



DYBBaseball**USA**
DIAMOND YOUTH BASEBALL
THE PREMIER COMMUNITY YOUTH BASEBALL PROGRAM IN THE SOUTHEAST

DYB, Inc.

2025 Proposed Policy and Rule Changes

June 30, 2025

The following proposed Policy and Rules changes will be considered by the Board of Directors of DYB, Inc. at its annual meeting beginning July 31, 2025 in Lexington, South Carolina. Please distribute these suggested changes to all league officials.

As a democratic organization, DYB provides officials from each franchised league the opportunity to express their views and opinions through elected representatives. State and National Directors, who serve on the National Board, actively seek each league's input and advice to help them vote the convictions of the leagues they represent.

PROPOSED POLICY CHANGES

BYLAWS:

New Addition

Change to read:

The State Board of Directors may appoint one Softball National Director to assist the Softball State Director in coordinating the state's softball program. (Duties of DYS National Director are attached)

William Wade, DYB Commissioner

BYLAWS:

New Addition

Change to read:

Add as new section 13 in the DYB By-Law under Article XI. 13. No individual or state organization shall authorize, condone or permit any action that is inconsistent with the duly adopted rules, policies and procedures of DYB, Inc. Any failure to enforce or uphold such rules, policies and procedures may constitute a breach of duty and shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Kent Bruxvoort, DYB President

BYLAWS

The rule/policy as it now reads: To qualify for Division II play, a league must have franchised nine (9) or less teams in 12U, 10U and 8U divisions for the current or prior year. A league that does not franchise teams in all divisions may participate in Division II, provided that they do not have more than six (6) total teams franchised in two divisions or more than three (3) total teams franchised in one division.

Change to Read:

I propose that the rule/policy be changed to read as follows:

8U – 5 teams or more is Division I

10U – 5 teams or more is Division I

12U – 4 teams or more is Division I

Any age group having fewer teams per age group than listed above will be Division II status.

**Ricky Phatuross, Alabama State Director
Mathews, Alabama**

OBJECTIVES OF THE GAME

Page 17

Paragraph 1.11

Article A

The “official” embroidered emblem must be used on tournament uniforms.

Change to read:

All players and coaches participating in sanctioned DYB tournaments shall wear an approved “official” DYB logo on the left sleeve. The logo can be screen-printed on the sleeve and the charge for the patches will be for the number of coaches and players per team roster submitted by the National office for payment of not using the DYB patches.

**Ricky Phatuross, Alabama State Director
Mathews, Alabama**

PLAYER/COACH ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Page 59

Paragraph 11.05

Article A

A player, a coach or a team may participate or play in another tournament between scheduled DYB tournaments. However, a player, or replacement player, coach or a team shall not participate in any other tournament during a sanctioned DYB tournament including any days their team is not scheduled to play during the DYB tournament. PENALTY: Any player, or replacement player, manager or coach who violates this rule shall be removed from their DYB tournament team roster immediately. Any team who violates this rule shall be disqualified from tournament play immediately.

Change to Read:

DELETE 11.05(a) in its entirety.

William Wade, DYB Commissioner

A player, replacement player, manager or coach shall not miss the first game of each level of DYB tournament play due to travel delays from a family vacation. PENALTY: any player or replacement player who violates this rule shall be ineligible to pitch in this level of play, but may pitch in the next level of play if his team advances. Any manager or coach who violates this rule shall be suspended for the second game of the tournament.

Change to read:

Delete this paragraph

**Jesse Buchanan, Arkansas State Director
Texarkana, Arkansas**

REPLACING PLAYERS

Addition to this rule

Change to Read:

A player on a team's Tournament Team Affidavit who does not play in any games at any level of tournament play for any reason, including injury or illness, must be replaced if the team advances to the next level of play.

William Wade, DYB Commissioner

TEAM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Add 13.23

Change to Read:

Team Eligibility Requirements - ADD NEW 13.23 renumber as required.

"Each tournament team is required to have a minimum of 11 players and a maximum of 12 players, and manager and the required number of coaches present at each tournament game except that any unfilled player vacancy or a player's absence may be approved by the tournament director for justifiable reasons, as outlined in Tournament Rule 11.35 (b), except for participation in other tournaments or family vacations which are covered under Tournament Rule 11.05. The tournament director may suspend a team manager from participating in any game where a player vacancy or absence cannot be justified. The tournament director may require the team to replace a player whose unjustified absence(s) raises doubt about their continued participation."

William Wade, DYB Commissioner

THE LEAGUE

Each Franchised league shall be composed of a minimum of three (3) teams and not more than nine (9) teams in the Majors, "O" Zone , AAA and AA divisions and not more than eleven (11) teams in the A division (6U & 4U).

Change to Read:

Each Franchised league shall be composed of a minimum of three (3) teams and not more than nine (9) teams in the Majors, "O" Zone , AAA and AA divisions and not more than eleven (11) teams in the A division (6U & 4U). Any league that has nine (9) or fewer teams will be classified as a Division 2 league. Any league having ten (10) or more teams will be classified as a Division 1 league. Division 1 leagues can have more than one franchise in a particular age group, but can select any player on a league roster, regardless of the franchise, to represent that league in tournament play.

Ricky Phatuross, Alabama State Director
Mathews, Alabama

THE LEAGUE

Page 78

Paragraph 14.12

Franchise renewals that are postmarked after April 1st will result in a \$50.00 late fee that must be paid prior to your Credentials meeting in order to participate in DYB sanctioned tournaments.

Change to Read:

Franchise renewals completed online or postmarked after April 1st will result in a \$100.00 late fee that must be paid prior to your Credentials meeting in order to participate in DYB sanctioned tournaments.

Bill Sanders, Texas National Director
Paris, Texas

LEAGUE REGULATIONS

Page 78-79

Paragraph 14.19

The Board of Directors of DYB allows each league and players accepted by a league to continue playing in the league, any player: (1) whose residence changes after he becomes a member of the league, and/or; (2) who live outside of the league's boundaries because of a revision of such boundaries, even though now residing in the territorial boundaries of another league. NOTE: A player must elect to remain in league or join the new league in which boundary he now lives in the year of change. Once an election is made, he must remain in the chosen league until he reaches league age 13. Exception Reg. 14.31.

Change to Read:

14.19 The Board of Directors of DYB allows each league and players accepted by a league to continue playing in the league, any player: (1) whose legal residence (domicile) changes after they have become a member of a league, and/or (2) who live outside of the league's boundaries because of a revision of such boundaries, even though now residing in the territorial boundaries of another league. NOTE: In such cases, the player has the option, for the upcoming season, to either remain with the league they participated in during the previous season or to join the new league that now includes their current residence. This decision must be made at the time of registration for the upcoming season. Once the player makes their choice, they are required to remain in the selected league until they reach league age 13. An exception to this rule is outlined in Regulation 14.31.

William Wade, DYB Commissioner

Players who are members of a league or leagues within a defined boundary, including players acquired under League Regulations 14.31 or 14.32 shall remain the property of the league unless they move to a new permanent address within the boundary of another DYB league(s); or, unless otherwise provided for in these rules.

Change to Read:

Players shall be considered the property of the league in which their permanent legal residence (domicile) is located, provided that residence falls within the league's defined boundary. This includes all players participating within that boundary, as well as those acquired in accordance with Regulations 14.31 or 14.32. Players will remain the property of their league unless they relocate to a new permanent legal residence that falls within the boundary of another DYB league(s); or, unless otherwise provided for in these rules.

William Wade, DYB Commissioner

Each league shall determine its own method for selection of players for team rosters. However, any player selection system used shall be in the form of a draft system, a talent distribution system or an audition system and shall be under the direction of a player agent who shall see that all the teams have an equal opportunity in the selection of players.

Change to Read:

Penalty - A league that refuses to follow this rule shall be placed on probation for one year by the state board. If after one year, the league continues to violate this rule, the league shall not be allowed a DYB franchise.

Bill Sanders, Texas National Director
Paris, Texas

Should a franchised DYB league not have enough players registered to franchise team(s) in the 12U, 10U 8U and/or 6U divisions the State Director may grant written approval to allow a player that registered with such league to be eligible for league and tournament play in an adjoining league to their league of residence. The written approval must be obtained from the state director prior to April 1st. This approval shall be issued on a season-by-season basis and a player must return to their league of residence for the next season unless subsequent approval is granted by the state director.

Change to Read:

In the event that a franchised DYB league does not have enough players registered to form team(s) in the 12U, 10U, 8U, and/or 6U divisions, the State Director may grant written approval for a player that registered with that league to participate in league and tournament play with an adjoining DYB league. This written approval must be obtained from the State Director prior to April 1st of the current season. The approval is valid on a season-by-season basis and the player must return to their league of legal residence for the next season unless subsequent approval is granted by the state director. Note: Any player who did not register with their league of legal residence is not eligible to receive this approval.

William Wade, DYB Commissioner

Any player has the choice to play local league and be eligible for tournament play for a league in either the boundary that he/she resides or the boundary of the league where he/she attends public or private school (excluding home schools) as of January 1st of the current school year. The player cannot go back and forth between the league of residence and the league where they attend public or private school (excluding home schools) A player that registers and is accepted by the league where he/she attends school must remain in that league until he/she reaches the age of 13. EXCEPTION – A player that opts to play in the league where he/she attends school is eligible to use the school option again in the event they move their physical address into another DYB league's boundary.

Change to Read:

Add sentences to DYB and DYS: If a player wishes to exercise this option, a completed DYB/DYS School Verification Form must be included with the Tournament Team Eligibility Affidavit at the District Credentials Meeting.

William Wade, DYB Commissioner

Jay Bennett, DYB Deputy Commissioner

OTHER YOUTH LEAGUE PARTICIPATION**Page 82****Paragraph 14.52**

No league franchised with DYB shall franchise its teams with any other youth baseball program. PENALTY: The penalty for violation of this rule will be revocation of the league's DYB franchise.

Change to Read:

Delete this paragraph

Ricky Phatuross, Alabama State Director

Mathews, Alabama

PROPOSED RULE CHANGES**APPROVED BATS****Page 17****Paragraph 1.10****Article C**

Approved Bats (c) "Tee Ball Bats bats will be stamped with the USA Baseball Mark and the language "Only for use with approved tee balls". Bats stamped for Tee Ball (T-Ball) play can only be used with low compression balls due to the manufacturing standards for these bats. Any bat stamped for Tee Ball (T-ball) play cannot be used in games played using a regular baseball that is pitched to the batter in any division of DYB including 6U Coach Pitch."

Change to Read:

Approved Bats (c) "Bats stamped for Tee Ball play cannot be used in AAA, Majors or "O"Zone play. It is recommended that bats stamped for Tee Ball play be used only with low compression baseballs in 8U or 6U play.

William Wade, DYB Commissioner

STARTING & ENDING A GAME**Page 31****Paragraph 4.09a****Article 4**

After the end of six innings with a tied score, play is continued until a team has scored more runs than the other in an equal number of innings.

Change to Read:

After the score is tied at the end of a regulation game or when the time limit has expired in a time limit game, the game will continue for an additional inning or innings using the following tiebreaker rule. At the start of each additional inning, the last base runner scheduled to bat in each team's half inning will be placed on second base as a runner. The process will continue until one team scores more runs than the other at the end of a completed inning. This rule will apply to tournament play.

Bill Sanders, Texas National Director
Paris, Texas

INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT

Page 41-42

Paragraph 6.10

Article C

The fake bunt/hit away tactic will not be tolerated. Aggressive defense play brings the players too close to the batter in an attempted to take the bunt away from the batter completely, which becomes a safety concern. Once a batter squares to bunt, he may.

- (1) Pull the bat back and take the pitch or,
- (2) Attempt to bunt the ball.

The batter may not swing away after squaring off in the bunt position and drawing a fielder dangerously close to the batter's box. The umpire shall call no pitch and meet with the team and team manager to give the team warning upon the first occurrence. A second occurrence will result in the removal of the team manager for the remainder of the game.

Change to Read:

I propose that the rule/policy be changed to read as follows: The fake bunt/hit away tactic will not be tolerated. Aggressive defense play brings the players too close to the batter in an attempted to take the bunt away from the batter completely, which becomes a safety concern. Once a batter squares to bunt, he may.

- (1) Pull the bat back and take the pitch or,
- (2) Attempt to bunt the ball.

If the batter swings away at the pitch after squaring to bunt, the umpire will call time immediately and the batter will be called out, whether or not they make contact with the ball. The manager is warned, and for the next offense, the team manager is removed from the remainder of that game.

Ricky Phatuross, Alabama State Director
Mathews, Alabama

INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT

Page 41-42 Paragraph 6.10 Article C

The fake bunt/hit away tactic will not be tolerated. Aggressive defense play brings the players too close to the batter in an attempt to take the bunt away from the batter completely, which becomes a safety concern. Once a batter squares to bunt, he may.

- (1) Pull the bat back and take the pitch or,
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The batter may not swing away after squaring off in the bunt position and drawing a fielder dangerously close to the batter's box. The umpire shall call no pitch and meet with the team and team manager to give the team warning upon the first occurrence. A second occurrence will result in the removal of the team manager for the remainder of the game.

Change to Read:

The fake bunt/hit away tactic will not be tolerated. Aggressive defense play brings the players too close to the batter in an attempted to take the bunt away from the batter completely, which becomes a safety concern. Once a batter squares to bunt, he may.

- (1) Pull the bat back and take the pitch or,
- (2) Attempt to bunt the ball.

The batter may not swing away after squaring off in the bunt position and drawing a fielder dangerously close to the batter's box.

PENALTY:

1. If the batter puts the ball in play and is put out, the umpire shall meet with the team and team manager to give a team warning upon the first occurrence.
2. If the batter does not put the ball in play, the umpire shall call a no pitch and meet with the team and team manager to give a team warning upon the first occurrence.
3. Upon a second occurrence, the team manager will be removed for the remainder of the game.

**Wes Skelton, Texas State Director
Marshall, Texas**

INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT

Page 41-42

Paragraph 6.10

Article C

The fake bunt/hit away tactic will not be tolerated. Aggressive defense play brings the players too close to the batter in an attempt to take the bunt away from the batter completely, which becomes a safety concern. Once a batter squares to bunt, he may.

- (1) Pull the bat back and take the pitch or,
- (2) Attempt to bunt the ball.

The batter may not swing away after squaring off in the bunt position and drawing a fielder dangerously close to the batter's box. The umpire shall call no pitch and meet with the team and team manager to give the team warning upon the first occurrence. A second occurrence will result in the removal of the team manager for the remainder of the game.

Change to Read:

The fake bunt/hit away tactic will not be tolerated. Aggressive defense play brings the players too close to the batter in an attempt to take the bunt away from the batter completely, which becomes a safety concern. Once a batter squares to bunt, he may.

- (1) Pull the bat back and take the pitch or,
- (2) Attempt to bunt the ball.

The batter may not swing away after squaring off in the bunt position and drawing a fielder dangerously close to the batter's box. If the batter swings, the ball will be dead, with the runners returning to their original bases, the batter will be called out and the team manager will be ejected. No warning will be given in this situation. EXCEPTION: Does not apply to Coach Pitch or T-ball because bunting isn't allowed.

**Zachary Bonner, Texas District 4 Director
Hallsville, Texas**

ANY RUNNER IS OUT

Page 46

Paragraph 7.08

Article M

Addition to this rule

Change to Read:

Jumping, hurdling or leaping are legal attempts to avoid a fielder as long as the fielder is lying flat on the ground. Diving over a fielder is illegal.

**Kirk Mayfield, DYB World Series Umpire
Marbury, Alabama**

ANY RUNNER IS OUT

Page 46

Paragraph 7.08

Article M

Addition to this rule

Change to Read:

A runner may jump, hurdle or leap over a fielder lying on the ground, but may never hurdle or leap over a fielder under any circumstance. If a runner makes illegal contact with the fielder while jumping, hurdling and leaping it results in interference. This shall be immediate dead ball and all runners will be placed at the base last touched before the interference.

**David White, Texas District 7 Asst. Director
Huffman, Texas**

THE RUNNER

Page 48

Paragraph 7.13

Article B

If a runner leaves the base before the pitch reaches the plate, the base umpire shall drop a signal flag to indicate the violation at the time it occurs. PENALTY: The defensive team shall have the privilege of nullifying any portion of the play that occurred after the violation.

Change to Read:

If a runner leaves the base before the pitch reaches the plate, the base umpire shall drop a signal flag to indicate the violation at the time it occurs. PENALTY: The defensive team shall have the privilege of nullifying any portion of the play that occurred after the violation. On the offensive team's second violation in the same inning, the umpire will nullify the entire play and declare violating the runner out.

**Zachary Bonner, Texas District 4 Director
Hallsville, Texas**

THE PITCHER

Page 51

Paragraph 8.03

When a pitcher takes his position at the beginning of an inning, or when he relieves another pitcher, he shall be permitted to pitch, not more than eight preparatory pitches to his catcher during the time play is suspended.

Change to Read:

Each additional inning the pitcher of record shall be limited to five preparatory pitches.

**Zachary Bonner, Texas District 4 Director
Hallsville, Texas**

A pitcher shall not pitch more than six (6) Innings in a calender week between 12:01 am on Monday to 12:00 pm midnight on the following Sunday.

Change to Read:

Delete rule 8.07 (6) and 8.07 (7)

Barry Tate, Chipley DYB President
Chipley, Florida

The pitch count statistician shall record all pitches including strikes, balls, foul tips and any pitches delivered to the catcher ruled a “no pitch” by the umpire.

Change to Read:

The pitch count statistician shall record all pitches including strikes, balls and foul balls. Any pitches delivered to the catcher ruled a “no pitch” by the umpire sall not be recorded in the pitch count. IF APPROVED, this would also apply to Tournament Rule: Page 62, Paragraph 11.26.

Jesse Buchanan, Arkansas State Director
Texarkana, Arkansas

Any player who has played the position of catcher in four or more complete innings (or 12 outs) in a game is not eligible to pitch in that game.

Change to Read:

Any player who has played the position of catcher for 13 outs in a game is not eligible to pitch in that game.

Ricky Phatuross, Alabama State Director
Mathews, Alabama

A pitcher removed from the game or lineup for a substitute may remain in the game at another defensive position provided all other provisions of the substitution rules. Exception: A pitcher who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of the game. Any player who has played the position of catcher for four or more innings is not eligible to pitch in that game.

Change to Read:

Delete the last sentence, allowing a catcher to pitch after catching four or more innings in that game. Also in an editorial change - add the words (are met) after substitution rules in the first sentence.

Jesse Buchanan, Arkansas State Director
Texarkana, Arkansas

At the start of the game, all players on each tournament team's roster will be listed in the starting offensive batting lineup and will bat in this order continuously throughout the game. Should the offensive team have less than 11 players available, at any time, and OUT will be recorded the first time at bat for player(s), who are absent from a game and are not injured, ill, disqualified, attending church service or has an excused emergency or family death.

Change to Read:

At the start of the game, all players on each tournament team's roster will be listed in the starting offensive batting lineup and will bat in this order continuously throughout the game. Should the offensive team have less than 11 players available, at any time, and OUT will be recorded each time at bat for player(s), who are absent from a game and are not injured, ill, disqualified, attending church service or has an excused emergency or family death.

Bill Sanders, Texas National Director
Paris, Texas

Zachary Bonner, Texas District 4 Director
Hallsville, Texas

At the start of the game, all players on each tournament team's roster will be listed in the starting offensive batting lineup and will bat in this order continuously throughout the game. Should the offensive team have less than 11 players available, at any time, and OUT will be recorded the first time at bat for player(s), who are absent from a game and are not injured, ill, disqualified, attending church service or has an excused emergency or family death.

Change to Read:

Delete the part about injured, ill, disqualified, attending a church service or has an excused emergency or family death.

Jesse Buchanan, Arkansas State Director
Texarkana, Arkansas

Each state organization may use only double elimination tournament brackets and three, four, five or six team pool play tournament formats approved by the Commissioner to advance teams to the next level of tournament play. States may advance more than one team to the next level of play.

Change to Read:

Each state organization may use only double elimination tournament brackets and three, four, five or six team pool play tournament formats approved by the Commissioner to advance teams to the next level of tournament play. States may advance more than one team to the next level of play. STATE OPTION - Each state organization may allow the use of approved DYS double elimination brackets in state and/or district 6U and/or 8U tournament play.

William Wade, DYB Commissioner
Jay Bennett, DYB Deputy Commissioner

Each state organization may use only double elimination tournament brackets and three, four, five or six team pool play tournament formats approved by the Commissioner to advance teams to the next level of tournament play. States may advance more than one team to the next level of play.

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William Wade, DYB Commissioner

Jay Bennett, DYB Deputy Commissioner

Each state organization may use only double elimination tournament brackets and three, four, five or six team pool play tournament formats approved by the Commissioner to advance teams to the next level of tournament play. States may advance more than one team to the next level of play.

Change to Read:

State Option - A state may elect to use the DYB or DYS tournament brackets for all post-season tournaments.

Ricky Phatuross, Alabama State Director

Mathews, Alabama

Advancing More Than One Team from Tournament Bracket – After completion of a double elimination bracket, if any two teams are tied with the same won-loss record, the head-to-head tie breaker will be used. If the head-to-head tie breaker does not break the tie or if the two tied teams did not play each other during the tournament there must be a one game playoff to determine which team advances to the next level of play. No other tie breakers may be used in double elimination brackets.

Change to Read:

Advancing More Than One Team from Tournament Bracket – The final two teams remaining in a double elimination bracket shall be designated as the tournament winner and runner-up, respectively. **Exception:** In situations where three teams remain in a tournament bracket with one loss each, and two teams, having played the same number of games, are tied with the same win-loss record, the head-to-head result will be used to break the tie. If the head-to-head result does not resolve the tie, or if the teams did not play each other during the tournament, a one-game playoff must be held to determine which team advances to the next level of play. No other tiebreakers are permitted in double elimination brackets.

William Wade, DYB Commissioner

AA/A PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

TOURNAMENT PLAY

Page 68

DYB Tournament play is Coach -Pitch for 6U

Change to Read:

Change the 6U Coach Pitch program and World Series to T-Ball

Lamone Reece, Texas District 6 Director
Palestine, Texas

COACH PITCHER

Page 69

Paragraph 12.03

Article E

If the coach pitcher is hit by a batted ball, it is a dead ball and will be a no pitch.

Change to Read:

If the coach pitcher is hit by a batted ball, it is a dead ball and the batter is awarded first base. Runners advance if forced. EXCEPTION: If the umpire judges that the coach pitcher interfered with the batted ball, the ball becomes dead and the batter will be called out for interference. All runners return to their base at the time of the pitch.

Ricky Phatuross, Alabama State Director
Mathews, Alabama

BASE RUNNING

Page 70

Paragraph 12.08

Add to this rule.

Change to Read:

The batter-runner cannot be tagged out while running to first base after the ball is hit, except by the first baseman, who may field the ball and tag first base or the runner. The other infield players, including the player pitcher, must throw the ball to first base in order to record an out on the batter runner. Once the batter reaches first base, he/she becomes a base runner and from that point on an out can be recorded by a defensive player, running or tagging the runner or stepping on a base for a force out.

Garland Hawk, Texas District 2 Director
Lufkin, Texas