA or USA bat guidelines for specific age group.
  - i. Coach pitch bats can only be used for coach pitch.
  - ii. Dizzy Dean ruling on bats will be applied if necessary for a specific bat.
    - 1. EX: if Dizzy Dean rules a bat to be ineligible for safety reasons, we will follow the same ruling.
- r. The head coach for each team is responsible for: his players, assistant coaches, and fans during each contest.
  - i. Any issue the umpire requests to be handled, the head coach must attempt to correspond to that request, or the head coach can be ejected.
- s. Dizzy Dean/USSSA rules for field dimensions.
- t. Rosters shall be turned in prior to season start to the league directors.
  - i. Rosters will be entered into a shared document to be viewed at any time by opposing directors.
  - ii. Directors shall not share photos or give access to documents to anyone.
  - iii. Any team found to have a travel ball roster shall be subject to removal from the league and all games canceled.
    - 1. If it is found the director was aware all teams for site will not be allowed to participate in the postseason tournament.
- u. Playing rules not specifically covered by league rules shall follow Dizzy Dean rules.

## II. Coach Pitch Rules (Boys & Girls)

- a. Foul ball arc will be marked 20 feet from home plate.
  - i. If a batted ball does not hit onto or past the arc it is a foul ball.
- b. Batter will receive 5 pitches or 3 swinging strikes.
  - i. If the 5<sup>th</sup> pitch is fouled the at bat will continue.
  - ii. NO WALKS
  - iii. If a batted ball contacts the pitching coach, it results in a NO pitch and doesn't count against the batter.

# TENN-TOM DIZZY DEAN POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

- c. The umpire shall call TIME when the defense has stopped the lead runner from advancing.
- d. No bunting allowed.
- e. Infield fly rule does not apply.
- f. Catchers Gear required.
  - i. Catcher's helmet and chest protector is required.
  - ii. Leg protectors are recommended but not required.
- g. Infield masks are recommended but not required.
- h. 10 Defensive players shall be placed on defense.
  - i. 4 players must be placed in the outfield.
  - ii. All outfielders must be in the outfield grass at the time of the pitch.
- i. Coaches must pitch from beyond the foul arc.
- j. Ball Size:
  - i. BCP – Regular Baseballs
  - ii. GCP – 11inch Fastpitch Balls

## III. Softball Rules – 10u & 12u

- a. Runner may only advance to the next base (steal) once the ball crosses home plate.
- b. A dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike is an automatic out.
- c. Infield face masks are recommended but not required.
- d. 10 Defensive players shall be placed on defense.
  - i. 4 players must be placed in the outfield.
  - ii. All outfielders must be in the outfield grass at the time of the pitch.

## IV. 10u Baseball Rules

- a. Base runners may not leave the base until the ball reaches home plate. Base runners leaving the base early (umpires' judgement) will be called out.
- b. If a pitcher, after coming in contact with the pitching rubber, with runner(s) on base, fakes a throw to home plate, a balk will be called; with no one on base a ball will be called. Each pitcher will receive 1 warning for a balk UNLESS it effects the play. (This will be an umpire judgement)
- c. If a pitcher stands in the vicinity of the pitching mound without possession of the ball to deceive the baserunners a balk will be called.

## **TENN-TOM DIZZY DEAN POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL**

- d. Dizzy Dean pitching rules will be applied.
- e. Trips to the mound – any manager who calls time and goes to the playing field twice in one inning, per pitcher to talk to a player or players, will be required to remove the current pitcher.
- f. Dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike is an automatic out.
- g. 9 Defensive players shall be placed on defense.

### **V. 12u Baseball Rules**

- a. Base runners may lead off and steal.
- b. Balks will be called at the umpires' discretion. Each pitcher will receive 1 warning for a balk UNLESS it effects the play. (This will be an umpire judgement)
- c. If a pitcher stands in the vicinity of the pitching mound without possession of the ball to deceive the baserunners a balk will be called.
- d. Dizzy Dean pitching rules will be applied.
- e. Trips to the mound – any manager who calls time and goes to the playing field twice in one inning, per pitcher to talk to a player or players, will be required to remove the current pitcher.
- f. A dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike, the runner must be thrown or tagged out.
  - i. If the runner does not attempt to run to 1<sup>st</sup> base the runner shall automatically be called out.
  - ii. If 1<sup>st</sup> base is occupied at the time of the pitch the batter will automatically be called out.

### **VI. Ejections and suspensions**

- a. Any player or coach who is ejected from a game or facility will receive an automatic one game suspension.
- b. Any spectator who is ejected from a game must be outside the facility.
- c. Any coach ejected from a game must sit out the remainder of that game and the next scheduled game.
  - i. Failure to do so will result in the immediate forfeit of the game. (If the next scheduled game is cancelled, the coach must sit out the next game being played)
- d. Host site directors have the authority to ask any player, coach, or fan to leave the playing field or vicinity at any time.

### **VII. Protest**

- a. All protest during regular season games will be settled on the field of play by the head umpire on the field.
  - i. The umpire will rule on the call at the time and the protest is over.
  - ii. During regular season play only the umpire may request advice from the site director if needed.

## **TENN-TOM DIZZY DEAN POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL**

- b. No protest will be allowed on any judgement calls.
- c. Only the head coach will be allowed to protest.
  - i. The coach that attends the pre-game meeting with the game officials will be identified as the head coach for that game.
- d. Coaches must call timeouts before entering the field and address any protest.
- e. During the league tournament, the head coaches may request the host site director or league commissioner to support in the ruling of a protest.

### **VIII. League Tournament**

- a. Rules in this section will be applied to end of year league tournament play only.
- b. Tournament will be a single elimination bracket.
- c. Seeding for the league tournament will be completed by blind draw only.
  - i. Blind draw date will be scheduled and announced at least 1 week prior to event.
  - ii. Head coaches and directors are recommended but not required to join.
- d. Each head coach is responsible for turning in completed baseball pitch count sheets following a game to the onsite director.
  - i. Onsite director should send the completed pitch count sheets to the league commissioner as soon as possible following the event.
  - ii. League commissioner will track pitch counts and communicate ineligible pitchers each day before the next event.
- e. Run rule will apply.
  - i. 15 after 3 innings
  - ii. 8 after 4 innings
- f. In the final championship game, no time limit will be applied. Game will be decided by 6 full innings.
  - i. Run rules will apply.