Wheat City Classic
2024

*Game balls will be provided and given to the umpires. (All age groups, including u13 will use a 12" ball)

1 - Rules - All decisions of the umpires and the Tournament Committee are final. There will be zero tolerance on any form of harassment towards the umpires. Anyone ejected from a game will be automatically ejected for the remainder of the tournament.

2 - Distances - Pitching distance and distance between bases

Age Group	Pitching Distance	Base Distance	Innings Played
U13	38 feet	55 feet	6
U15	40 feet	60 feet	7
U17	43 feet	60 feet	7

3 - Length of games - U13 teams will play 6 inning games while the U15 and U17 teams will play 7 inning games. For all round robin games, no new inning will start 105 minutes after the conclusion of the pregame meeting between the umpires and the coaches. There will be no time limit for playoff games.

4. Home team will be determined by a coin flip for round robin games. Home team will be awarded to the higher seed in ALL playoff games.

5 - Run Ahead Rule - shall result in the conclusion of the game when:

1) After 2.5 (if home team is ahead) or 3 complete innings of play there is a difference of 15 or more runs.

2) After 3.5 (if home team is ahead) or 4 complete innings of play there is a difference of 10 or more runs.

3) After 4.5, 5, 5.5 or 6 complete innings of play there is a difference of 7 or more runs.

6 - Tied games - Providing that there is still time remaining on the 105 minute clock, should a game be tied after 6 innings for the U13 division and 7 innings for the U15 and U17

divisions, the International Tiebreaker Rule will be used with the following modification: only 1 extra inning is to be played under the tie breaker rule. The game remains tied if still tied after one extra inning played. Note that the innings pitched limit rule at U13 is waived for the tie breaking inning.

7 - Suspended Play - If for any reason, the game is stopped, it shall resume from the exact point it left off (unless listed otherwise below).

a. Restart of such games must be made with the same line-up as existed when the game was called.

b. Subsequent play will follow the rules for substitute players as defined in the official rulebook.

c. Any games in progress at the time of suspension will be considered as complete if 4 innings have been completed (3½ if home team is ahead) of a U13 game or 5 innings have been completed (4½ if home team is ahead) of a U15,or U17 game. If the game has not completed the required number of innings to be considered a complete game, the game will be suspended and completed at a later date.

8 - Batting Line-Up - For all tournament games, teams must submit line-up cards to the home plate umpire prior to each game. In the event of any dispute regarding the batting line-up, the line-up card handed to the home plate umpire prior to the game shall be considered the official line-up. For U13 games, roster batting is mandatory. All players on the line-up card must bat. In the event a player is injured during the game and is unable to take their turn at bat their name shall be removed from the batting order and they will be ineligible to return under any circumstances for the balance of the game. The team will not record an out in the batting spot formerly occupied by the injured player. For U15 and U17 games, roster batting will not be permitted. U15 and U17 teams will have the option to use the designated player / flex player rule.

9 - Conferences - For U13 games, the conference rule is waived. For U15 and U17 games, only three (3) defensive conferences are allowed per game.

10 - Innings Pitched - For U13 games, a pitcher will not be permitted to pitch more than three (3) innings per game. One (1) pitch constitutes an inning. If a game goes into extra an extra inning, teams may re-enter a pitcher who has thrown 3 innings. Penalty for use of pitchers beyond innings allowed will be defaulting the game. For U15 and U17 games, there is no limit on innings pitched.

11 - Schedule - Schedule may change to keep the tournament on schedule. Teams must be ready to start their games up to 30 minutes earlier than the scheduled time if requested to do so by the Tournament Officials. Home team and Away team with be predetermined for round robin games. For semi-final and final games, the higher seeded team will be the home team. The home team will occupy the third base side dugout while the away team will take the first base side dugout.

12 - Official Scorekeeper - The home team is designated as the official scorekeeper. The home team scorekeeper is to pick up the scoresheet at the tournament table and return it after the game. The scorekeeper must keep track of the pitchers used in each inning for the U13 age group.

13. - Infield Fly - The infield fly rule is in effect at all age groups.

14 - Dropped Third Strike - For U13 games, the dropped third strike rule shall not apply. The batter is out. Base runners may advance at their own risk with liability to be put out. The dropped third strike rule is in effect for U15 and U17 games.

18 - Temporary Runner - To speed up game play, teams are encouraged to use a temporary runner for their pitcher and catcher when there are 2 outs. The player furthest away in the order shall occupy the base in place of their pitcher or catcher.

19 - Tie Breaking - Teams will be awarded 2 points for a win and 1 point for a tie. If two or more teams are tied in the standings, the tie breaker will be applied in the order below with no reverting back.

  1 - The team with the most points in the standings
  2- The winning team of their head-to-head match up
  2 - The team that has won the most games in the tournament round robin overall
  3 - The team that has won the most games in the tournament among the tied teams;
  4 - The team with the greatest positive ratio of runs scored by offensive out minus runs allowed by defensive out.
  5 - The team who has scored the most runs in the tournament round robin overall.
  6 - The team who has given up the least runs in the tournament round robin overall.
  7 - Coin toss