

PASADENA PEE WEE LEAGUE

GROUND RULES

(To be used in conjunction with the PONY Rule Book and MLB Rules)

OFFENSE

Batting:

All divisions: Teams will bat in rotation.

Shetland (Jr Tball and Tball): Prior to the ball being placed on the tee, the batter may “check swing” without penalty. Once the ball is placed on the tee, “check swings” will not be permitted; Penalty: Each “check swing” will be called a strike.

Mustang and Bronco: Batters will not be permitted to show bunt then pull back and fully swing (fake bunt).

Refusal to bat –

Shetland (Jr Tball and Tball): A batter MUST come to the plate before it is determined the batter refuses to bat.

Upon the batter’s first appearance at the plate he/she refuses to bat, they will be skipped without penalty (no out will be called) and the batting order will continue as per the line-up.

If upon the batters next at bat they continue to refuse to bat they MUST be removed from the line-up completely (without penalty) and cannot be added back to the line-up for that game.

Pinto, Mustang, and Bronco: All batters MUST bat. Refusal to bat will result in an automatic out of the batter.

Batting out of order –

Batters who did not come to the plate during their at bat can be called out if the opposing teams Manager brings the issue to the attention of the umpire AFTER the incorrect batter has batted and BEFORE the next batter has begun his/her at bat. If the opposing teams Manager fails to bring the issue to the

attention of the umpire at the correct time there will be no penalty imposed.

Official Scorekeepers record the batters as they appear at the plate. Announcers should announce the batting order as per the line-up!

Only the Umpire can ask the official scorekeeper about the batting order. If the official scorekeeper or announcer notifies the Manager or Coach(s) of the team about an incorrect batting order it will result in an automatic out of the batter.

Line-up changes –

Late players: Those not present upon the start of the game and whose at bat is approaching in the batting order shall be moved to the bottom of the line-up.

Any player who has not shown up for the game by the time they are called up for their first at bat shall be removed from the batting order completely.

Removed players: Once a player has been removed from the batting order the player cannot be added back to the game roster or enter the game.

Once a team has batted through their entire batting order no changes to the batting order are permitted.

Sick or injured players: Manager must call time and notify Head Umpire and Opposing Manager of a sick or injured player. The sick or injured player may be removed from the lineup without penalty (will not result in outs). Once removed from the lineup the player may NOT re-enter the game.

Assisting batters at the plate –

Shetland Jr Tball (4 year olds): A coach may position the batter. Once the batter has been positioned the assisting coach must step

out of the batter’s box and cannot assist in coaching any other players on the field (I.e. base runners). The coach assisting the batters will be permitted on the field strictly to position the batters.

Shetland Tball (5 & 6 year olds), Pinto, Mustang, and Bronco: Coaches are not permitted to physically position batters at the plate or stand near the batter’s box during games.

Stealing bases –

Shetland (Jr Tball and Tball) and Pinto: Stealing is not permitted. Base runners must remain in contact with the base until the ball is hit.

Mustang and Bronco: See PONY rule 9M(1). Runners may lead-off and steal bases, as in Official Baseball Rules.

DEFENSE

Throwing –

Fielders must use an overhand throw. No underhand throws will be permitted unless the fielders are in close proximity of each other in which case a soft toss may be used to make a baseball play.

Throwing intentional grounders in attempt to make a play is not permitted.

Fielding -

Shetland (Jr Tball and Tball): Fielders must play their position no further in than the edge of the grass. Fielders must throw the ball to the teammate best positioned to make the play. A fielder running all over the field in attempt to chase down a runner for an out is not permitted.

Pitchers, or players in the pitching position, will be permitted to make a play dependent upon which way the ball is leading him/her.

Pitchers shall remain in contact with the pitcher’s plate until the ball is hit by the batter. PENALTY: A balk shall be called. (See PONY rule 10B(1)C). It is recommended that players in the pitching position make a pitching motion from the pitcher’s plate prior to each batters swing.

All divisions: Each field position must be filled. Exceptions will only be made for an outfield position if a team is short players.

Overthrown balls –

Shetland Jr Tball (4 year olds): Overthrown balls will be considered an automatic dead ball and base runners will advance one base.

Shetland Tball (5 & 6 year olds), Pinto, Mustang, and Bronco: Overthrown balls will be considered live balls unless the ball goes into the dugout or under the fence.

Coaches on the field –

Shetland Jr Tball (4 year olds): Allowed 3 coaches on the field for Offense and Defense positioned at 1st, 2nd, and 3rd base in the grass areas. Coaches will not be permitted to stand in the base paths or on/over the bases.

Shetland Tball (5 & 6 year olds), Pinto, Mustang, and Bronco: Allowed only 2 coaches on Offense; One at 1st base and one at 3rd base. While on Defense only 4 coaches will be allowed on the field and must remain in the coaches area designated in front of the dugout.

All Divisions: At no time will coaching from behind the fence (I.e. At the backstop, in the stands) be permitted by anyone, including spectators. Coaching from behind the fence will result in a penalty to the corresponding teams Manager. One warning will be issued to

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the team Manager. Further violations after the warning has been issued will result in the ejection of the Manager from the game.

SAFETY

Batters on deck –

Must be positioned behind 1st or 3rd base (respectively to their dugout) and behind their coaching staff.

Sliding –

Sliding head first into a base will not be permitted unless the base runner is heading back to a base. All other instances of sliding head first into a base will result in an automatic out of the runner.

Retrieving bats –

Any player retrieving a bat MUST be wearing a helmet.

Throwing bats or protective headgear –

See PONY rule 18E(4). This rule will also apply to unintentional throwing (slips) of bats as this poses a safety issue on the field.

One warning will be issued by the Umpire before the penalty is imposed. Further violation of this rule after the warning has been issued will result in an automatic out of the batter.

Dugouts –

Only players, coaches and/or one Team Parent will be permitted in the dugouts.

Adults in the dugouts should ensure players remain seated on the bench unless they are up to bat. No players should be permitted to leave the dugout without first notifying the supervising adult in the team dugout.

Authorized personnel –

All Managers, Assistant Coaches, and Team Mom's should be wearing their league issued badges authorizing them to step on the field or in the dugouts.

Parents, spectators, and any volunteer not wearing a league issued badge will not be permitted on the field, with the exception of the umpire(s).

In case of injury to a player, the parent or guardian should allow the Team Manager, Umpire, and/or League Officials to determine if the parent is needed on the field before stepping onto the field.

OTHER

Length of games –

Shetland (Jr Tball – 4yr olds):	1 hr 15 min
Shetland Tball (5/6 yo),	1 hr 30 min
Pinto (8U), Mustang (10U):	
Bronco (12U):	1 hr 45 min

Runs per inning –

Shetland (Jr Tball and Tball): Teams shall not score more than five runs per inning except in the sixth or extra inning, where they may score ten runs.

Pinto, Mustang, and Bronco: Teams shall not score more than five runs per inning except in the sixth or extra inning which is open.

Protests & Appeals –

See PONY rule book, Section 19 – Protests.

Appeals of calls can only be requested for a rule violation, not an umpire's judgment call.

Only the team Manager will be permitted to request an appeal by calling time and

approaching the Umpire in Chief. The rule which was violated must be pointed out in the rule book to the Umpire in Chief within 2 minutes of the requested appeal.

"Pick-up" Players -

If a team has fewer than 9 players present prior to the start of the game they may use a "pick-up" player from another team, under the following conditions:

1. The player must be registered with PPWL for the current playing season.
2. The player can **ONLY** play in the outfield and **must not** be a pitcher, catcher, or infielder.
3. The player may be from the same division or one division lower.
4. The player must be placed at the bottom of the batting order.

A team will only be allowed to use a maximum of 2 "pick-up" players to fill a roster of 9. Pick-up players will be limited to participating in a maximum of 2 games per day.

Uniformity –

All players must be in their league issued **full uniform** while in the game (i.e. No players with a plain team colored shirt will be permitted to enter a game).

Modifications to league issued uniforms are not permitted, with the exception of hat embroidery.

All players must be in the same team uniform from head to toe, unless the player is a pick-up player.

Forfeits –

Teams failing to field a minimum of 8 players fifteen minutes past the scheduled start time of the game will automatically forfeit their game.

"Gentlemen's agreements" made in pre-game talks at the plate between the two opposing Managers to "play it out" with fewer than 8 players **will not be permitted**. Teams will be permitted to use their scheduled game time to play a game but it will still count as a forfeit for the team with the short roster.

Intentional forfeits will result in the forfeiting team being held responsible for paying the umpire fees for that game. *This does not apply to forfeits due to lack of players.*

Conduct –

Teams are responsible for cleaning their stands and dugout area at the completion of their game.

Any Manager failing to ensure their teams dugout and stands have been cleaned at the completion of the game will result in the suspension of the team Manager for one game. *Please keep in mind, the league can be fined by the City for extraordinary trash pickup.*

Verbal or visible teasing and/or taunting of players, foul language, obscene gestures, etc. will not be tolerated from anyone. Any violations of this rule will result in the ejection and one game suspension of the team Manager as well as the party(s) in violation.

While games are in play, Managers are not permitted to leave the field.

Cell phone use is not permitted on the field.

The organization league officers shall have the authority to suspend, discharge or otherwise discipline any player, manager, coach, umpire, organization league officer or other person whose conduct is in violation of the rules and regulations of PONY Baseball and/or considered detrimental to the best interest of the organization league.