



of Virginia

## 2021 Invitational Playing Rules

### Pool Play Rules:

- Official game will end at 7 innings or at the completion of the last completed inning after the 1 hour and 20 minutes with no new inning to begin
- Games tied at completion of inning will end in a tie
- Unlimited defensive substitutions / Unlimited batters
- Courtesy runners for pitchers/catchers will be allowed per Rule 8 Section 10
- Home team will be determined by coin flip at home plate prior to start of game

### Bracket Play Rules:

- Official game will end at 7 innings or at the completion of the last completed inning after the 1 hour and 20 minutes with no new inning to begin
- Games tied at completion of last inning will begin international tie breaker at the top of the next inning with the batter to bat last being placed at 2<sup>nd</sup> base.
- Unlimited defensive substitutions / Unlimited batters
- Courtesy runners for pitchers/catchers will be allowed per Rule 8 Section 10
- Home team will be determined by higher seed. If teams are same seed, then a coin flip at home plate prior to start of game

**Mercy Rule:** 15 after 3, 12 after 4, 8 after 5

### Bracket Seeding:

Tie breaker rules for bracket seeding:

1. Win-loss record
2. Result of head-to-head competition
3. Fewest runs given up
4. Most runs scored
5. Coin flip

(Teams playing a 4th game in pool play does not count for bracket seeding. Teams playing an out of pool game will not count for bracket seeding)

04/01/21

### **Courtesy Runners (RULES EXPLAINED)**

Courtesy runners for the pitcher and/or catcher. We will use the JO Pool Play rule for the entire weekend. You can review Rule 8-10-C-Exception. "Any player can be used as a courtesy runner. If the Courtesy Runner is on base when it is their time at bat, the Courtesy Runner will bat and the player who the Courtesy Runner ran for will be called out." The coach just needs to make sure that there is no chance that the Courtesy Runner's turn at bat is coming up.

The following rules still apply:

(8-10-A3) Once a player runs for the catcher in a game, they will not be able to run for the pitcher (Umpires need to record this)

(8-10-D) A player may not be a substitute in the same inning that they were a courtesy runner (exception for injury)

(8-10-F) A courtesy runner cannot be replaced with the pitcher/catcher or another courtesy runner (exception for injury)

If a coach realizes that the Courtesy Runner's turn at bat is coming up and they do not want to take an out; they can replace the Courtesy Runner with a legal substitute. This would be a substitute for the pitcher/catcher who the Courtesy Runner was running for.

**RULE 8**  
**SECTION 10 - COURTESY RUNNERS (Fast Pitch / Modified)**

**A.** The team at bat may use a courtesy runner:

1. For the pitcher and/or the catcher providing the pitcher or catcher bats for themselves and reaches base safely.
2. Neither the pitcher nor the catcher will be required to leave the game under such circumstances.
3. The same courtesy runner may not run for both the pitcher and the catcher at any time during the game.
4. Defensive changes involving the pitcher or catcher must be reported to the umpire to ensure the correct player may have a courtesy runner.

**B.** In the top of the first inning only, the pitcher and catcher are identified as those players listed on the line-up as the pitcher or catcher. Thereafter, the pitcher and catcher are identified as the last players who physically played that position on defense. If a substitute enters for the pitcher or catcher in the following offensive half-inning and reaches base safely, should the pitcher or catcher re-enter, the courtesy runner is not permitted for the pitcher or catcher until after their next turn at-bat.

**C.** Players who are currently in the game or have participated in the game in any playing capacity are not eligible to serve as courtesy runners.

**Exception:** *Junior Olympic Fast Pitch Pool Play only, any player can be used as a courtesy runner. If this player is on base when it is their time at bat:*

1. *The player who the courtesy runner is running for will be called out.*
2. *The courtesy runner will be removed from the base and take their turn at bat.*

**D.** A player may not be a substitute for any player in the half inning that they participated as a courtesy runner.

**Exception:** *Should an injury or disqualification occur and no substitutes are available, the courtesy runner must be used as a substitute and take the place of the injured player. Should the courtesy runner be on base and is entered as a substitute, the pitcher or catcher for whom the courtesy runner is running must run in their place.*

**E.** If the DP bats for the pitcher or catcher and reaches base safely, a courtesy runner is not permitted to run for the Designated Player (DP), or their substitute, including the pitcher or catcher.

**F.** Once the courtesy runner is designated for that half-inning, the pitcher or catcher for whom they are running may not return to run while that courtesy runner is on base. A courtesy runner cannot run for a courtesy runner.

**Exception:** *Should an injury or disqualification occur to any offensive player, and no eligible substitutes are available, the courtesy runner must take the place of the injured or disqualified player. In this case, the courtesy runner enters as a substitute and the pitcher or catcher for whom the courtesy runner is running must run in their place.*

**G.** A courtesy runner must be reported to the plate umpire.

**Effect - Section 10A-G:** *If a courtesy runner fails to report or violates the Courtesy Runner Rule, they are considered:*

1. *An illegal runner.*
2. *Shall be disqualified.*