

Table of Contents

Ranger Youth Calendar of Events	1
Playing Rules	2
Other Playing Rules	2
Starting and Ending the Game	2
Local League Pitching Rules	3
District and State Tournaments	3
Tournament Play Rules	3
Junior Division	4
District Tournament Regulations	4
State Tournament Host Requirements	4
General Tournament Requirements	4
Drawing Procedure for State Tournament Brackets	5
Conduct and Sportsmanship in Tournament Play	6

2017 Calendar

April 1	Deadline for Leagues to Register/Franchise (\$50 late fee)
May 1	Last Date for Leagues to Declare Junior Division Status
May 1	Team Rosters are Due (\$50) late fee)
June 16	District Tournament Play Begins
July 14	“Texas Series” Opening Ceremonies
July 15	“Texas Series” Tournament Play Begins

“Ranger” Youth Baseball, Inc. State Chairman

Bruce Selph
P.O. Box 783
White Oak, Texas 75693
E-mail: bselphgac@yahoo.com
903-812-7823
www.eteamz.com/rangeryouthbaseball/

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

District	Director	Email Address	Phone
1	Eddie Lindsey	texasdybdistrict1@gmail.com	903-436-3240
2	Kenny Cook	Kennv@angelinsteel.com	936-674-8812
3	Jeff Post	djeffpost@gmail.com	903-439-8082
4	Bruce Selph	bselphgac@yahoo.com	903-812-7823
5	Terry Bee	tbee@cableone.net	903-227-1311
6	Lemone Reese	lemone70@yahoo.com	903-391-2799
7	John Crackle	John.Crackel@kuehne-nagel.com	832-541-9464
9	Gary Dent	ktownxpress32@yahoo.com	903-445-1089

**“Ranger” Youth Baseball, Inc.
(14-Under)
Playing Rules**

IMPORTANT! The Official 2017 DYB “O” Zone rules will be the official rules for 14 - under division with the exception of the rules listed in this book.

The League

- a) The local league must register the 14-U ages with “Ranger” Youth Baseball, Inc,
- b) A “Ranger” Youth Baseball league shall be composed of not less than two (2) teams or more than ten (10) teams depending upon conditions within a particular community. EXCEPTION: The State Chairman can approve a one team league on a one year basis if recommended by the District Director,
- c) Registration forms for “Ranger” Youth Baseball shall be mailed to Bruce Selph, State Chairman, P.O. Box 783, White Oak, Texas 75693
- d) Fees : Register League - \$25.00. Register each team - \$20.00 each.

Playing Field

- (a) The playing field shall be laid out according to official playing rules of Major League Baseball with the exceptions outlined in this section,
- (b) Baselines shall be eighty feet (80’). **Local League Option:** 90 ft. bases is optional,
- (c) The distance from the front side of the pitching slab to the point of home plate shall be fifty-four feet (54’). **Local League Option** – 60 ft. pitching distance is optional,
- (d) The batter’s box shall be rectangular, four by six feet (4’ x 6’), centered to the home plate, the inside line being 6 inches from the side of home plate. Coaches’ boxes shall be ten feet by twenty feet (10’ x 20’) and located ten feet from the foul line,
- (e) The pitchers’ mound shall be raised gradually to an elevation of 6 inches (6”) above the level of home plate and the base paths. Portable (artificial) pitching mounds are also approved,
- (f) The recommended distance for a fence shall be 300 feet from home plate. A minimum home run distance of 275 feet is recommended to a four-foot barrier when possible. However, when field conditions make these impossible, shorter distances to the fence may be permitted. If it is necessary to set the home run barrier closer than the 300 feet from home plate it is recommended that the barrier be made as high as necessary to compensate for the lost distance. The State Chairman can grant exceptions,
- (g) The distance from home plate to the backstop shall be a minimum of 20 feet and a maximum of 60 feet,
- (h) Lighted fields shall have adequate lighting approved by the **District or State Chairman.**

Other Playing Rules

- (a) No laminated, cupped or experimental bats shall be used,
- (b) Wooden, metal, or graphite bats manufactured specifically for 13 and above play, which have a minimum 2 ½ inch barrel up to 2- 3/4 inch barrel in diameter are approved for Ranger Youth Baseball play. Bats manufactured for use by 12 and under baseball programs shall not be used.
WEIGHT & LENGTH LIMITATIONS – There are no weight and length limitations,
Note: Should changes be made to the current bat standards an addendum to the rules will be issued by the State Chairman,
- (c) Shoes with metal cleats are approved for this division of play. **Metal cleats must not be worn by the pitcher on portable mounds,**
- (d) It is mandatory that batters and base runners wear pressure type helmets or helmets with chin straps if helmet has a snap for strap. Batters helmets must carry the NOCSAE Stamp of Approval. **Face guards are not required for this division,**
- (e) Any player that is not in the line-up can be used as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or catcher at any time. If a courtesy runner is needed before the line-up has batted the first time the player who batted last and is not on base will be the runner. The use of the courtesy runner is not counted as a substitution into the offensive line-up,
- (f) Free defensive substitutions shall be allowed as defined in the DYB Rule Book 3.03 (e).
- (g) Refer to DYB Rule Book 3.03 (d) for participation requirements for regular season play.
- (h) A runner is allowed to head first slide into a base.

Starting and Ending the Game

- (a) A regulation game shall be 7 innings. Local League Option - may use a time limit. No new inning can start after the time limit has expired. A new inning starts when the third out has been made with the home team batting. Local League Option: Local leagues may define the number of innings required for an official game.
- (b) Run Rule – A game shall be considered a regulation game when a team is ahead by fifteen (15) runs after both teams have batted four times or in the case of the home team when it is leading after batting three times. A game shall be considered a regulation game when a team is ahead by ten (10) runs after both teams have batted five times or in the case of the home team when it is leading after batting four times.

- (c) In the case the score is tied at the end of seven innings or the time limit, the games shall go into extra innings until a verdict is reached. Local League Option - may end the game in a tie.

**** Pitching Rules** (2017 Change)**

- 1) All players on the tournament team are eligible to pitch subject to pitch count limitations. A pitcher shall not throw more than 95 pitches in the same game or on the same day.
- 2) Pitches thrown in one tournament will affect the status of a pitcher in a succeeding tournament only if proper time (30/40 hours) has not elapsed. Specifically, if a pitcher hurls in excess of the pitch limitations, he must have either (30/40) hours of rest before he is eligible to pitch again, even if the next game is another tournament.
- 3) If a tournament game is interrupted for any reason before becoming official, and is suspended, the same pitcher may continue when play is resumed. Not to conflict with the number of pitches thrown in the same game or on the same day. A suspended game must be concluded before the next scheduled tournament game; therefore all pitching rules will remain the same as any other scheduled tournament game.
- 4) Names of each pitcher actually appearing in the games shall be placed on the back of the manager's copy of the Tournament Eligibility Affidavit along with the number of innings pitched and pitches thrown during his time on the mound. This record shall be signed by one of the following; the official scorer, the tournament director or his representative.
- 5) PITCH COUNT RESTRICTIONS - (30/40 Hour Rest Rules)
 - (a) A pitcher after having thrown more than 45 pitches but less than 76 pitches in the same game shall have a minimum of thirty (30) hours rest before becoming eligible to pitch in another game. A pitcher having thrown in excess of 75 pitches in a game is subject to a forty (40) hours rest period. The rest period begins when the pitcher leaves the mound.
 - (b) A pitcher may pitch in two games on the same day provided he throws less than 46 pitches in the first game and does not throw more than total pitches as allowed. A pitcher who throws more than 45 pitches but less than 76 pitches is subject to a 30 hour rest rule. A pitcher after having thrown more than 45 pitches in the same game or a cumulative total that exceeds 45 pitches on the same day shall be governed by the rest rule.
- 6) A manager shall be allowed to change pitchers in tournament play as many times as is desired as long as the Substitution Rule (in these Tournament Rules) is not violated. Any pitcher being replaced on the mound by another pitcher cannot return to the mound.
- 7) No game will be forfeited because of the violation of one of the RYB pitching rules because it is the manager's responsibility to know the RYB pitching rules and to ascertain the eligibility of opposing pitchers prior to each of his team's games. If, however, an ineligible pitcher is used during the course of a game, he shall, upon discovery, be immediately replaced on the mound by an eligible pitcher and all plays occurring while the ineligible pitcher was on the mound shall become "official." The ineligible pitcher will further be ineligible from pitching in the team's next game that he would have been eligible to pitch in. The manager will be ineligible to participate in the team's next game. A bye or forfeit shall not be considered to be a game in determining the next game that a pitcher would have been eligible to pitch in or a manager to coach in. The discovery of an ineligible pitcher may be made and the aforementioned penalty imposed up to one-half (1/2) hour prior to the scheduled time of his team's next game.

NOTE: For the purpose of determining violation of RYB pitching rules, an ineligible pitcher shall violate one of the rules only when he throws a pitch to a batter in an inning or performs any defensive act, not when he takes his warm-up pitches from the pitching rubber.

Commissioner's clarification: Any ELIGIBLE pitcher must pitch to a batter until he reaches first base or is retired.

District and State Tournaments

The following rules and regulations shall apply to tournaments. All rules and regulations in the DYB Rule Book shall apply to tournament play except for the following:

- a) District tournament winners shall advance only to the Texas State Tournament. There is no World Series to which these state champions may advance. The state tournament shall be conducted in a World Series format and referred to as the **Texas Series**.
- b) No league will be required to participate in any tournaments. A team playing in a district tournament and does not wish to advance must give notice at the district credentials meeting.
- c) If there is only one team from a district in any Division, that team may advance straight to the Texas Series.
- d) **Teams must have a minimum of 10 players or a maximum of 12 players.** A team will be required to start a tournament with the number of players listed on the tournament affidavit at the credentials meeting for each level of tournament play. It is mandatory that all players listed on the tournament team affidavit participate according to the player participation rule found in the DYB Rules and Regulations (IX Player Participation Requirements).
- e) Under no circumstances shall a 14 year old player play down with a 13-U tournament team.
- f) A league in RYB shall be allowed to field a 13-U team with out having a 14-U team.
- g) Players will not be allowed to participate on more than one tournament team. In other words, at the district tournament credentials meeting a player may be listed only on one roster of its league's two tournament teams.
- h) Protest and appeals cannot be taken any higher than the "Ranger" Youth Baseball State Chairman.

Tournament Playing Rules:

- (a) Games in tournament play will be played with the regulation 7 innings per game. New inning starts when the third out has been made with the home team batting.
Exception: When a team is 15 runs ahead after 4 innings or 10 runs ahead after 5 innings of play.
 - (b) Pitching Rules noted are for tournament play with pitch count. Local Pitching Rules are up to each district.
 - (c) Any player that is not in the line-up can be used as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or catcher at any time. The use of the courtesy runner is not counted as a substitution into the offensive line-up,
 - (d) Balls used in tournament play shall be approved by the tournament director or the State Chairman. Balls must comply with the specifications found in the DYB rule book, 1.09 (a) & (b).
- All tournament play will be played on fields with 80 ft bases and 54 ft pitching distance.

RANGER YOUTH BASEBALL TOURNAMENTS Policies and Regulations

I. Junior Division Criteria:

- (a) The UIL District 3-A School enrollment chart will be used to determine school enrollment.
- (b) A league that has selected a 14-Under Tournament Team and a 13-Under Tournament Team may select a Jr. Division Tournament Team, also.
It is emphasized that both a 14-Under and 13-Under team must be selected first.
- (c) A league that has 22 or less players but does not qualify for Jr. Division because of exceeding the UIL 3A classification may apply for Jr. Division status. The District Director after his investigation must recommend an exception for a league that does not meet this criterion for Junior Division and recommend them to the State Chairman for approval by May 1.
- (d) Leagues must declare by May 1 if they will participate in the "Ranger" Junior Division. Request must be in writing.

II. District Tournament Regulations:

- (a) District tournaments must be offered to all eligible leagues on a rotating basis provided the league facilities meet the Ranger Baseball Tournament specifications. The District Director has the authority to approve playing facilities.
- (b) The District Director shall meet with representatives of each league within each district to determine requirements for Sub-district and District Tournaments.
- (c) It will be the responsibility of each District Director to notify the State Chairman of the dates and sites of each level of tournament play within the district.
- (d) District representatives will be responsible for their own transportation to and from the State Tournament sites.
- (e) Each league in the District Tournament is required to furnish to the District Director a team color photo prior to the first tournament game. Each player, manager and coaches in the photograph must be properly identified and the photograph must be suitable for printing in a State Tournament Program. **No more than three coaches in the photo.** Failure to turn in a photo prior to the first tournament game will result in the head coach sitting out of the tournament until the photo is submitted.
- (g) It is recommended that each district play double headers or two tournament days of games on the first Saturday of the district tournament. This will help shorten the tournament. Each state and regional tournament will be evaluated to determine if the number of days to play these tournaments can be shortened.

- (h) A maximum of \$5.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children under 12 yr. old will be the standard gate charges at all sub-district and district tournaments.
- (i) No food, drinks or coolers can be taken into a Ranger Youth Tournament that is using their concession for fund raising.
- (j) For each tournament the host shall pay to the District Director the following fees:
\$50.00 Per team entered in tournament.
- (k) It is recommended that the district specify the size and type of trophies for district tournaments. The host will provide the trophies.
- (k) Provide two umpires for each tournament game. The umpires shall be approved by the District Director. Umpires must be registered and have attended a clinic.

III. State Tournament Host Requirements:

- a) Have a three field complex all in one location that meet the criteria for RYB.
- b) Pay a minimum fee (bid) of \$4500.00
- c) Furnish an opening meal for coaches and players.
- d) Bids can be for one, two or three year period.
- e) Bids will be by mail.
- f) A detailed copy of the Texas Series requirements will be furnished to any potential bidder on request.

IV. General Tournament Requirements

- (a) Absent players **must** be reported to the Tournament Director and Official Scorekeeper prior to beginning of game. A player may be excused for one day for religious reasons if he is declared at the credentials meeting prior to the first game of the tournament.
- (b) If a player is not excused and misses a game, the manager will be required to sit out that game. It is the responsibility of the manager to show proof of player sickness or emergencies that prevent a player from being available to participate in a tournament game.
- (c) Any player absent at the beginning of a game may be entered at the end of the batting line up and the manager sitting out will be allowed into the game. The player must fulfill all participation requirements.
- (d) Coaches must attend the coaches meeting at the District and State Tournaments. If a team does not send at least one coach to the coaches meeting, the Manager of the team may be suspended and not allowed to coach in the first game. Teams failing to be present at the district credentials meetings (including Regional and State Host Tournament teams) with the player affidavit, birth records and medical release forms shall forfeit their right to compete in tournament play (Regulation V. (D) in Dixie Youth Rule Book. The District Director has the authority to apply this rule.
- (e) State Tournament managers and coaches shall wear:
 1. Uniforms identical to the players or
 2. Identical shirts like the players (with RYB patch) or
 3. Coaches may wear polo, golf shirt, etc. All shirts must be identical style and color. Shirt tails must be tucked inside pants. RYB patch on left sleeve.
 4. Caps matching the team caps will be worn by all coaches. Visors are allowed only when all coaches on the team wear visors. No coach will be allowed on field without a cap or visor.
 5. Shoes shall be a coaches' style shoe or tennis shoes. No boots, flip-flops or odd type shoes are allowed.
 6. Coaches may wear long khaki, gray or black pants or shorts (Dockers style plain or pleated). Cargo pants or shorts are not allowed.
 7. All coaches must be dressed identically. Example: If one coach wears a uniform all must wear a uniform. If one coach wears long pants all must wear long pants. If one coach wears shorts all coaches must wear shorts.

Penalty: Coaches not dressed in this manner will not be allowed on field or in the dugout before, during or after game.
- (f) Minimum age for tournament umpires must be 21 years old. *All state tournament umpires must be registered and have attended a umpire clinic the last three years.*

V. Procedure for State Tournament Brackets:

- (a) *When* possible two teams from the same district will not be placed in a bracket to play each other in their first tournament game of a bracket.
- (b) The State Chairman has the authority to change the state tournament brackets as necessary for teams that drop out or additions caused by oversight.
- (c) The "If Necessary" game in all state tournament brackets will be scheduled as a double header on the last day.

VI. Conduct and Sportsmanship – Tournament Play:

- (a) Members of one team shall not ride, kid, heckle, poke fun at, or in any other manner do anything that in the opinion of the umpire distracts the opposing team. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be the removal of the guilty player, players, and/or coach or manager from the game and from the dugout.
- (b) The use of any alcoholic beverage or tobacco product within the confines of the playing field, dugout or bench by any manager, coach, player, umpire or league official is prohibited. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be the removal of the guilty manager, coach, player, umpire or official from the game and from the dugout.
- (c) Local leagues have the authority, as permitted by local and state law, to remove or ban from the league's playing facilities any spectator who is flagrantly displaying unsportsmanlike conduct, profanity, or who threatens physical harm to umpires, players, managers, coaches or league officials. This authority extends to all scheduled regular games or tournament games played at its playing facilities.
- (d) In cases of crowd control and disorderly conduct of individuals at the tournaments, it is the responsibility of the local league host officials to support and work with the Ranger Youth Tournament Officials.
- (e) Coaches who are ejected from a tournament game may return the next game or may receive a one game suspension or a tournament suspension and are subject to a one year probation or suspension from coaching Ranger Youth tournament teams.