



# **2024 RULE BOOK**

**Utah Boys Baseball Association**

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## MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to instruct, train, organize, and encourage competitive baseball. To help our youth acquire ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, and courage. To help build a strong foundation for life!

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose for which this Association was formed is for charitable and educational purposes and to organize, instruct, train, promote, and encourage games for youth. This Association is also for the purpose of improving capabilities through providing a system of coordination in the use of uniform and consistent rules and regulations. It is the goal of this Association to help youth acquire ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, and courage thereby combating community deterioration and juvenile delinquency. There shall be no distinction as to gender in the U.B.B.A. program. Girls shall be allowed to tryout and be assigned to teams on an equal basis.

## THE U.B.B.A. RULE BOOK

The U.B.B.A. has adopted the baseball rules of the High School Federation as their official playing rules. The information contained in this rule book is designed to make the game meet with the U.B.B.A. philosophy, and the information herein will act as a supplemental to anything found in the rule books produced by the High School Federation.

The rules contained in this rulebook are only recommended guidelines for league play. Local league administrators should govern their leagues in a manner that is best for their individual communities. However, understand that these rules will be the governing force for all state tournament play. Therefore, it is highly recommended that leagues follow the rules contained herein during league play as closely as possible to alleviate confusion during state tournaments.

**REVISED MARCH 2024**

**By the U.B.B.A. Executive Board**

## PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES

This Association and its Member Leagues shall be entirely non-profit and non-commercial. NOTE: sponsorship and contributions from commercial organizations, whose products or activities are not compatible with the best interest of youth, shall not be welcomed by this Association or its Member Leagues. Any sponsorship or contribution shall terminate the donors' authorities or controls over the Member League or this Association.

The Member League may, at the discretion of its Board of Directors attach a sponsor's name to the front of the uniform shirt of the team sponsored, and this shall be considered as justified recognition and gratitude to the sponsor for financial support. A sign or signs on an outfield fence, done in good taste, and properly displayed in an effort to acquire funds for the operation of the program shall not be considered improper. Any over emphasis of commercialism or exploitation will not be condoned.

This Association or its Member Leagues shall not engage in commercial activities nor engage in the sale or promotion of goods, products, or services not directly connected with the program of U.B.B.A.

All changes of rules, policies or government of this Association have and will continue to be made by elected representatives of the member leagues in the annual meeting. Member leagues may propose rule, governmental, or policy changes by submitting said proposals for inclusion as an agenda item for the Winter meeting 60 days prior to the meeting date. Member leagues may also propose rule, governmental, or policy changes on the floor of the convention at the appropriate time.

## LOCAL LEAGUE RULES

Local league rules are established in this book for the purpose of giving suggested guidelines for all organized leagues. Local leagues will be governed by community Directors and/or local associations.

1. Each individual league shall be governed and operated by a Community Recreation Department or a League Board of Directors.
2. Annually the membership of the league shall hold an election at which time all directors of the League shall be elected except for team managers. As soon thereafter as possible, these elected directors shall meet and elect (or re-elect) the team managers for the ensuing year. Upon election, the team managers then become directors of the league, and the entire Board of Directors shall elect their Officers for the year.
3. School grade will determine what league a player is in rather than date of birth. See Administration section for league breakdowns.
  - a) In cases of academic advancement, youth will play with the group or grade they start with.
4. Each community will determine the number of leagues in their respective community and/or area and will also determine league boundaries.

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5. It is suggested that each league be composed of the number of teams that best meets the community or league needs. U.B.B.A. suggests the maximum team size be 12-13 players per team.
6. Players must be registered with a community recreation department in order to be eligible to play in U.B.B.A. State Tournament.
7. All leagues should be encouraged to play each player at least half of each game. Equitable playing time for all youth is strongly suggested.
8. U.B.B.A. will permit local communities to govern their own league's play.

### THE BOUNDARIES OF THE LEAGUE

1. The League shall establish definite geographical boundaries. U.B.B.A. suggests city limits to serve as league boundaries. Communities that do not have a league serving their population are encouraged to participate in a neighboring league.
2. Only widely separated communities making up a league may establish individual team boundaries.
3. Once a youth becomes a member of a team, and later moves from within the League boundaries, or if the League boundaries are changed at a later date in such a manner as to then leave the youth outside the new boundaries, the Board of Directors of the League may maintain the youth as a League member and player for the duration of their time in that division; provided that the youth desires to remain as a player in that league and providing they can fulfill their obligations to their team.
4. Boundaries approved by this Association will be protected and no other league shall be franchised to draw candidates from the same area.
5. Players that are living in the borders of a geographical city but feed to a neighboring High School will have the option to play in either cities recreation league. (High School boundaries, not Junior High or Elementary boundaries).
  - a) Players are encouraged to choose a community and remain there during their U.B.B.A. participation.
  - b) This rule is for players that are caught between city and school catchment boundaries and is not intended for politics and/or jockeying.
  - c) Players should play within their boundaries. If, for any reason, a player wishes to play in another league outside of their boundary, they must:
    - i) Obtain an application from their current recreation department.

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- ii) Explain why and get the current league director's signature.
- iii) Explain why and get the transfer league director's signature.
- iv) Present application with both signatures to U.B.B.A. Board for approval.

This must be done before player can register outside their league boundary.

### MANAGERS / COACHES

1. The conduct of a manager/coach on the field should be of the highest caliber at all times and should reflect the best interest of the youth involved. Personality and leadership are more important than sheer knowledge of baseball. A manager/coach may be replaced at any time if the Board of Directors of the league should desire it by a majority vote. Managers shall select a coach of their choice, subject to approval of the Board of Directors of the league. Managers/coaches should not incite the fans or the players by their actions. Managers/coaches should help ensure spectator conduct is positive and does not detract from the game. The manager and/or coach should confine themselves to the dugout or approved area during a game unless conferring with an umpire or player under authorized baseball conditions.
2. Only two adult coaches may be on the field, coaching bases, while their team is at bat. When their team is on defense, coaches will remain in the dugout or extended area.
3. The use of tobacco chew, smoking, alcohol, or un-prescribed drugs in any form by player, coaches, or adult leaders in the dugout, bench, on the playing field, or any time during the game, is not permitted and such offenders are ineligible for further participation in U.B.B.A. play for the year.

### UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

1. Unsportsmanlike behavior of any manager, coach or player will not be tolerated.
  - a) If a manager or coach is removed from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct, he must leave the facility, out of sight and out of sound or his team will be caused to forfeit. That person will be suspended for the next scheduled game.
  - b) An ejected player can remain in the dugout if there is no adult for the player to leave with. If there are any further conduct related issues with this ejected player during the remainder of the game, he must leave the facility or his team will be caused to forfeit. An ejected player will be suspended for their team's next scheduled game.
  - c) The offending person will be asked to meet with their own community or Area Director.
2. Coaches should encourage sportsmanship for their own fans at all games.

## TEAM AND PLAYER ASSIGNMENTS

1. Organization of teams will be under the direction of each community. The selection and assignment of players will be on a fair and equitable basis (including grade). The intent is to create equality within leagues. Each city must have their selection method approved by the State Board.  
Suggested methods to select or assign players are as follows:
  - a) Lottery
  - b) Alternate free selection
  - c) Blind draft selection
2. U.B.B.A. does not allow for the major-minor/ A-B teams league establishment.
3. Players may automatically be placed on a team without going throughout the normal draft process as determined by a community recreation department or league board of directors.
4. The head coach cannot be a rotated position from year to year for the purpose of gaining players.
5. All other players must go through the normal draft of players. All boys or girls who register must be placed on a team. **Please refer to the Official U.B.B.A. Draft Policy found on-line.**
6. All players and candidates must have residency within the franchised boundaries of the League at the start of the official try-out sessions. The Board of Directors of the League must approve any exceptions to this rule of eligibility.
7. Prior to the player selection, the League President must certify the eligibility of each and every candidate.
8. When a player has been assigned to a team, he must remain on that team as long as he remains in that league. The league Director must approve exceptions to this rule.
  - a) Cities or leagues may opt to re-draft teams each year. If a city chooses to re-draft, it will be done in all U.B.B.A. associated leagues that are offered by that city. It will be expected that once a city changes its' draft system, it will continue with the new system in future years.
9. A copy of each team roster must be submitted via email, using the standard U.B.B.A. roster form. Rosters and registration fees for each team are to be sent to the Treasurer. League Directors must advise U.B.B.A. of any roster changes as they occur.
10. Only the players on the registered roster of a team shall be in uniform.

## THE GAME

### 1. A Regulation Game:

- a) Mustang and Pinto leagues shall be for six innings or a time limit set by communities or Area Directors.
- b) Mustang league and tournament games will play a six run offensive limit during the first two innings of play. The play where the sixth run is scored is live and all runs will be counted until the play is complete. Pitcher charged three outs.
- c) Pony league shall be seven innings or a time limit set by communities or Area Directors.
- d) When a game (bracket play) is tied at the end of regulation innings, the game shall go into extra innings until a decision is reached or the umpire calls the game. In State Tournaments, pool play games will end in a tie. In the event of a tied game in bracket play (as explained above), the international tie-breaker will be used. See page 17, rule 10.
- e) Mustang, Pinto and Pony: All divisions must have four outfielders in an umbrella formation.

### 2. Basis of Play:

- a) Mustang League: No Lead-offs, for this reason the pitcher is not allowed to make pick-off moves or balk. Steals are allowed, base runners are not allowed to leave the base until a pitched ball crosses home plate. No running on dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strikes.
- b) Pinto League: Lead-offs and pick-off moves are allowed, with modifications to balks and awarding of bases. Batter may run on dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike if less than two outs and first base is not occupied or any situation with two outs.
  - i) Traditional balks that are called due to mechanics WILL NOT be enforced in Pinto (flinching, false starts and double sets etc..), coaches must strive to teach pitching and pick-off moves to their players.
  - ii) Base runners that are picked off due to an illegal move (balk) will be awarded the base which they are trying to obtain. A base runner that gets caught in a pickle due to an illegal balk (play will immediately be called dead), will be awarded the advancing base.
  - iii) In conjunction with traditional balks, multiple base runners will be awarded base advancements when a balk is enforced. Example: a balk occurs while base runner dives back to original base, ball becomes dead and no bases awarded. If balk occurs while attempting to advance bases, ball becomes dead and all runners advance to the next base.
  - iv) 3<sup>rd</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> pick off moves ARE legal.
  - v) Balks are a judgment call, umpires judgment may not be protested. Balks will only be called if the move is an act of deception.



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c) Pony League: All play is based on High School Federation Rules. Lead-off/ pick-off and balks will be enforced as per the rule book.

### 3. Called Games:

If the game is called for weather or other reasons, the team with the lead is the winner, if more than the following innings have been played:

#### a) Completed Game Requirements:

Mustang: After three or more equal innings or one-hour of completed game time.

Pinto and Pony: After four or more equal innings or one-hour of completed game time.

b) U.B.B.A. format requires that games stopped due to weather or other reasons, are to resume at the point that they left off. Games that have met completed game requirements will be considered finished.

c) In resumed games, pitching regulations will be enforced as if the game was being played in the week originally scheduled. No combination of regular league games and make-up games can a pitcher exceed the number of outs per week.

### 4. :90 Rule – Pony League only:

Teams have 90-seconds from the point when the last out occurs to when the first pitch is to be thrown to start the new half inning. This rule is to help pick up the pace of the game. Coaches are to teach players to hustle on and off the field, this will allow for more playing time and complete games.

a) Speed up runner for catcher only, must be **last out** (Pony only).

b) If the pitcher is not ready at the end of 90-seconds, a ball will be called.

c) If the batter is not ready at the end of 90-seconds, a strike will be called.

d) In cold weather situations, the umpire should use good judgment in enforcing this run and error on the side of safety for the player's.

e) If either the offense or defense waives their right to 90-seconds, the opposing team still has the option to utilize their time.

5. Mercy Run Rule:

For **ALL** leagues, if a team is leading by 15 runs after three innings, 12 runs after four innings or eight runs after five innings, the team in the lead will be declared the winner.

<b>Mercy Rule Innings/Time</b>	<b>Runs Ahead</b>	<b>Visiting Team Innings Played</b>	<b>Home Team Innings Played</b>
At 3 Innings	15	3	2 ½
At 4 Innings	12	4	3 ½
At 5 Innings	8	5	4 ½

## PROTESTS AND PENALTIES

1. Any team failing to field at least nine uniformed players will be assessed an out in the batting order for each missing player at the place designated by the coach. Teams must field at least seven players or the game will be a forfeit.
2. The play of illegal players shall result in the forfeiture of game in which players have participated illegally if the game is protested by any of the league managers or officials in writing within 24 hours of the game or games in question (an illegal player is one who is not legally a member of the team because they do not meet the age, grade, resident, or registration requirements).
3. The penalty for the use of an ineligible player, due to prior disciplinary action, shall be the removal of the player from the line-up upon appeal by the opposing manager, or notification by the official scorer or league records to verify the ineligibility of the player concerned. Such players may also be declared ineligible to play in the team's next game if such a violation is determined deliberate on the part of the player or his manager.
4. In the event a manager of an ineligible player refused to remove the player in question from the line-up when the appeal is made and verified, the game is subject to forfeit when protested properly.
5. The official scorer should notify the umpire concerning an ineligible player who is about to be used in the game, but failure to do so does not change the rules, and can still effect the participant's removal from the game.
6. A protest based on a play that involves an umpire's judgment is not permitted.
7. In league play for rules violation the objecting manager must, at the time of the violation, notify

the umpire, the official scorekeeper and the opposing manager of their protest. If an immediate decision cannot be reached, the game will continue in protest status and the objecting manager must file with the league President their written protest within 24-hours.

The following information is needed:

- a) The inning?
- b) The score?
- c) The number of outs?
- d) How many base runners and on what bases?
- e) The count on the batter?
- f) Who was pitching?
- g) What happened and what rule was violated?

If league Directors uphold the protest, the game concerned shall be played from the point of protest.

8. Protests should be discouraged on technicalities and it should be observed that unless an illegal player is being used or some unusual or major violation committed, a game forfeiture should not be involved.
9. If a manager or coach has been removed from the game and refuses to leave the playing field or ballpark, the game will be deemed a forfeit.
10. Coaches should be notified of a rule violation he/she is making at the time and point in the game that it is made and noticed by anyone.

## PITCHING REGULATIONS

***It is the coaches' responsibility to monitor and adhere to all pitching regulations. In tournaments, scorekeepers record pitching outs and these records become the official record.***

## PITCHERS IN LEAGUE GAMES

1.

TIME PERIOD	MUSTANG & PINTO	PONY
Maximum outs in 1 day	18	21
Maximum outs in 1 week	18	24

- a) There is no rest required if a pitcher has pitched 12 outs or less in Mustang, Pinto or Pony in one (1) day.
- b) Minimum hours of rest if a pitcher has exceeded pitching limits is one (1) complete calendar day. Example: If a pitcher pitches on Monday and exceeds the pitching restrictions, they may not pitch on Tuesday. They may pitch again on Wednesday.

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- c) In order to further protect young pitchers, a pitcher must have one (1) calendar days' rest if they have pitched in their fifth inning in Mustang, Pinto or Pony. The pitching of one pitch to a batter is to be considered as having pitched in that inning insofar as rest is concerned, but not insofar as accumulation of his total outs for the week is concerned.
- d) Innings pitched in a tie game, postponed game or non-contest game shall be charged against the number of outs pitched that week. In the playoff of a postponed or tie game, the ineligible pitchers will remain ineligible during the replay.
- e) A pitching week is defined as Monday through Saturday.
- f) SAME DAY COMBINATION PITCHING RULE: Mustang/Pinto may pitch 18 outs in a day. Pony may pitch 21 outs in a day. Pitchers may pitch any combination between the two games in one day, however rest rules still apply.

### **EXAMPLES OF THE PITCHING RULES FROM THE MUSTANG/PINTO LEAGUE ARE:**

A pitcher is charged with only fifteen (15) outs if they are on the visiting team and the home team wins without playing the last half of the sixth inning. That pitcher has three (3) outs left for that week after one calendar day of rest (see above schedule).

A pitcher on Monday pitches thirteen (13) outs and is relieved. They would not be eligible to pitch until Wednesday.

A pitcher on Monday, who pitches twelve (12) outs and is relieved before the fifth inning begins, would be eligible to pitch again on Tuesday.

- 2. The second and/or third outs exceeding maximum outs resulting from a multiple play will not be assessed to the pitcher in determining maximum outs.
- 3. **A pitcher cannot pitch again in the same game once they are removed from the mound even though they remain in the line-up at another position.**
- 4. A violation of any pitching rule maybe subject to forfeit the game. This will be based on the final decision of at least two U.B.B.A. board members.
- 5. Intentional Walks: No pitches need to be thrown. All leagues: Cannot steal 2<sup>nd</sup> on a walk.
- 6. For information on pick-offs, balks and related rules, see Basis of Play on page 7.
- 7. Regardless of rainouts, a player may not pitch more than the designated number of outs or innings for their league during a calendar week. Innings or count may not be carried into another week because of a rainout, if you are planning to also use eligibility for that current week.

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8. Exhibition games are permitted before, during, or after the season, however, if playing during the season, the pitching outs apply to the pitcher for that week.
9. In all leagues, a defensive conference is when a defensive manager or a coach goes on the playing field to talk to a player. The umpire will have final judgement as to when a conference will be charged.

A pitching change must be made if there is more than one defensive conference in a half inning while the same player is pitching.

- a) The only exception to this rule is in case of injury.
- b) No more than eight warm-up pitches will be allowed for relief pitchers.
- c) Teams are allowed three free defensive visits per game, on the 4<sup>th</sup> visit and upon each subsequent visit a pitching change must be made. Teams are limited to one (1) visit per inning; each subsequent visit will require a pitching change. Refer to charged conferences - High School Rules.

### THE PLAYING FIELD

1. These field dimensions will be used for state tournament play:

FIELD DIMENSIONS	MUSTANG	PINTO	PONY
Base Line Distance	60'	70'	80'
Home Plate to Pitcher's Mound	46'	50'	54'
Minimum Home Run	175'	175'	250'
Pitcher's Mound Elevation	6"	6"	8"
Home Plate to Backstop (optional)	30'	30'	40'
Batter's Box Measurements	3' x 6'	3' x 6'	3'6" x 6'
Home Plate to Batter's Box	4"	4"	4"
Catcher's Box (optional)	43" x 6'	43" x 6'	43" x 7'

2. Infield of batting practice: There will be no infield or batting practice taken on the field prior to game time.

### THE SCHEDULES

1. All game scheduling and, where necessary, rescheduling, will be community or area sponsored. To qualify for state tournament each team must play at least 10 games.
  - a) State awards/bids should first be awarded to league champions. Each individual league may determine additional awards. Other ways of selecting teams may be: second & third league finishers, city tournament champions, or other at large bids awarded in play-off games or league organized tournaments.

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2. It is recommended that tournament officials not schedule a team to play in more than two games in one day. Weather considerations are an exception to this rule.
3. The Board of Directors of the league shall cause to be prepared and approve a complete schedule for the league's season play.

### THE OFFICIAL SCORER

1. An official scorer for the league shall record the necessary data to be able to rule on the eligibility of a pitcher regarding the number of innings pitched, and day's of rest.
2. The official scorer should notify the umpire concerning an ineligible player who is about to be used in the game, but failure to do so does not change the rules, but can effect the participant's removal from the game.
3. In league play for rules violation, the objecting manager must at the time of the violation notify the umpire, the official scorekeeper and the opposing manager of their protest.
4. Coaches and umpires should be notified of a rule violation at the time and point in the game that it is made and noticed by anyone.
5. The official scorer's records will be considered official and shall be the basis for settlement.
6. Each playing field must have a trained scorekeeper, and umpires for each game.
7. The official scorer will keep the pitching record for all tournament play.

### PLAYING EQUIPMENT

1. Uniforms, official baseballs, and official baseball bats, as approved by the U.B.B.A., will be used at all times. A uniform is an identical jersey in color. A uniform shall include minimal 6" numbers on their backs and the name of the team or town on the front. It is suggested that pants be matching in color. Players need to wear uniforms issued by their league. Each player must furnish their own glove and shoes. Uniform issues are not grounds for protests.
2. All catching equipment is to be furnished by the league, including full head cover and **throat protector**. Catchers must wear a protective helmet. Any time a player is warming up a pitcher, they must wear a protective mask.
3. Each batter and runner is required to use protective batting helmets that give protection to the temples, ears, and base of the skull. Runners must make every effort to keep helmets on while base running. It is recommended that players do not remove helmets until they are off the playing field.

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4. **No metal spikes are allowed on playing or practice fields in Mustang and Pinto Leagues.**  
This includes all players, managers, coaches and umpires.

a) Metal cleats are allowed in Pony League (except on portable mounds).

5. It is recommended that the catcher in regular games or at practice wear cup-type supporters of metal, plastic, or fiber. All players should wear supporters.

6. \*\*\*For Pony league...All bats for the Pony Division must be -5 or lower.

<b>BATS (official baseball only)</b>	<b>MUSTANG</b>	<b>PINTO</b>	<b>PONY</b>
Maximum Length	33"	33"	34"
Maximum Diameter	2 ¾" or 2 5/8"	2 ¾" or 2 5/8"	2 ¾" or 2 5/8"
Weight/Length Differential Max	None	None	-5
In Pony League, a 2 ¼" bat may be used with any weight/length differential			
<b>U.B.B.A. will follow the USSSA current restricted bat list. Wood bats will be allowed as long as they meet the specifications for each league. No retooled bats allowed. (see URL below)</b> <a href="http://www.ussa.com/baseball/baseball-withdrawn-andor-non-compliant-baseball-bat-models/">http://www.ussa.com/baseball/baseball-withdrawn-andor-non-compliant-baseball-bat-models/</a>			
<b>BASEBALLS</b>	<b>MUSTANG</b>	<b>PINTO</b>	<b>PONY</b>
Weight (Avoirdupois ounces)	5 – 5 ¼	5 – 5 ¼	5 – 5 ¼
Circumference	9 – 9 ¼	9 – 9 ¼	9 – 9 ¼

### INSURANCE

1. All leagues are responsible for their own insurance coverage.

### SPONSORS

1. No member league shall permit a sponsor whose principal business is the manufacturer or sale of intoxicating beverages, tobacco or any other items that would be incompatible with the best interests of youth to advertise on a youth's uniform or at the playing facility.
2. If a member league obtains sponsors, they should make every attempt to obtain a number of sponsoring organizations so that one sponsor will have only a limited financial part of the league. No sponsor shall be permitted to expend any money for their particular team, nor should they be allowed to do anything for that team that is not done for the league as a whole.

The U.B.B.A. has adopted the baseball rules of the High School Federation as their official playing rules. The information contained in this rule book is designed to make the game meet with the U.B.B.A. philosophy, and the information herein will act as a supplemental to anything found in the rule books produced by the High School Federation.

## STATE TOURNAMENT RULES

1. State tournament for all leagues will be in July, week to be determined by the U.B.B.A. Board.
  - a) Tournament dates will be Monday - Friday. Mustang/Pinto will be three-day period within said week, and Pony will be Monday - Wednesday and Friday.
2. Tournament sites for the upcoming season will be set by the board at the winter meeting and host cities will be notified. Tournament sites may be requested by any participating U.B.B.A. member at the winter meeting.
3. Tournaments will be awarded only to those cities and or leagues that can provide U.B.B.A. approved facilities. If the host city or league cannot meet and do not follow the U.B.B.A. guidelines for that tournament, the host city or league shall be placed under investigation to see if the city can host another tournament.
4. State Tournaments will consist of sixteen 16 teams being split into four pools of four teams. Each team will play the other three teams in their pool. The top two teams from each pool will advance into an eight (8) team single elimination bracket. All sixteen (16) teams will play at least three games. All teams will play two games on Day 1 and one game on Day 2. Teams that advance into the eight-team bracket will play a 2<sup>nd</sup> game on Day 2. Day 3 (Mustang/Pinto) teams will complete in tournament play with the final four teams playing two games each. The semi-final games on Day 3 will determine the Championship seeded teams and the third and fourth place seeds. Day 3 (Pony) 4 teams will play single elimination seeding games, with the 2 winning teams from each host city advancing to Super State on Day 4. Day 4 (Pony) teams will complete in tournament play with the final four teams playing two games each. The semi-final games on Day 4 will determine the Championship seeded teams and the third and fourth place seeds.
  - a) In tournament play (bracket play) the highest seeded team will be home team. If both teams are of the same seed, a coin toss will be held to determine home team. In all pool play games; a coin toss will determine home team.
  - b) Seeding for bracket play: The two teams that advance from each pool will be determined as follows: 1) Best record, 2) Head to head play, 3) Runs allowed. If there is a three-way tie for one spot, use a coin flip with the odd team out and then revert back to steps 1-3 to determine the top seeded team. Note: Pool play games can end in a tie. A win will carry more value than a tie. A tie will carry more value than a loss.
5. Minimum requirements for a city or league hosting a U.B.B.A. tournament:
  - a) Adequate number of playing fields (three fields for each tournament).
  - b) Playing fields must meet the following specifications:
    - i) Dimensions as listed in the U.B.B.A. specification.
    - ii) Infields must be on level surface cleared of rocks and other debris.
    - iii) Bases properly secured to the playing surface.



## U.B.B.A. Rule Book

- iv) Home plate level with the playing surface.
  - v) Approved pitching mounds will be the proper height with a gradual declining slope.
  - vi) All other pitching mounds must be removed from existing fields.
  - vii) Proper size pitching rubber in place.
  - viii) Infields, to be wet down and relined after each game, and drug after two games.
  - ix) Outfields should have no holes in the surface or other obstructions that could injure a player or interfere with play.
    - (1) Grass should be properly mowed.
    - (2) Outfield or home run fences should be in place.
    - (3) Foul lines and/or poles clearly visible.
  - x) Tournaments will be awarded to centralized locations based upon population and travel distance for the greatest amount of teams.
- c) Each playing field must have trained scorekeepers, and umpires for each game.
- d) Official size, first grade, leather baseballs must be used in all games with at least one new ball to start each game. These will be provided by each league.
- e) Advanced tournament bracketing and tournament registration will be sent to each city or league at least seven days (if possible) before tournament begins.
- f) U.B.B.A. will pay each city hosting the tournament for the umpires. Fees will be determined in the June meeting, and \$10.00 to help supplement mailing costs if there be any.
- g) State Directors and area Directors should help cities hosting the tournament.
- h) State Directors may receive a small travel stipend for the week of U.B.B.A. State Tournaments.
- i) Leagues should educate coaches on rules for State Tournament play prior to their arrival at tournament sites.
- j) **ALL HOST CITIES MUST HAVE AN A.E.D. ON SITE.**
6. Each team will travel at their own expense, and the tournament committee can in no way be held responsible for any injury to players, managers, or spectators.
- a) As coaches check in they will be required to fill out and approve an official tournament roster that has grades of each player listed on it, as well as uniform numbers. These rosters will be checked against league rosters that were submitted to U.B.B.A. at the beginning of the season. From this roster the scorekeeper when filling out the book can highlight the older kids, and as substitutions are made can double check the number of older kids on the field.

## U.B.B.A. Rule Book

- b) When a team checks in, tournament hosts will hand out tournament rules, bracket sheets and pitching regulations to each team. At this time, team will designate their pick-up player.
7. Determine home team by the toss of a coin.
  8. Time limit for State Tournaments games are as follows:
    - a) Mustang and Pinto .....1-hour and 30-minutes
    - b) Pony .....2-hours
  9. There will be no time limit for the championship games.
    - a) Mercy rules will still be in effect.
  10. In bracket play, a tie-breaker will be used in the event a game is tied at the end of regulation innings or at the end of the time limit. An international tie-breaker is when the **last out** from the previous inning starts the inning at 2<sup>nd</sup> Base. The new inning begins with no outs. With each additional extra inning needed to break the tie, a runner begins on 3<sup>rd</sup> base.
  11. 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will NOT be allowed to play in the state tournament. A violation will result in the team forfeiting their game.
  12. Pinto base runners can leave the base early. Mustang teams may NOT leave the base early. First offense will be a warning; any subsequent will be an out.

### PITCHERS IN TOURNAMENT GAMES

TIME PERIOD	MUSTANG & PINTO	PONY
Maximum outs in 1 day	18	21
Maximum outs in 1 week	33	39

- a) Pony league teams that qualify for Super State (Final 4), pitchers will be allowed three additional outs along with any remaining outs.
  - b) Refer to page 10-11, Rules A - F, for pitching regulations and requirements.
13. **LINE-UPS: ALL LEAGUES!** Both teams are required to bat ALL players listed on the roster who are present at the game, including the pick up player. If one team has more players than their opponent, both teams are still required to bat ALL of their players.
- a) All players that are included in the batting lineup will be allowed free defensive substitution (except pitching).
  - b) Players who arrive late to the game may be added to the end of the lineup after the official scorer has been notified.

## U.B.B.A. Rule Book

- i) Teams that have a player removed from the game due to injury or illness will not be required to take automatic outs.
  - ii) Teams with less than nine players will be required to take an automatic out for every player under nine. Teams may play with two automatic outs; any more than two will be a forfeit.
14. All players must play in approximately 50% of league games to be eligible for tournament play, except in the case of illness, injury or work.
- a) Decision is up to their city league officials.
  - b) Any other exceptions must be approved by the state board before the tournament.
15. Players can only play two years in any one division/league in state tournament play.
- a) NO 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADERS ALLOWED TO PLAY IN THE TOURNAMENT.
16. Proper check-in procedures for tournament directors:
- a) Have coaches complete an official U.B.B.A. tournament roster (to be checked against league roster submitted to U.B.B.A. in May).
  - b) Check equipment for safety and for illegal bat sizes.
  - c) Inform coaches of any local ground rules unique to your playing facilities.
17. Mustang, Pinto and Pony divisions will play with 10 players in the state tournament (four must play as outfielders in the umbrella formation).
18. Mustang league and tournament games will play a six run offensive limit during the first two innings of play. The play where the sixth run is scored is live and all runs will be counted until the play is complete. The pitcher who was pitching at the time of the sixth run will be charged with the remaining outs, up to three outs.
19. Infield Fly Rule will be in effect for all divisions. This will be a judgment call by the umpire.
20. A batter may run on a dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike in Pony and Pinto league.

### PICK-UP PLAYER FOR STATE TOURNAMENT

1. U.B.B.A. teams that qualify for the tournament may pick up one (1) additional player.  
**PICK-UP PLAYERS MUST PLAY IN THEIR OWN UNIFORM FOR THE TOURNAMENT OR BE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE TOURNAMENT.**
2. Pick-up player must be registered and approved before the tournament and cannot be changed or replaced after it begins.

3. Pick-up player must be from the same league as they played in during league play. If a league crosses over and plays each other, then they may pick from the other league. Players that are present at same tryout are eligible pick up players for state play.

### FORFEITS IN TOURNAMENT GAMES

1. If a team forfeits due to a no show, they will immediately be removed from the tournament.
2. Teams that win by forfeit will be credited with a 7- 0 win.
  - a) If game is not played: No pitching outs will be charged.
  - b) If game is played: All recorded pitching outs will count.
3. If a team is found to be in violation of illegal substitution or cheating, a hearing will be held to determine if they will be allowed to continue in the tournament. The U.B.B.A. Board must approve any dismissal of a team. At the time the violation is discovered, the head coach may be ejected. The game will continue under protest. The protest will be resolved by the U.B.B.A. committee. At the time the violation is discovered the umpires and tournament director may reset play to the point of infraction, if an advantage was gained.
4. Awarding of State Bids: Each city/league will be notified of their allotted number of teams for State Tournament play. Team names participating in the state tournament must be submitted to U.B.B.A.
5. Declining of State Bids: Once brackets are scheduled, players may only play for that team. If team cannot attend tournament play, all players from that team are ineligible to be selected as pick-up players for any other team. If a team cancels or declines to come to State Tournament for any reason, once the brackets have been completed, there will be a **cancellation fee of \$120.00 for Mustang and Pinto, \$140.00 for Pony**. This fee will cover all costs of the scheduled games and must be paid before any other teams from that city will be allowed to play in future tournaments.

### ADMISSION TO STATE TOURNAMENT GAMES

1. Admission to state tournament games shall be charged as follows
  - a) Adults (12 years of age and older) .....\$3.00 per day
  - b) Coaches, coaches spouses, players .....No Charge  
(not to exceed two (2) coaches / team)
  - c) Children (11 and under) .....No Charge
  - d) Admission fees are separate at each tournament site. Payment at one tournament site does not grant admission at any additional site; payment is required at each site!  
**This admission charge is to offset the cost of tournament staff.**

## AWARDS FOR STATE TOURNAMENTS

1. All awards will be on a team basis and will be provided by the U.B.B.A.
  - a) The State Championship Team will receive 1st place medals and T-shirts for each player. Awards are presented on the last day of the tournament.
  - b) The 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> place teams will be awarded individual medals for their team members. Awards are presented on the last day of the tournament.

## PROTESTS AND PENALTIES

1. Any team failing to field at least nine uniformed players will be assessed an out in the batting order for each missing player at the place designated by the coach. Teams must field at least seven players or the game will be a forfeit.
2. A protest based on a play that involves umpire's judgment is not permitted.
3. In U.B.B.A., protests should be discouraged on technicalities and it should be observed that unless an illegal player is being used or some unusual or major violation committed, a game forfeiture should not be involved.
4. If a manager or coach has been removed from the game and refuses to leave the playing field or ballpark, the game will be deemed a forfeit.
5. Coaches should be notified of a rule violation they are making at the time and point in the game that it is made and noticed by anyone.
6. All protests must be made at the time of the infraction, before the next pitch is thrown, and will be handled quickly by the tournament Director and the host committee of at least two additional people (3 total). Game clock will stop, however, no undue game delay will be allowed for lengthy protest procedures. If possible the tournament Director can get the State Director or any other Board member on the phone to take care of the protest.

## ILLEGAL PLAYERS

7. The play of illegal players shall result in the forfeiture of game in which players have participated illegally if the game is protested by any of the league managers or officials within the next calendar day of the game or games in question. (an illegal player is one who is not legally a member of the team because he does not meet the age, grade, residence, or registration requirements).
8. Penalty for the use of an ineligible player, due to prior disciplinary action, shall be the removal of the player from the line-up upon appeal by the opposing manager, or notification by the official scorer or league records to verify the ineligibility of the player concerned. Such players may also be declared ineligible to play in the team's next game if such a violation is determined deliberate on the part of the player or his manager.

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9. In the event a manager of an ineligible player refused to remove the player in question from the line-up when the appeal is made and verified, the game is subject to forfeit when protested properly.
10. The official scorer should notify the umpire concerning an ineligible player who is about to be used in the game, but his failure to do so does not change the rules, but can have the effect to the participant's removal from the game.

### THE UMPIRES

1. Umpires for league:
  - a) League directors are responsible for providing their own umpires. Umpires must be knowledgeable of the game.
  - b) It is the responsibility of the umpire to keep the game moving along and not allow delay of game tactics.
2. Umpires for tournament:
  - a) Host city tournament Director is responsible for umpires for the tournament.
  - b) The tournament Director should meet with the umpires before the tournament starts to go over the U.B.B.A. rules of play.
  - c) The tournament Director or association arbiter will assign the umpires.
  - d) Two (2) umpires dressed in appropriate attire will be required at all tournament games. Tournament host must provide qualified officials that have a strong understanding of the rules of the game. Two umpires will be used at all state tournament games.
  - e) Pony League Only- Umpires will be assigned by an outside third party.

### POINTS OF EMPHASIS

1. It is required that teams bat all players in all state tournament games.
2. Slide Rule - The catcher or fielder can block the home plate when he has possession of the ball. If the runner does not slide in the legal boundaries of the plate or maliciously runs into a fielder or catcher that has the ball, the runner is automatically out, the ball is dead, and every other base runner must return to the last base touched at the time of the collision. If the act is flagrant the runner is ejected from the game.
  - a) **All base and plate interference or obstruction - High School Rule Book.**
3. Taunting Rule - No taunting, shouting, or backhanded compliments by players, coaches, catchers or spectators at opposing players or coaches (this includes "hey batter batter"). Cheering and shouting must be directed at players on your own team. Warning by umpire or Director, then removal from the game and/or playing field as necessary by the officials.
4. Leaving Base Early - (Mustang only) When a pitcher is in contact with the pitcher's rubber with the ball in his possession and the catcher in the catcher's box ready to receive delivery of the

## U.B.B.A. Rule Book

ball, base runners shall not leave their bases until the ball has been delivered and has reached the batter.

- a) When a base runner leaves his base before the pitched ball has reached the batter the ball is dead. All runners must return to their base and the pitch does not count.
  - b) This rule is enforced as a team. When the first infraction occurs the umpire will give official warning to the player, coach, and team. Any subsequent infraction by the team that has been warned will result in the runner being called out with no advancement by any other runners.
5. Mustang, Pinto and Pony divisions will play with 10 players in the state tournament (four must play as outfielders in the umbrella formation).
  6. Weather Issues and rescheduling: In the event of inclement weather that results in a game cancellation or postponement, tournament host will be required to play games on the next available calendar day that the fields are playable, excluding Sunday. Host city will determine day and time according to field playability.

### GOVERNMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. The Board of Directors of the Association shall consist of Representatives elected by the Member Leagues at the annual general meeting of League Representatives from all affiliated Leagues.
2. This Association shall have no salaried employees.
3. Franchise – A franchise may be obtained by the following procedures;
  - a) Make application by writing the U.B.B.A. Association.
  - b) When the application has been checked for compliance of the Association Rules, Principles, Policies, the Franchise will be forwarded to the League.

### DIRECTORS

1. The U.B.B.A. State Directors for respective leagues will help with league organization, rule continuity, and all phases of the tournament media exposure, award presentation, etc.
2. The U.B.B.A. State Director will be an elected position having a minimum of three-year duration. Each director is elected in staggered terms.
3. The U.B.B.A. State Director and Area Director must attend at least two U.B.B.A. official meetings per year or send a representative, or they will be deemed inactive and will be replaced. (The deposed Director must be notified in advance of his replacement.) The Board of Directors will approve replacements.
4. U.B.B.A. regulations contain all exceptions to the High School Federation rules.

- Any interpretation will be from the U.B.B.A. State Directors.

## ADMINISTRATION

- U.B.B.A. regulations contain any exceptions to the official rules. Any interpretation will be from U.B.B.A. State Directors.
- U.B.B.A. provides that the Federation Rules will be used in governing the play for all Leagues.
  - No DH (designated hitter) will be allowed in U.B.B.A. Leagues or Tournaments.
- U.B.B.A. supports team participation for tournament play as opposed to all-stars.
- Programs are administered separately for the following grades that they are completing:
  - Mustang..... Grades 3-4
  - Pinto ..... Grades 5-6
  - Pony ..... Grades 7-8
  - No 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will be allowed to participate in a U.B.B.A. State Tournament.
- Players can only play two years in any given league in state tournament play
- Current U.B.B.A. membership includes:

Ephraim	Mapleton	Salem
Gunnison	Mt. Pleasant/Salina	Santaquin
Hurricane	Nephi	Saratoga Springs
Lehi	Payson	Spanish Fork
Manti	Pleasant Grove	Springville

- League Specifications: U.B.B.A. requires that in order to form a league there must be at least two (2) teams in that league to be considered for State Tournament play.
  - If a league only has one team, they are encouraged to play with another nearby league. However, there is no guarantee of being awarded a State Bid from the U.B.B.A.



## PRESIDENT

1. U.B.B.A. State Directors and Area Directors with the U.B.B.A. President as Chairman will administer all functions of U.B.B.A.
2. The U.B.B.A. President will be an elected position having a minimum three-year duration.
3. The year preceding the expiration date of the President's term, a position of President elect will be filled. The person will then become U.B.B.A. President for a minimum three-year term.
4. A nominating committee will search out candidates who would like to serve.

## SECRETARY / TREASURER

1. The office of Secretary and Treasurer will be appointed by the President with board approval.
2. U.B.B.A. Secretary will function as the official registrar and will perform various fiscal and administrative duties under the direction of the U.B.B.A. President.

## FINANCIAL

1. To be chartered with the U.B.B.A. and terms to be eligible for the state tournament, all fees for registration must be paid by the established deadline. Fees are as follows:

Mustang/Pinto ..... \$70.00 per team

Pony ..... \$80.00 per team

- a) Any fees received after the deadline must include an additional \$10.00 per team fee.
2. A complete financial report will be given at the Winter and Post-Season meetings.
  3. Accounting: All money spent must be accounted for with at least two signatures on all checks.
  4. The President, President Elect, and Secretary will be the three approved to sign checks.

## VOTING

1. Each area will be represented by one area Director. These area Directors will have voting power in the U.B.B.A. organization.
2. If the area director is unable to attend a meeting, a designated representative may vote in their absence.

## U.B.B.A. Rule Book

3. No person will have more than one vote regardless of positions held.
4. The Association shall not recognize authorization to vote ballots a delegate may be carrying for other than his or her own league in voting on agenda items changed by amendments from the floor or on new proposals submitted from the floor. For approval, these proposals shall require a two-thirds majority of authorization to vote ballots cast by delegates present and voting for their own league only.
5. State Officers and Directors will each be given one vote at all meetings.
6. No community, regardless of the number of state Directors living within, will have more than one vote.

### MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT DATES

#### 1. Winter Meeting - February

#### 2. Post-Season Meeting - August

#### 2024 Important Dates:

- Friday, May 3                      Total number of teams due to Brittany
- Friday, May 17                     Tournament bids awarded
- Monday, June 10                   All fees due to Brittany
- Tuesday, June 25                   Brackets and seeding finalized by Executive Board and host cities
- Mon-Wed, July 15-17               U.B.B.A. State Tournament
- Friday, July 19                      Pony Division Super State - Pleasant Grove

Learn more at [quickscores.com/ubba](https://quickscores.com/ubba)

**U.B.B.A. EXECUTIVE BOARD**

<b>President</b>	Todd Blickenstaff	<a href="mailto:toddblick@gmail.com">toddblick@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Mandy Carson	<a href="mailto:mcarson@pgcity.org">mcarson@pgcity.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Brittany Crumback	<a href="mailto:bcrumback@lehi-ut.gov">bcrumback@lehi-ut.gov</a>
<b>Tournament Director</b>	Mark Resch	<a href="mailto:mresch36@gmail.com">mresch36@gmail.com</a>
<b>Mustang Director</b>	Jeremy Alvey	<a href="mailto:jalvey@payson.org">jalvey@payson.org</a>
<b>Pinto Director</b>	Coleman Jacklin	<a href="mailto:colemanj@salemcity.org">colemanj@salemcity.org</a>
<b>Pony Director</b>	Tracy Wiley	<a href="mailto:twiley@spanishfork.org">twiley@spanishfork.org</a>

