

2020 TOP GUN-USA BASEBALL

GENERAL RULES

December 12, 2019

Play Top Gun-USA Sports

912 Gasser Drive SW

Concord NC 2827

Office 704-786-4754

www.playtopgunsports.com

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

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

ALL TEAMS SHOULD BRING THE FOLLOWING FOR EACH TOURNAMENT:

**Top Gun-USA sports roster, 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)

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Coaches, Parents, Staff, Friends and in fact anyone interested in Top Gun-USA Sports.

Abusive or personal attacks, Unprofessional, comments that we Top Gun-USA Sports deem Unsporting, Material that is Unlawful Obscene, Defamatory, Threatening, Harassing, Abusive, Slandorous, Hateful or Embarrassing to any other Entity. Any Third-Party Advertising, Third Party Social Media Sites, Chain Letters or Spam.

We being Top Gun-USA Sports, reserve the right to Terminate Involvement by users who post such content from the Top Gun-USA Sports Program. Any Roster Member of Top Gun -USA Sports, being Coaches, and Athletes may be Suspended from the sports program. This also included Parents, Guest, Spectators, etc. Top Gun-USA Sports the views and opinions expressed on any Third-Party Social Media Sites Top Gun-USA Sports cannot be held responsible for Accuracy or Reliability of information posted by External Parties.

ZERO TOLARANCE

Top Gun-USA Sports will have a Zero Tolerance for

Top Gun-USA Sports Baseball and will follow a “Zero Tolerance” policy regarding inappropriate behavior.

This policy will encompass all interactions during the course of the baseball sports program. This shall include but not be limited to the following: practices, games, opening day ceremonies tournaments and any other Top Gun-USA Sports Baseball sponsored event(s). By entering a Top Gun-USA Sanctioned Baseball Event you are agreeing to abide by this policy.

Our sons, daughters, nieces, nephews, and grandchildren far too often watch many of us forget the real reason for being involved in youth sports. In the Top Gun-USA Sports Baseball Program, this is reason for a “Zero Tolerance” policy. We must promote fair play, good sportsmanship and teach our children how to play the game. We feel it is everyone’s responsibility to teach the players that there is more to the game than winning or losing and the final score. Top Gun-USA Sports takes this responsibility seriously. With that said the following statements will represent our position and more importantly constitute our “Zero Tolerance” policy from this point forward.

TOP GUN-USA SPORTS

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

If Top Gu-USA Sports Baseball determines that a violation has occurred, he may impose penalties as provided in the General Rules.

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

Top Gun-USA Sports 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.

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.

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.

CONDUCT

Teams Coaches, Players, Spectators, and Organizations are subject to sanctions imposed by the Baseball Chairman for misconduct. Sanctions may be appealed to the Play Top Gun-USA 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.

UNSPORTING CONDUCT DURING A TOP GUN SANCTIONED EVENT

Any player, coach, manager, sponsor or spectator leaving their position or base, in the field, on the bench, in the dugout area or grandstands to participate in a fight, brawl or altercation shall be immediately ejected from the game and may be disbarred / suspended. This does include prior to game starting, during a game, or after the conclusion of a Top Gun-USA Sports Sanctioned Event.

NATIONAL FEDERATION HIGH SCHOOL RULES

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

VIOLATION OF POLICES OR TOURNAMENT RULES

Violation of polices or tournament rules.

Any parent, coach, team member, or spectator that violates the polices or rules of the Top Gun-USA Sports Baseball Event may be removed from any and all venues during and event and have future sanctions placed on that person or persons. This does include ejections during and Top Gun-USA Sanctioned event.

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 each member above.

The Head Coach is responsible to make sure all coaches on the field or in the dugout are on his team roster.

All Coaches in the Dugout or on the Field must be on the Roster.

Coaches Passes will only be allocated to Coaches Listed on the Team Roster.

“Coaches not on the roster will be ejected from the game when discovered”.

Top Gun-USA Sports is recommending that all base coaches wear the Skull Protective Helmet while coaches on the bases in 2020.

This recommend rule will become Mandatory in 2021 for all Top Gun-USA Sports Baseball Events.

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 scheduled game. Coaches are not permitted to be at the next game following an ejection.

(Ejections involving Pitching Rules. See the Ineligible Pitching Rule).

Any Assistant Coach being a Base Coach, Bench Coach, or Scorekeeper that is Ejected from the game will cause the Head Coach of the team to be confined to the Dugout for the remainder of the game. The intent of this rule is for the Head Coach Responsibilities of controlling all Team Bench Members.

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-USA Sports Baseball.

FORFEITS

All Forfeits are subject to review by the Tournament Director and Top Gun-USA Sports, may result in the offending team being declared ineligible for any future Top Gun-USA Sports 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. Pitching Ineligible pitchers will not be considered as extenuating circumstances.

UMPIRES CONTROL

Top Gun-USA Umpires Cannot Forfeit Top Gun-USA Sports 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 does not leave the venue the police will be called.

TEAM INSURANCE

Top Gun-USA Sports Requires that all teams have Team Insurance before playing in a Top Gun-USA Sports 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-Sports Sanctioned Event. This should be presented to Top Gun-USA Sports 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.

TOURNAMENT DEFINITION

Top Gun-USA Sports Baseball definition of a tournament is in which we have three (3) teams competing. Less than three teams will not constitute a tournament. Top Gun-USA Sports Baseball may allow two 2 teams to play but this would not constitute a 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 your 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 allowed 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.

TOP GUN FIELD DIMENSIONS

<u>AGES</u>	<u>MOUND</u>	<u>BASES</u>	<u>BASES</u>
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

2020 Age Determination

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

8u Cannot turn 9 prior to May 1, 2020
9u Cannot turn 10 prior to May 1, 2020
10u Cannot turn 11 prior to May 1, 2020
11u Cannot turn 12 prior to May 1, 2020
12u Cannot turn 13 prior to May 1, 2020
13u Cannot turn 14 prior to May 1, 2020
14u Cannot turn 15 prior to May 1, 2020
15u Cannot turn 16 prior to May 1, 2020
16u Cannot turn 17 prior to May 1, 2020
17u Cannot turn 18 prior to May 1, 2020
H.S. Cannot turn 19 prior to May 1, 2020

LENGTH OF GAMES---AGES 8U-HIGH SCHOOL

8u--12u 6 Innings

13u---HS 7 Innings

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 rules after 3 innings

10 run rules after 4 innings

8 run rule after 5 innings.

Games may not end in a tie.

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 not 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.

Consolation Games now have a 1 hour 30 minute time limit.

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 an inning, a new inning will start.

INTERNATIONAL TIE BREAKER RULE (ITB)

At the end of regulation or when the Time Limit has expired, teams will place the last three hitters for the previous inning to load the bases.

The last hitter from the previous inning goes to 1st base, the hitter before him goes to 2nd base, and the hitter before that goes to 3rd 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 Pitcher or Catchers with this Rule. Only Eligible Substitutes would be allowed to Pinch Run. This rule is used for all games except the Championship Game.

If a player has been ejected from the game and is now in the order to bat in an (ITB) an out will be taken at his time to bat. That player that is now ejected if needed on base to fill an open base by rule, Umpires should place the next previous batter in that spot.

ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS AGE

Any question pertaining to the eligibility of a players Age at the tournament must be protested during a game.

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.

If a player is found to be ineligible for age prior to the start of the tournament, the player will be expelled from the tournament. If a player is found to be ineligible for age after the tournament has begun, not only the player will be expelled, but the entire team may be expelled from the tournament.

Any questions during a game pertaining to the age eligibility of players, must be handle by filing a protest during that game that is in question due to age 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 may be removed from the tournament.

ELIGIBILITY OF COACHES

Coaches are responsible to see that their team meets all eligibility requirements.

All Adults in the dugouts must be Coaches or Scorekeepers that are listed on the On-Line Roster.

Coaches Passes may be allotted at the Gate Based by the On-Line Roster.

Not being on a roster does not allow you to be on the field or in the dugout. No one other than listed Adults are to be in any dugout or on the field at any time. Coaches not on the roster will be ejected from the game when discovered.

Top Gun-USA allows for a maximum of Four (4) Adults on the team roster. This can be Three (3) coaches and a scorekeeper or Four (4) coaches.

Any question pertaining to the eligibility of a COACH/SCOREKEEPER at the tournament must be protested during a game. After the game is too late to file a protest on any issue.

“Coaches or Scorekeepers on the field or in the dugout that are not on the roster will be ejected from the game when discovered”.

TEAM RE-CLASSIFICATION FOR WORLD SERIES AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Teams will not be allowed to be reclassified into a lower division (i.e.) Dropping from Division 1 to Division 2) or Division 2 to Division 3) within 30 days of a World Series or National Tournament.

FOUR (4) GAME SCHEDULED WITH / NO BYE PROTECTION

Teams will be scheduled Four (4) games but we cannot Guarantee that any teams play's any game in a tournament. Normally teams will receive Three (3) Games due Brackets with Byes or If Games. All Bye Games will be considered a team's 3rd game.

There will be NO Bye Protection for Teams winning or receiving a Bye in the Brackets.
This means NO IF Games for teams that LOSE the Bye Games.

POINTS PROGRAM

Teams that move up or down in divisions has created issues in our Points Program. We will awards points based on the Top Four (4) Point Winners in an Age Division regardless of Skill Level Associated with teams.

FUNDRAISER EVENT

Any Fundraiser Tournament must be hosted through a Top Gun Sanctioned Director. Top Gun Sports does not grant fundraiser tournaments to an organization or 3rd party group. Directors may elect to run a fundraiser for a cause during the year if they choose to do so. That decision will be made by contacting that Director. All Top Gun rules and guidelines must be followed for a Fundraiser Event.

NO EXEPTIONS.

PROPERLY EQUIPMENT RULE

All players and coaches must be properly equipped according to NFHS Rules.

Please be aware of the new 2020 NFHS Catcher's Equipment Safety Rule.

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

STEEL CLEATS

Steel Cleats are permitted in ages 13u and above.

Ages 8u-12u must wear Rubber Cleats.

No Steel Cleats are Permitted on any Portable Mounds. Portable mounds will be used at some venues for ages 13u and above. Please be sure all pitchers have All-purpose Rubber Shoes when pitching on Portable Mounds.

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. **No roster addition can be made after the tournament has begun unless approved by the tournament director.**

PENALTY FOR NOT HAVING PLAYERS ON THE ON-LINE ROSTER

When a team discovers that a team does not have a player on their On-Line Roster as being Active. A Protest must be filed.

The Ineligible Player when discovered will be Ejected from the Game at that time, Ejected Players spot would become an OUT in the Batting Order and Remain an OUT, for the remainder of the game.

No Substitutions will be allowed for the Ineligible Player that has been Ejected.

The Head Coach will also be Ejected for that game and carry an Additional One (1) Game Penalty as all Top Gun Ejections Carry.

The Ineligible Players may be added to the Teams Roster at the Completion of That Team's Game. That player **WOULD BE ALLOWED** to play in his teams next game if properly added.

The intent of this Rule is not to Eject the Entire Team or Players from tournaments. This error is a Coaching or Administrative Error and not a Player Error.

PICK-UP GUEST PLAYER RULE

Top Gun is all open rostered. Players may be picked up guest as long as the player is not rostered 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. Players first game played will freeze that player to that team roster. No exceptions to this rule will be allowed.

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 produce 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.

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 2nd 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 1st trip of an inning may reenter the game as a pitcher after one batter is retired if needed.

Removal from the mound on the 2nd 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 Umpire Putting the Ball in Play, as you are now officially entered into the pitching position.

The Penalty after receiving a Protest during that game in question for pitching, the Ineligible Pitcher is ejected from that game being played when the Ineligible Pitcher is discovered. The Pitcher is suspended for the next scheduled game.

The Head Coaches is Ejected for the remainder of the Tournament for Pitching an Ineligible Pitcher.

The current game becomes a Forfeit as soon as the Ineligible Pitcher is discovered.

If the winning team of the forfeit is winning at that time the score will stand if more than 6 runs in ages 12 and under, if not the score a 6 to 0 score would stand.

In ages 13 and above the score will stand if more than 7 runs, if not the 7 to 0 score would stand.

An Ineligible Pitcher must be protested during the game that he is Ineligible in. If an Ineligible Pitcher was used and not protested during that game that he was used in and that game is now an Official Game, No Protest is allowed, since it was not protested during that game and that game is an Official Game.

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 NO substitutes and if an injury or sickness occurs, an out will be taken when that players comes up to bat.

Clarification: Players that become injured during the game or at Bat, can't continue at that time will receive ONE (1) OUT at that time, providing that the team does not have a legal Substitute. If that Player does not come back at his next time at Bat, No Out Will be Charged for that Player for the remainder of the Game. However, if that player would want to stay in the game and in the Line Up, One Out will be charged each time he comes up as a batter and unable to bat the player would remain a current player in the game.

High School Federation - 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 did (NOT) adopt the 2020 High School New DH Rule.

BAT RULE--AGES 9U AND ABOVE

Ages 8u-12u There are No Bat Size restrictions but all bats must be stamped with a Bat Performance Factor (BPF) of 1.15 or have a USA Baseball Logo to be Legal in any Top Gun Baseball Event.

In ages 13u a -8, -7, -6, -5, -4 with BPF 1.15 or USA Stamp and -3 BBCOR bats are legal.

In Ages 14u up to High School Ages BBCOR approved bats are required and High School Federation Rule applies.

Wooden Bats are always Approved. A Wooden Bat is a 100% Wooden Bat, or may be a Composite Bat, but the Barrel of the Bat must be of 100% Wood.

ALTERED BATS INSPECTION AND SUSPENSION

A Top Gun Director may at any time ask to inspect a bat that has been brought into the location of a Top Gun sanctioned event or any other Top Gun facility.

The owner and / or user may either:

- (a) Withhold the bat from inspection and accept an immediate two years (automatic life time for second time offenders pursuant to suspension from Top Gun sanctioned activities with no right to appeal; or
- (b) Allow the Director to inspect the bat and reach a conclusion as to whether or not the bat might be altered.

Altered Bat Determination by Altered Bat Committee Chairman or Manufacturer: If, after making the inspection of a potential altered bat, the Director in his discretion decides that the bat might be an altered bat, the suspected offending owner and / or user and may either:

- (a) Withhold the bat from further examination by the Top Gun Altered Bat Committee Chairman or Manufacturer and accept an immediate two years (up to life time for second time offenders pursuant to Top Gun Rules suspension from Top Gun sanctioned activities with no right to appeal; or
- (b) Allow the Director to send the bat to the Top Gun Altered Bat Committee Chairman and / or Manufacturer for a determination as to whether or not the bat is altered. If the Manufacturer or the Top Gun Altered Bat Committee Chairman determines that the bat has been altered, the Altered Bat Committee Chairman in consultation with the Director who inspected the bat at the Top Gun facility may suspend a first-time offender for up to five (5) years from Top Gun play. For a second-time offender pursuant to Top Gun Rules any such suspension shall be life time.

BAT RULE--8U COACH PITCH, MACHINE PITCH, HYBRID

A Coach Pitch Bat may be a Large Barrel or Composite Bat or a Wooden Bat.

Bats 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.

Batter is Out and Head Coach is restricted to dugout on 1st offense. HC is ejected on 2nd offense.

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.

BASE RUNNING---9U MODIFIED BASES

In the 9u Open Bases 65 feet bases the Base Runner must not be beyond the 10-foot line when the ball crosses the plate. There will be a 10-foot line placed past 1st, 2nd, 3rd, bases. The runner can take a lead but cannot cross the 10 foot line until the PITCHED BALL CROSSES HOME PLATE. The runner's feet must be stationary before the pitcher begin his delivery to the plate. The runner is allowed to steal after the ball crosses the plate. If the runner gets a Running Start in an attempt to steal Before the ball crosses the plate or is put into play. The Runner will be called out. Penalty is IMMEDIATE DEAD BALL and the Base Runner is Out and Removed from the base for leaving too early. All other runners return to their Original Base.

BALKS

No Balks will be Enforced in the 9u age Division. This means if a Pitcher Does Balk in this Age Division, while trying to pick off a runner, the Ball is Dead and all Runners Return to their original base with No Penalty. All other ages Balks will be called. Pitchers will not be warned for Balks.

COURTESY RUNNERS

What is a Courtesy Runner?

This is a player or players that is an Eligible Substitute meaning he is not in the Batting Line Up as a player. This Eligible Substitute player may be used as a Courtesy Runner for the Pitcher or Catcher of Record. If a team is batting the entire lineup meaning he has no eligible sub, then the last recorded out may run for the Pitcher or Catcher of Record.

A burnt sub may be used as the courtesy runner if you do not have an eligible sub.

No Courtesy Runners are allowed in (ITB).

EJECTIONS IN THE LINE UP

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

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. The process will be that that game is now stopped when properly filed. 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.

Games are not played under Protest or Games May Not Be Protested after the Game is Completed. The above process must be followed.

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 Top Gun 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 Top Gun Official game. The tournament directors will make that decision only.

In ages 8u-12u the amount of Innings is 2.5 Inning for Top Gun Official Game Status if the Home Team is Winning.

In ages 13u and Above the Top Gun Official Game Status will be 3.5 Innings if the Home Team is Winning.

RAIN-DURING BRACKET PLAY-OFFICIAL GAME STATUS

If Official Game Status has been reached in Bracket Play Game and a Full Complete Inning CANNOT be completed you will revert back to the last completed Full Inning. If that score would happen to be a Tie Game the Higher Seeded teams will be ranked higher. If this is the Championship Game the higher Seed would be Champions and the lower seed would be the Runner Up team.

RAIN

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

RAIN POLICY SEEDING

Teams will be seeded into brackets based on the following procedure during Rained Out Pool Play Games.

Games Played, Runs Allowed, Runs Scored, Runs Differential, Flip of Coin

1st Seed- Teams 2-0---Runs Allowed, Runs Scored, Runs Differential, Flip of Coin

2nd Seed Teams 1-0--- Runs Allowed, Runs Scored, Runs Differential, Flip of Coin

3rd Seed Teams 1-1--- Runs Allowed, Runs Scored, Runs Differential, Flip of Coin

4th Seed Teams 0-1--- Runs Allowed, Runs Scored, Runs Differential, Flip of Coin

5th Seed Teams 0-2 ---- Runs Allowed, Runs Scored, Runs Differential, Flip of Coin

6th Seed Teams 0-0--- Runs Allowed, Runs Scored, Runs Differential, Flip of Coin

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.

APPROVING OF FINAL SCORE

After the Game is over the final score must be approved by each teams Head Coach and the teams Official Score Keeper, and the Umpires. Both Signatures of the Teams Head Coach and Official Scorekeeper are now required of both teams on the Score Card. This is to verify the correct score, pitching, home runs of that game. Once the Score Card is signed by both the Head Coach and Scorekeeper, that Score is now the Official Score of that game.

Failure to sign the Score Cards by either team or teams is consenting that the Score Card is Correct and that no revisions will be made.

AWARDS PRESENTATIONS

After the Championship Game of any event Top Gun-USA Sports will have an Awards Presentation at that time. The location could be on the field or at an Awards Presentation Location selected by the Director.

After the game end the teams should Line-Up on the Foul Lines for the awards presentation or proceed to the Tournament Director selected location for the Award Ceremonies.

Failure to participate in the Awards Ceremonies would be deemed Unsporting and would be subject to the Top Gun-USA Sports Baseball Rules.

GRADE EXCEPTION RULE

Players Using the Grade Exception rule must have a Birth Certificate and Report Card for Verification with them at all times.

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 and Report Card of the player in question, the game will be a forfeit and the team may 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.

7U Division---Players who turn 8 prior to May 1 of the current season are not eligible unless they are in the 1st grade. Also, any player turning 9 prior to September 1 will not be eligible.
Players who are 7u are eligible for this division regardless of their grade.

8U Division---Players who turn 9 prior to May 1 of the current season are not eligible unless they are in the 2nd grade. Also, any player turning 10 prior to September 1 will not be eligible.
Players who are 8u are eligible for this division regardless of their grade.

9U Division---Players who turn 10 prior to May 1 of the current season are not eligible unless they are in the 3rd grade. Also, any player turning 11 prior to September 1 will not be eligible.
Players who are 9u are eligible for this division regardless of their grade.

10U Division---Players who turn 11 prior to May 1 of the current season are not eligible unless they are in the 4th grade. Also, any player turning 12 prior to September 1 will not be eligible.
Players who are 10u are eligible for this division regardless of their grade.

11U Division---Players who turn 12 prior to May 1 of the current season are not eligible unless they are in the 5th grade. Also, any player turning 13 prior to September 1 will not be eligible.
Players who are 11u are eligible for this division regardless of their grade.

12U Division---Players who turn 13 prior to May 1 of the current season are not eligible unless they are in the 6th grade. Also, any player turning 14 prior to September 1 will not be eligible.
Players who are 12u are eligible for this division regardless of their grade.

13U Division---Players who turn 14 prior to May 1 of the current season are not eligible unless they are in the 7th grade. Also, any player turning 15 prior to September 1 will not be eligible.
Players who are 13u are eligible for this division regardless of their grade.

14U Division---Players who turn 15 prior to May 1 of the current season are not eligible unless they are in the 8th grade. Also, any player turning 16 prior to September 1 will not be eligible.

Players who are 14u eligible are eligible for this division regardless of grade.

15U Division---Players who turn 16 prior to May 1 of the current season are not eligible unless they are a freshman in High School. Also, any player turning 17 prior to September 1 will not be eligible.

Players who are 15u are eligible for this division regardless of their grade.

16U Division---Players who turn 17 prior to May 1 of the current season are not eligible unless they are a sophomore in High School. Also, any player turning 18 prior to September 1 will not be eligible.

Players who are 16u are eligible for this division regardless of their grade.

17U Division---Players who turn 18 prior to May 1 of the current season are not eligible unless they are a junior in High School. Also, any player turning 19 prior to September 1 will not be eligible.

Players who are 17u are eligible for this division regardless of their grade.

18U Division---Players who turn 19 prior to May 1 of the current season are not eligible unless they are a senior in High School. Also, any player turning 20 prior to September 1 will not be eligible.

Players who are 18u are eligible for this division regardless of their grade.

HS Division---Player who turn 19 prior to May 1 of the current season are not eligible unless you are a Senior.

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

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 wellbeing 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 these Top Gun Baseball General Rules as well as all procedures and policies.