

# 2016 Top Gun Baseball

## GENERAL RULES

Play Top Gun Sports  
579 Union Cemetery Road  
Concord NC 2827  
Office 704-786-4754

[www.playtopgunsports.com](http://www.playtopgunsports.com)

All team participating must be registered with Top Gun Sports office for the period of August 1 of each year until July 31.

All roistered personnel including the coaches, players, bat boys, and scorekeepers must be registered as a Top Gun member for each year and before the start of a tournament.

**ALL TEAMS SHOULD BRING XEROX COPIES OF THE  
FOLLOWING FOR EACH TOURNAMENT:**

**Top Gun sports roster, Xerox Copies of Birth  
Certificates, Copy of current Team Insurance  
Certificate**

# **TOURNAMENT RULES**

Enter at your own risk. Beware of inherent risks at ball parks  
([Click](#) to see complete Disclaimer)

**Play Top Gun Sports Social Media Disclaimer**  
**[CLICK HERE](#) for Disclaimer**

## **VIOLATION OF POLICES OR TOURNAMENT RULES**

Violation of polices or tournament rules.

Any parent, coach, team member, or fan that violates the polices or rules of the Top Gun Baseball Event may be removed from any and all venues and future sanctions may be placed on that person or persons.

## **HEAD COACHES RESPONSIBILITY**

The Head Coach of a team is held responsible for the conduct of his assistance coaches, players, and fans. He should make sure that all rules of the tournament are explained to the each member above.

## **TEAM INSURANCE**

Top Gun Requires that all teams have Team Insurance before playing in a Top Gun Sanctioned Event. Teams may purchase Insurance on the Top Gun Web Site. Teams not having Top Gun Insurance purchased on our web site, and having a policy from another source must list Top Gun as Additionally Insured on their Insurance Policy before participating in a Top Gun Sanctioned Event. This should be presented to Top Gun prior to participating in an event.

## **TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR**

Tournament Director always has the authority to revise or change the format due to rain or any other reason that he feels is necessary, in the best interest of the tournament.

## **TEAMS ARRIVING FOR GAMES**

Teams should be present one hour before the schedule starting game time.

## **EARLY GAME STARTING TIMES**

Games may be started early if fields are ready for play.  
No game may be started more than one hour early, unless the tournament game time has been shortened due to rain, etc.

## **COIN FLIPPING**

Teams will flip for Home Team before each game in pool play, at home plate.  
Higher seeds have choice of bracket play games.

## **BATTING CAGE**

Available at most sites, teams should share batting cage times.

### **CLEAN DUGOUTS**

Coaches clean you dugouts after each game.

### **TEAM COOLERS**

Top Gun does not have a Cooler Policy for our sporting events. We do recommend that a Team Cooler is allow in the team dugouts during tournament play, but this is a Facility Issue and teams must abide by the Facility Guidelines.

Top Gun does not recommend that the venues provide Team Water Cooler in the dugout due to issues and concerns of providing and maintaining Clean Water after each game. Regulations on a Facility to provide and maintain Clean Drinking Water to each game and each team is not recommended by Top Gun due to Health Issues.

### **RUN RULE---AGES 9U-HIGH SCHOOL**

Run Rule is in effect for all games for tournaments.

Mercy Slaughter Rule is in effect after three innings, and a team is losing by 15 runs, the game will be over.

run rules are in effect for all ages, including the championships games,  
15 run rule after 3 innings  
10 run rule after 4 innings  
8 run rule after 5 innings.

### **RUN RULE---COACH PITCH / MACHINE PITCH**

Run Rule for Coach Pitch and Machine games.

run rules are in effect for all ages, including the championships games,  
15 run rule after the 5th inning.

### **TIME LIMIT IS IN EFFECT --TWO DAY EVENTS**

Coach pitch 1 hour and 15 minutes time limit.

*Championship Game for 8u games will have a 1 hour 30 minute time.*

Ages 9u-High School will have the following: These ages has a 1 hour 45 minutes time limit. Games will be played for the entire time limit, when the time limit expires that inning will be the last inning.

Tournament Directors may do vary from this rule unless there has been a rain delay during the day.

*Championship Game will have a 2 hour time limit for ages 9u-High School.*

### **SUPER SAVER TIME LIMITS---ONE DAY EVENTS**

Super Savers One Day tournaments will have 1 hour ½ time limits for all games. If the time limit expires after the third out is made of a inning, a new inning will start.

### **ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

Any question pertaining to the eligibility of a player at the tournament may be referred to the Play Top Gun Sports Office.

If a player is found to be ineligible prior to the start of the tournament, the player will be expelled from the tournament. If a player is found to be ineligible after the tournament

has begun, not only the player will be expelled, but the entire team will be expelled from the tournament. Any questions during a game pertaining to the eligibility of players, must be handle by filing a protest during that game that is in question due to eligibility. If the age of the player is being protested and the coach cannot produce the legal copy of the Birth Certificate of the player in question, the game will be a forfeit and the team will be removed from the tournament. After the game is too late to file a protest on any issue.

**Coaches are responsible to see their team meets all eligibility requirements, No Team Refunds.**

### **PICK-UP PLAYER RULE**

Top Gun is all open roistered. Any team may pick up players from another team as long as the player is not roistered on two teams in the same tournament or tournament weekend, regardless of age division. Players may not play on two separate teams in the same event or same weekend. No exceptions to this rule will be allowed. Once the first of the tournament begins, that roster is frozen and no additional players may be added unless approved by the tournament director. If it is found that a player is ineligible, the penalty will be as follows. If a player is found to ineligible prior to the start of the tournament, the player or players will be expelled from the tournament. If a player or players is found to be ineligible after the tournament has begun, not only the player will be expelled, but the entire team will be expelled from the tournament. Coaches are responsible to see that their teams meet all eligibility requirements. No Team Refunds.

### **JEWELRY**

Top Gun follows the National Federation rule with the exception of Phiten Necklaces; all players will be allowed to wear the Phiten break away necklaces during play.

### **NATIONAL FEDERATION HIGH SCHOOL RULES**

National Federation of High School rules will be used with Top Gun Baseball Exceptions; North Carolina High School Federation Rules will be used.

### **On Line Rosters**

**Please be sure that your rosters are up to date and On Line with Top Gun Sports for this event. We will be using this for all pitching, home run, wins and losses. All teams should make sure you have this done before playing your first game.**

**Coaches please have with you at all times during tournament a copy of your**

- **ON LINE ROSTER,**
- **BIRTH CERTIFICATES,**
- **TEAMS INSURANCE, NAMING TOP GUN AS ADDITIONALLY INSURED**

**If we have a protest on the field and you cannot produced these could result in a forfeit.**

**Please be sure you have your certificate of insurance, if you are using another brand of insurance Top Gun must be listed as additionally Insured.**

### **METAL CLEAT RULES**

Metal Cleats are not Allowed on portable pitching mounds. Pitchers must wear either rubber cleats, tennis shoes. No Exceptions to this rule.

### **SUBSTITUTIONS AND RE-ENTRY RULE**

All starting players may be redrawn from the game and reenter into the game, as long as a team has a legal substitute. A substitute may not reenter a game.

A Pitcher may be redrawn from the game and substituted for and reenter the game as a pitcher if redrawn on the first trip during an inning.

### **TRIPS TO THE MOUND**

Two (2) trips per inning, per pitcher will disqualify that pitcher from the game for pitching only. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> trip in the same inning, the pitcher must be removed from the game as a pitcher only. Any pitcher removed from the game on the 1<sup>st</sup> trip of an inning may reenter the game as a pitcher after one batter is retired if needed. Removal from the mound on the 2<sup>nd</sup> trip in the same inning disqualifies the pitcher from returning to the mound as a pitcher only in that game. Pinch Hitting for the pitcher is allowed and the pitcher may reenter the game, as a pitcher if deemed so, as long as a team has eligible substitutes.

### **PITCHING RULES**

9u,10u,---8 innings, 11u,12u---9 innings,  
13u-15u---10 innings, 16-HS---No pitching rule.

In ages 9-12u, a pitcher may not pitch more than 6 Innings in One Calendar Day.

In ages 13-15u, a pitcher may not pitch more than 7 Innings in One Calendar Day.

Athletes may pitch these established number of innings in consecutive calendar days, once the athlete has reached the allowed amount of inning in consecutive calendar days then the athlete must rest one calendar day before being allowed to pitch again. Once a player rests for one calendar day, the rest day clears him and the innings start over.

An inning pitched constitutes the toeing of the pitcher rubber by the pitcher, or pitching to one batter, or being officially entered into the pitching position.

The penalty for an ineligible pitcher is the Head Coach and the Ineligible Pitcher is ejected from the game when discovered. The game is continued at that point, and all related baseball scores stand.

Metal Cleats are not Allowed on portable pitching mounds. Pitchers must wear either rubber cleats, tennis shoes. No Exceptions to this rule.

### **BATTING RULE OPTIONS**

Teams have the option of batting just 9 players, or they can bat any number being 10, 11, or 12 players, or up to the entire roster. The rule to bat more than 9 players is an Option and is Not Mandatory, and it is left up to each individual team. If all roistered players bat, there will be not substitutes and if an injury or sickness occurs, an out will be taken when that players comes up to bat. Teams will receive only one (1) out for the sick or injured player; however the sick for injured player may Not Return to the game. High School Federation -DH Rule: Top Gun will also the High School DH Rule to be used. Teams that choose to use a DH, they must follow the NFHS rule, and only bat 9 players.

### **BAT RULE--AGES 9U AND ABOVE**

Ages 9u-13u No bat rule applies.

14u ONLY Bat Rule is a Drop -5 bat will be maximum that may be used.

15u and up the Federation High School Rule applies.

### **BAT RULE--8U COACH PITCH AND MACHINE PITCH**

A Coach Pitch Bat or a bat recommended for 8u only, shall only be used in the 8u division. The Coach Pitch Bat may be a Large Barrel or Composite Bat.

Bat are not to be heated during the games.

Pyroflite Microwaveable Bat Warner is a Top Gun approved device to keep bats from dropping below the bat recommended temperature. Top Gun feels like this is a Safety Concern and has approved this device.

All Star Divisions will have different rules posted at All Star Events regarding Legal Bats. Penalty for using an Illegal Bat will follow the penalty of the National Federations of High School Rules.

### **BASE RUNNING**

8u Coach Pitch & 9u Closed Bases ONLY-All runners shall be in contact with their bases and shall not leave their bases until the ball has crossed the plate. If a runner leaves the base before the ball crosses the plate, the umpire shall signal to indicate the violation at the time it occurs. Penalty is **IMMEDIATE DEAD BALL**. The runner is out and removed from the base upon leaving the base early.

**In the 9u Open Bases the Base Runner must not be beyond the 10 feet line when the ball crosses the plate. Penalty is IMMEDIATE DEAD BALL and the Baseball Runner is Out and Removed from the base for leaving too early.**

### **BALKS**

**No Balks will be called in the 9u age Division. All other ages Balks will be called. Pitchers will not warned for Balks.**

### **COURTESY RUNNERS**

You may use the last recorded out made to be your courtesy runner if you are batting the entire line up. If you are not batting the entire line up, then a sub or a burnt sub must be used as the courtesy runner.

### **EJECTIONS IN THE LINE UP**

In case of and ejection in the line up and you have No Eligible subs are available that position will be an Out each time at bat.

### **FORFEITS**

All Forfeits are subject to review by the Tournament Director, and may result in the offending team being declared ineligible for any future Top Gun Baseball Tournament Play. The tournament committee shall administer the rules so that the forfeiting team will not benefit and may not advance to Championship Pool Play or Bracket Play, unless the tournament committee determines there were extenuating circumstances causing the forfeit. Teams not having enough players to participate from either starting or ending a game will not be considered extenuating circumstances.

### **UMPIRES CONTROL**

Top Gun Umpires Cannot Forfeit Top Gun Tournament Ball Games. Umpires may Eject Coaches, Players, or Fans, but do not have the power to Forfeit Games in Tournament Play, under any circumstances. When an Umpire ejects a person, that person must leave the venue immediately and the game playing time is stopped until that issue is resolved. At this time the Site Director should be notified of that situation. If the person ejected does not leave the venue immediately, the director should call the police to have the ejected person removed. Ball Games will continues from the point of interruption.

### **EJECTION'S**

Manager, Coach, or Players in all age divisions, the first occurrence results in the suspension for the game and removal from the game venue, and also the next schedule game. The coach is not permitted at the game venue for his suspension game.

### **SECOND EJECTION DURING THE TOURNAMENT**

The second occurrence during the tournament results in suspension for the remainder of the tournament as well as the possible impositions for further sanctions subject to the review of Top Gun Baseball.

### **PROTESTS**

Protest must be made verbally with the umpire by the offended team at the time of the play and before the next pitch is thrown. A fee of \$100.00 cash (Refunded if upheld) must accompany the protest. All decisions of the protest committee shall be final. Only the decision involving the Misinterpretation of Misapplication of a rule may be protested.

No protest shall be allowed in matters involving solely the Officials Judgment.

### **RAIN**

Teams should report to venues, if there is any doubt of games being played. The responsibility will be on the Head Coach to find out if games are rained out or being resumed. Coaches must come to the venues to find out if games will be played, or if a game has been rescheduled. If at all possible, games will be played in complete. Games that are stopped before official game status will be continued from the point of interruption. Games stopped after official game status has been reached will be official games. Rain delays could last for any period of time. The tournament director has the authority to change the format of the tournament due to inclement weather.

### **RAIN-OFFICIAL GAME STATUS**

If rain occurs after official game status has been reached, and the games are stopped due to the rain for field conditions, that game will be called, and become a complete official game. The tournament directors will make that decision only.

### **RAIN**

The tournament director or directors have the authority to change the tournament format due to rain or for other reasons deemed necessary.

### **RAIN REFUND POLICY**

If a tournament is cancelled due to rain prior to any games being played, all teams will receive a full refund. If one game is started or completed and the tournament cannot continue, then the team receives ½ of the team entry fee. If a team second game is started or completed, there is no refund.

### **RAIN REFUND POLICY FOR GATE ADMISSIONS**

#### **NO REFUNDS FOR ADMISSIONS DURING RAIN-ETC**

There is No Refund for Gate Admission for any reason which also includes Rain. Top Gun has a Gate Admission Price and Not A Game Guarantee Admission Price. Players and Coaches may enter ball parks during rain issues. Parents and Fans that enter venues during rain are taking a chance of NOT receiving a game. If games are NOT played there is NO REFUND.



## **TOP GUN DOES NOT ORGANIZE TEAMS**

Play Top Gun Sports events provides rules for play and a tournament structure that leads to end of season tournament opportunities for teams that register to participate in Top Gun events that are overseen by Top Gun directors. We encourage parents (and guardians) who determine the team for a youth team participant, the adult team participants (such as team coaches or team sponsors) of a team, the community organizations who are involved in the organization, creation or management of such teams to thoroughly investigate and screen the background and character of the individuals who coach, manage, volunteer or otherwise come into contact with such teams and their minor participants and to vigilantly supervise any and all activities of any youth team with which they are associated.

Background checks are available, among other places, on-line for a small fee and Top Gun encourages those actually responsible for team activities and the parents (guardians) of youth athletic team members to utilize such tools to limit the exposure of youth athletes to those who might pose a danger.

Because Top Gun is not an organizer, manager or creator of teams, it does not in any way take responsibility for the organization, creation, management or any other activity of the teams (customers) that register to play in Top Gun tournaments, except to provide the opportunity to play Top Gun events under Top Gun rules, and overseen by a Top Gun director. Teams that participate in Top Gun events are customers of Top Gun and no more.

When a team chooses to participate in a Top Gun activity, the team, its players, coaches, volunteers, organizers, and its parents and fans must abide by rules found in the Top Gun Rule Book posted on our web site. Since Top Gun has nothing to do with the practice sessions of a team, choosing of team coaches, the picking of which team to play for, the activities with respect to any other body, or any other activities of a team (but simply provides registered participation in Top Gun directed activities).

Top Gun takes no responsibility for any such other non-Top Gun event activities of any team. While Top Gun is not responsible for checking the background of each of its customers (including the coaches of the baseball teams that play in Top Gun events), those convicted or charged with a violent felony or a sex offense with a minor are automatically suspended from all Top Gun activities (until found innocent or the charges are dropped). Thus if you are aware of someone who has been charged with or convicted of a violent felony or a sex crime with a minor and that someone may be in any way involved in a Top Gun activity, you should immediately inform the Top Gun Director and upon being provided with proof of such charges or conviction, that individual will be automatically suspended from all Top Gun activities.

For example, if you do a background check on a coach before joining a team and find evidence that he has been charged with having sex with a minor, you should report this to your Top Gun Director, or Top Gun Sports Office, even though you have decided to play for another team. Even more important if you are aware of any one who has committed a

violent felony or has had sex with a minor that has not been charged, you are obligated to report those crimes to the proper authorities and you should do so immediately.

### **TOP GUN BASEBALL**

Top Gun Baseball shall investigate complaints regarding the violation of Top Gun Baseball Rules, by Top Gun athletes, coaches, volunteers, or teams.

If Top Gun Baseball determines that a violation has occurred he may impose penalties as provided in the General Rules.

Penalties imposed by Top Gun Baseball may be appealed to the Play Top Gun Sports Board of Review in writing, appointed by CEO/President of Top Gun Sports.

Top Gun Baseball may delegate these duties to an infraction committee appointed by him CEO /President to consider Code/Rules Violations, or they may refer cases directly to the Board of Review.

### **CONDUCT**

Teams Coaches, Players, and Organizations are subject to sanctions imposed by the Baseball Chairman for misconduct. Sanctions may be appealed to the Play Top Gun Sports board of review committee and may include fines, suspension, forfeiture, probation, or other appropriate action. Misconduct includes but is not limited, sportsmanship detrimental to the program, destruction of property, intoxication, possession of alcohol, drugs, weapons, use of profanity, or commission of a crime during any Play Top Gun Sports competition. Sanctions may be imposed for failure to comply with this publication of the General Top Gun Baseball Rules.

### **COACHES DRESS CODE**

All coaches shall be dressed similarly, meaning coaches should have same color shirts, etc. No Flip Flops Sandals only closed toe shoes, No Tank Tops are allowed.

### **THE COACHES/ VOLUNTEER CODE OF HONOR**

I promise upon my word of honor to help create an environment which primary emphasis is placed upon the emotional and physical well being of Play Top Gun Sports Athletics, rather than winning. I will lead, by example and will demonstrate the value of fair play and sportsmanship to all participates. Lastly, by becoming a Play Top Gun Sports member, I agree to be bound by the Top Gun Baseball General Rules as well as all procedures and policies.

### **TOP GUN FIELD DIMENSIONS**

<b><u>AGES</u></b>	<b><u>MOUND</u></b>	<b><u>BASES</u></b>	<b><u>BASES</u></b>
9 & U	46'	60'	CLOSED BASES
9 & U	46'	65'	MODIFIED BASES 10---FEET LINE
10 & U	46'	60'	CLOSED BASE
10 & U	46'	65'	OPEN BASES
11 & U	50'	70'	OPEN BASES
12 & U	50'	70'	OPEN BASES

13 & U	54'	80'	OPEN BASES
13 & U	60'6	90'	OPEN BASES
14 & U	60'6	90'	OPEN BASES
15 & U	60'6	90'	OPEN BASES
HIGH SCHOOL	60'6	90'	OPEN BASES

### **2016 Age Determination**

Age Determination---Age Cutoff date is May 1st. See Below Examples:

- 8u Cannot turn 9 prior to May 1, 2016
- 9u Cannot turn 10 prior to May 1, 2016
- 10u Cannot turn 11 prior to May 1, 2016
- 11u Cannot turn 12 prior to May 1, 2016
- 12u Cannot turn 13 prior to May 1, 2016
- 13u Cannot turn 14 prior to May 1, 2016
- 14u Cannot turn 15 prior to May 1, 2016

### **GRADE EXCEPTION RULE**

In ages 15u and HS Divisions we will allow the grade exception rule. 15u/Freshman cannot turn 17 prior to May 1 of the current year and must be in the 9th grade or below. HS Player cannot turn 20 prior to May 1 of the current year and must be in the 12th grade or below. Player using the Grade exception rule must have a birth certificate and report card for verification.

The season runs from August 1st until July 31st. All teams will move up in age on August 1st of each year.

**Revised January 19, 2016**