

# 2025 BRONCO DIVISION RULES

1. The Bronco Division is for player's ages 11 and 12. At the discretion of the McHenry Baseball Association board, a 13-year-old may play in the Bronco Division if that player is determined to have a physical and/or mental handicap, and is judged not ready for Pony competition. A doctor's report should accompany all requests.
2. The Bronco Division shall play on a field with the following dimensions:
  - a. 50 ft. pitching distance
  - b. 70 ft. bases
3. A regulation game consists of 6 innings. No inning may start after the game is 2 hours old, but once started, an inning must be completed regardless of time limit except as stated under ENDING A GAME (Rule 4) in the High School Rule Book of the current year. The umpire's watch is official and the game starts when the umpire says, "play ball". If after 6 innings the score is tied and the time limit has not expired, the 7th inning would start, the time being measured by the end of the preceding inning.
4. The Bronco Division shall use 4 innings as a regulation shortened game, whereas the Rule Book uses 5 innings; i.e., in all articles under ENDING THE GAME (Rule 4), the innings used will be one less than stated. This includes games shortened because of time limit or slaughter rule.
5. A game may end in a tie only if the time limit has been reached. If six innings end in a tie and the time limit has not been reached, then the game will proceed to the next inning.
6. The slaughter rule in the Bronco Division shall be 12 runs at any time after 3-½(Bottom of the 4th) innings if the home team is ahead or after 4 complete innings if the visiting team is ahead.
7. The batting order shall be one (1) through the number of players who show up for the game. Players can move in and out of the lineup at any time (free substitution), except a player who has pitched and been replaced can not return to pitch. Substitutes do not have to report to the umpires. If a player has to leave the game for any reason, an out is not recorded unless batting order goes below 9 (nine).
8. Each and every player who shows up for the game must play at least three innings in the field.
9. Forfeits are not allowed.
10. No pitcher may pitch in more than 6 outs in a game. Pitchers must pitch in consecutive innings. For Fall Ball only, travel players can pitch only 3 outs per game.
11. Use of an ineligible pitcher whether intentional or inadvertent will result in forfeiture of the game

to the opposing team providing the manager or coach of the opposing team notifies the League President or Division Vice President within 48 hours of the end of the game.

12. No breaking balls are allowed by twisting the wrist. One warning will be issued; a second offense will require a pitching change.
13. Balks shall be called as follows: (Refer to the High School Association Baseball Rule Book)
  - a. Failing to make a pitch
  - b. Making any feint toward a runner at first base while making contact with the rubber.
  - c. Taking a hand off the ball while in the set position.
  - d. Pitcher cannot be within 5 feet of the rubber without the ball.A warning will be issued on first balk; second time for the same offense per pitcher, then a base will be awarded.
14. There will be no stealing of home on the pitch and no delayed steal. The runner is out at the umpire's discretion. A runner may advance to home on a passed ball(a ball that doesn't get to its intended receiver) or a wild pitch.
15. There will be no suicide squeeze. If this occurs the player shall be called out and the ball is dead.
16. No batter may "square away" or "show" bunt and then pull the bat back and swing away at a pitch. Violation of this rule will result in the batter being called out. The ball becomes dead at this time.
17. Protests will not be allowed. The decision of the umpire will be final.
18. It is permissible to have a maximum of 2 adults within the playing field. Two adults may serve as base coaches.
19. Call-ups: The Bronco Division VP must be notified. The VP will then select the additional players. The called-up player(s) must play the outfield and bat last in the lineup. Call up players must be 2nd year Mustang(10U) whenever possible. If more players are called up than can play the outfield, they can play any infield position except pitcher and catcher. The called up player(s) who becomes the 10<sup>th</sup> player, or higher, must play the outfield only, bat last in the lineup, and may only play the outfield for 3 innings. If during the game the team's missing player(s) arrive, they must be put into the game replacing the called-up players. All players at the game must play the field and bat.
20. Once a pitcher has hit two players in an inning and a base has been awarded in each case for being hit with a pitch, the umpire must have the pitcher replaced.
21. If the next innings catcher or pitcher is on base with two outs, the player who made the last out must replace him as a runner on base.
22. Managers and/or coaches are limited to one trip to the mound per pitcher, per inning. On the second trip in a single inning the pitcher must be removed. Once the pitcher is removed he

may not return to pitch in that game. Trips to the mound for injury do not count as a mound visit.

23. Intentional walks shall be awarded without throwing a pitch. The manager should direct the umpire to award the batter first base.
24. Each team's half inning consists of 3 outs. A team will continue to bat until 3 outs are made or until 6 runs are scored. The only exception to the run limit is if a home run is hit that exceeds the 6 run limit. In the 6th inning and extra innings there is no run limit.
25. The batting team may score as many runs above 6 as runners on base including the batter if the batter hits a home run over the fence
26. All rules are subject to change per MBA board discretion.
27. Coaches must meet with the umpire for ground rules prior to the start of the game. Coaches must also exchange line up cards at this time.
28. Home team is responsible for field set up. Field set up includes: Lining the batter's box, lining the base lines, putting in the bases and making sure the field is in playable shape. Visiting team is responsible for operating the scoreboard and supplying an adult for concessions should it be necessary. Both teams are responsible for field clean up.
29. Home team dugout is on the third base side. Visiting team dugout is on the first base side.
30. The game schedule stands. Only rain outs will be rescheduled.