

# West Central Baseball Association Tournament Rules

Humboldt, SD – South end of Town  
12U Tournament

**Division Age Limit is determined by age on January 1st**

## **No Protest allowed:**

The home umpire will settle disputes on the field.

## **Equipment:**

For the team batting, the batter, base runners, bat boys and any players acting as base coach and any players out of the dugout must wear a helmet that covers both ears.

Catchers must wear a mask, helmet, chest protectors and shin guards. This includes catchers warming up a pitcher.

Metal cleats are not allowed in either division.

Bats may be no more than 2 5/8 inches in diameter and no more than 33 inches in length. Any illegal bat will be removed, and the batter is out. Any 2 5/8-inch bat must have a USA baseball sticker.

## **Sportsmanship:**

This is a no tolerance tournament. Bad sportsmanship is subject to ejection from the game and/or tournament upon the umpire's discretion.

## **Game Length:**

All games in both divisions will be a maximum of 6 innings, but **no inning will begin after one hour and 25 minutes.**

The 10-run rule will be in effect after 4 innings and 15 run rule will be in effect after 3 innings.

Games will go extra innings if needed to determine a winner, with the last batter of the previous inning starting on 2<sup>nd</sup> base.

## **Pitching Rules:**

2 innings per game/6 innings for the tournament.

1 pitch is considered 1 inning.

Any violation to the pitching rules (innings pitched) will result in a forfeit of that game.

Pitchers will be allowed 5 warm up pitches between innings.

There is no balk rule for either division (there will be no balks).

If the pitcher takes another position in the field, he/she may not pitch again in that game.

**Substitution:**

Teams must have 8 players to start the game. The 9th spot is an automatic out. If a team decides to bat the entire roster in batting order and a player gets hurt, then that spot in the lineup is also an automatic out. Rationale – a team playing 8 players should not have any advantage of batting fewer players. A team batting everyone should never be able to fake an injury to skip a player in the batting order.

Teams play the field with 9 players, but can bat 9, 10 or entire roster.

Open substitution allowed in the field, but of course batting order is not open. Players must enter/reenter game in the same spot in the batting order. For clarification, 2 players who occupy the same re-entry position in the batting order may not be in the field at the same time.

Courtesy runners are encouraged for catchers at any point of an inning and must be a bench player. If all players are entered into the game, then use the last out as the courtesy runner.

**Base Running:**

12U: Stealing is permitted. However, the runner cannot leave the base until the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. The runner is out if he/she leaves the base early.

12U: The batter may run on a dropped third strike.

12U: Home is open.

**Slide Rule in effect:**

If a fielder has the ball before the runner reaches 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or home, the runner is out if contact is made without the runner sliding, umpire discretion will be applied, and decision is final.

**Pool Play tie breaker criteria to be applied only once.**

1. Record
2. Head to head
3. Runs allowed
4. Runs scored
5. Coin flip

**Awards:**

Each player on the championship team will receive an award.

Each player on the runner-up team will receive an award.

**Tournament Director:**

Matt Cain (605) 366-8930