



Changes to playing rules:

Effective 2018

Age Chart Cutoff - The playing age cutoff date has changed to August 31 of the playing year. Updated age key charts are available at PONY.org under Documents & Publications.

Intentional Walks – no pitch will be required to a batter who will be intentionally walked. Batter will approach the plate, the intentional walk will be determined/declared, batter will take his/her base.

Pitch Counts – PONY will enforce a pitch count using the MLB Pitch Smart chart provided in the 2018 rule book and on PONY.org under Documents & Publications. Pitch Count Worksheets are also available for printing online.

- Leagues should assign an official scorekeeper for each game to track pitch counts.
- Pitch limits will be enforced by a pitchers actual age, not their division.
- Pitchers approaching their pitch limit will be allowed to finish the batter. No penalty will be assessed if a pitcher goes beyond their pitch limit to do so.
- Intentional walks will not count against a pitchers pitch count.
- No Pitcher can pitch in a game for 3 consecutive days, regardless of pitch count. This is to allow adequate rest for all pitchers.

Bats – All tee ball bats manufactured prior to 2018 must have a sticker from the bat manufacturer with the USA Baseball logo and language which reads: **ONLY FOR USE WITH APPROVED TEE BALLS.** For more info visit: <https://usabat.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/USABat-Tee-Ball-Sticker-Program-Overview.pdf>

For a full list of approved bats visit: <https://usabat.com/>

South Zone - Coast Region – Houston Area