

**2023**  
**Colt Express League Rules**  
**(Exceptions to Pony Baseball rules)**  
(Revised 5/29/2023)

1. A 15-minute grace period is allowed from the scheduled starting time before a forfeit is called. In the event of no official umpire, the game will be suspended and will be made up at a later date. (No substitute umpires unless; they are sanctioned by the league.) The home team will provide the bases, the umpires and two new game balls and the visitors one good used ball for the game.
2. Games may be started and finished with 8 players. 7 players is a forfeit.
3. All players may be freely substituted defensively throughout the game. All players present at game time will bat. Any latecomers must be slotted at the end of the batting order in the order they show up.
4. Pitchers may not exceed 7 innings a day and 15 innings a week. One pitch constitutes an inning. Once a pitcher is removed from the mound, he cannot return to pitch in the same game. The 4 inning/40-hour rule applies. Players may take the catcher position and/or pitcher position up to 7 innings in a doubleheader. This means a player may play pitcher and/or catcher in any combination for up to 7 innings in the two games. Your score book must show the complete name of the pitchers/catchers, the innings pitched/caught and the Manager of the opposing team must sign and date it in ink for every game. The catcher documentation only applies for doubleheaders. The Penalty for not doing this is the pitchers listed will only be allowed to pitch one inning during the next game. **Coaches from opposing team may review your team's current week's worth of pitching at any time during the game.**
5. **MERCY RULE: 15 run lead after 4 complete innings (3 ½ if home team is ahead) or 10 run lead after 5 complete innings (4 ½ if the home team is ahead).**
6. Time limit: There is no time limit in this league except local curfews in each city for a non doubleheader game on a single game field. For doubleheader games and games where there is more than one game on the field in the same day, no inning may start after 2 hours of game time. **Game Ends** after 2 hours 15 minutes even if inning is not completed. For scoring, it would be the score at the last complete inning. The game will be suspended at curfew or where the game ended and finished from that point at a later date.  
See rule 13 and 14.
7. All protests must be in accordance with the Protest form. Protest form may be found on the GCYAA.com website.

8. A courtesy runner may be used for the current catcher if he reaches base. The last previous out will be the runner (or last batter in order in 1<sup>st</sup> inning only).
9. Ejection Rule: These rules apply to all managers, coaches, players and spectators. **THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS! NO ALCOHOL, DRUGS OR ABUSIVE LANGUAGE WILL BE TOLERATED ON OR NEAR A PLAYING OR PRACTICE AREA.**
10. During an ejection – a player/manager/coach/parent is not allowed on the field or in the dugout areas. The offending manager/coach/parent must leave the vicinity/complex. This is at the Umpires discretion. A player may leave but not without a parent or guardian.
  - A. First ejection – The game you are being ejected from and the next game.
  - B. Second ejection – The game you are being ejected from, the next game and mandatory discipline hearing in front of the Board of Directors.
  - C. Third ejection – Automatic expulsion from the league.
  - D. Reporting – Ejections must be reported to the League Director by the opposing manager within 24 hours.

***Any player, coach, manager or spectator that touches an umpire for any reason during, before or after a game will receive an automatic season suspension.***
11. No smoking on or in the immediate areas around the playing fields or whenever on school property.
12. No jewelry will be worn during the game. Example: earrings, chains, watches, etc.
13. All players must be properly dressed in the uniform authorized by that teams association.
  - A. Final Rosters must be submitted by June 10<sup>th</sup>. League Director must approve any changes. The Director must notify other League Directors.
  - B. Rosters must include the player's Full Name and uniform number.
  - C. Directors are to email a copy of the rosters to Ken Kibit at [ken.gcyaa@gmail.com](mailto:ken.gcyaa@gmail.com).
14. Rain out rule: Rained out games must be scheduled within 7 days or forfeits will be given to both teams. If weather or scheduling does not permit, the league should be notified so other arrangements can be made. If this is not done, then forfeits will be given. Please check [www.gcyaa.com](http://www.gcyaa.com) for rain out information.
15. The winning team must report the game score within 24 hours on the [www.gcyaa.com](http://www.gcyaa.com) website.
16. Bat Rules: All bats must conform to the BBCOR bat rules or must be wooden. All BESR bats are illegal. The catcher's mask must cover full face, head and ears per MHSAA.

17. If a team will only have 7 players at game time, that team may pick up another house player in the Pony or Colt league. Replacement players will not be required to wear the same team uniform. They are **NOT** allowed to pitch or catch. Contact your League Director immediately. Director/Manager must notify the opposing team as soon as possible.
18. The league reserves the right, with the power vested in the Board of Directors, to amend, modify, alter or change any rule or policy it deems to be in the best interest of the league and its participants.
19. No player will sit for more than one more inning than any other player on the team. Clarification: No player may sit for more than one inning while there are players on the team who have not sat for one inning. No player may sit for more than two innings while there are players on the team who have not sat for two innings. See pitching exception below.
20. Pitching exception to mandatory sitting rule: A pitcher may legally be in violation of this rule if he is still pitching but once he is taken from the mound for another position while in violation of the rule, this pitcher must be placed on the bench until he has sat the required innings in rule 19.
21. Coaches may make one trip to the mound per inning per pitcher before they are required to remove the pitcher from the mound.
22. Lightning rule: Wait 15 minute wait after last lightening strike before resuming game.
23. Order of rules:
  - (1) League rules
  - (2) Pony rules
  - (3) Major League rules