

## 2021 Top Gun-USA Sports Baseball Rules:

Unless noted prior to the beginning of the event, NFHS Rules will be used with the following exceptions.

Top Gun Baseball reserves the right to enforce particular invitational tournament rules.

- 1. Protest Fee:** \$100.00(Only on rule interpretations) Protest must be filed before the next pitch is thrown. Games are not played under protest and may not be protested after the game is completed for any reason.
- 2. Game Time:** Starting time is forfeit time unless delay is created by Top Gun. Game time starts at the completion of the home plate meeting. Games may be started up to one hour early if deemed necessary.
- 3. Home Team:** The home team for all pool games will be determined by a coin toss and that team will be the official scorebook. Highest seed will have choice for all bracket games.
- 4. Player Minimum:** A team must have a minimum of 8 players to start the game. The 9<sup>th</sup> player will be counted as an out until that player arrives. A player arriving late that is not listed on the score card, may be added to the bottom of the line-up card with no penalty.
- 5. Batting Lineups:** Teams have the option of batting 9 players up to their entire roster if desired. The rule to bat more than 9 is not mandatory and is left up to each individual team. If all rostered players bat, there will be no subs and an injury or sickness is an out when that position comes up to bat. Teams will receive only 1 out for the sick or injured player, however the injured or sick player may not return to the game. You may use the last recorded out made as the courtesy runner if you are batting the entire lineup. If you are not batting the entire line-up, then a sub or burnt sub must be used as the courtesy runner. In case of an ejection and no eligible subs are available, that position will be an out each time at bat. **DH Rule:** Top Gun will allow the Major League DH rule. If a team elects to use a DH, only 9 players may bat. Top Gun Sports-USA did not adopt the new 2020 NFHS DH Rule.
- 6. Pitching Rules:** **9u-10u:** 8 Innings | **11u-12u:** 9 Innings | **13u-15u:** 10 Innings | **HS:** Unlimited. In ages 9u-12u, a pitcher may not pitch more than 6 Innings in a calendar day. In ages 13u-15u, a pitcher may not pitch more than 7 Innings in a calendar day. Once athlete has reached the allowed number of innings in consecutive days, one (1) calendar day of rest is required before being allowed to pitch again. A courtesy runner for the pitcher is not mandatory. Innings reset after one (1) calendar day of not pitching. See General Rules for Penalty/Violation of Pitching Rules.
- 7. Balks:** No balks will be called in the 9u division. If a pitcher balks trying to pick off a base runner the ball is dead, and all runners return to original base with no penalty. Balks will be called in 10u-HS. There will be NO warnings.
- 8. Time Limits Tournament Play:**

All Games for 1-day events will be: **8u:** 1hr 15min | **9u-HS:** 1hr 30min.  
Pool Games for 2-days + events will be: **8u:** 1hr 15minutes | **9u-HS:** 1hr 45min.  
Consolation games: **8u:** 1hr 15minutes | **9u-HS:** 1hr 30min. Consolation games can end in a tie.  
Championship Games for 2-day + events: **8u:** 1hr 30min | **9u-HS:** 2hrs.  
The run rule will be in effect for all games. If time expires after third out is made, a new inning will start.  
When time expires in pool play games and score is tied, only one (1) additional inning will be played with ITB rules in effect for the additional inning. If score remains tied after the one (1) ITB inning, the ballgame will end in a tie.  
There will be no ties in bracket play. ITB will not be used in championship games.
- 9. Baseballs:** Top Gun Sports-USA logo baseball must be used for all events.
- 10. Bat Rule:** **8u-12:** No bat size restrictions | **13u:** -8 or lower | **14-HS:** BBCOR. All bats in ages 8u-13u must be stamped with a Bat Performance Factor (BPF) of 1.15 or have the USA Baseball Logo to be legal in Top Gun baseball events. Wooden Bats are always approved. See General Rules for definition of a Wooden Bat. The penalty for using an illegal bat will follow NFHS guidelines and Top Gun exceptions. All-Star events will have different rules posted for legal bats.
- 11. Tournament Director:** shall have final decision on all tournament questions but must follow Top Gun procedures.
- 12. Forfeits:** Tournament Directors oversee all operations for Top Gun events. Umpires may eject coaches, players, and/or fans, but DO NOT have the authority to forfeit games under any circumstances. If an individual is ejected, game time will be stopped, and ejected person must leave the venue immediately. The site director must be notified immediately! If the ejected person does not leave the premises immediately, police will be called. Once issue has been resolved, game time will resume. Players are not required to leave the venue for ejections.
- 13. Run Rules:** **8u:** (15 after 5) innings of play | **9u-HS:** (15 after 3), (10 after 4), and (8 after 5) innings of play.
- 14. Trips to the mound:** Two (2) trips per inning, per pitcher will disqualify that pitcher from the game from pitching. 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 re-enter the game later as a pitcher after one batter is retired.
- 15. International Tie Breaker Rule:** At the end of regulation or when the time limit has expired, teams will place the last three hitters from the previous inning to load the bases to start a new inning. The last hitter goes to 1<sup>st</sup> base, the hitter before him goes to 2<sup>nd</sup> base, and the hitter before that goes to 3<sup>rd</sup> base. There will be one (1) out and each team will bat until a winner has been determined. There will be no courtesy runners for the pitcher or catcher with this rule. Only eligible substitutes would be allowed to pinch run. This rule is used for all games except for the championship game. See General Rules if a player has been ejected during ITB Game.