



2017 NY GOLD PROSPECTS™ TOURNAMENT RULES

June 23-25, 2017

Official Tournament Rules (13U, 14U, 15U)

Inclement Weather Policy - Information on game delays will be posted on www.teamvalle.com. The tournament officials (Umpires and Tournament Director) are responsible for interpreting tournament rules and making decisions regarding weather or field conditions before games have started. Once a game has started, the umpires are responsible for all decisions regarding calling or suspending a game on account of weather, darkness, or field conditions. All decisions of the tournament officials and umpires are final.

Weather-Delayed Games - Time and weather permitting, any weather-delayed game will restart from the point where stopped, unless it is an Official Game (Four (4) innings is an official game - 3 ½ if the home team is ahead).

Rainout/Cancellation Policy - NY GOLD PROSPECTS tournament officials will make every effort to play pool games and the A-, B-, and C-Gold tournament games. However, if games need to be cancelled due to weather, darkness, or field conditions, the following applies:

1. At the discretion of the NY GOLD PROSPECTS tournament officials, scheduled game times may be changed, games may be shortened to fit into remaining time, or the number of playoff participants may be adjusted in order to complete the GOLD tournaments. If necessary, the 3-day tournament may become a 2-day, or even a 1-day tournament. In the event of a rain-shortened tournament, NY GOLD PROSPECTS tournament officials will offer teams a credit or refund as follows:
 - a) A full rainout, meaning no games were played, a refund of \$400 will be issued. No make-up tournament will be re-scheduled.
 - b) If only one game was played, the team will receive no refund, but a credit of \$250.
 - c) If only two games are played, the team will receive no refund, but a credit of \$100.
 - d) If three games are played, the team will receive no credit or refund.

All credits must be used in a 2018 NY GOLD Prospects Tournament.

Seeding - Pool games will determine seeding for A-Gold, B-Gold, and C-Gold tournaments. If some games are cancelled, seeding for the Gold tournaments will be determined based upon games actually played, even if shortened. If all pool games are cancelled, then seeding will be based upon a random drawing.

Waivers - Waivers are required to be signed for all players, coaches, and assistants who will be on the field (including bat boys, if used).

EH Allowed - Choice of batting 11 batters using up to two extra hitters (EH) is allowed, with the EH's batting at the end of the batting lineup. Team must finish each game with the same number of batters started with, unless a legitimate injury occurs. EH can be placed on the field as a defensive player at any time during the game at the coach's discretion. All players must bat in the same position in the batting order throughout the game, thus a player becoming an EH would bat in their previous position. One designated hitter (DH) is allowed for pitchers only.

Metal spikes - Metal spikes are allowed.

Mercy Rule - 10 runs after 4 complete innings, 8 runs after 5 complete innings.

Age Limits – 15U - Must not be 16 years old before May 1, 2017.

14U - Must not be 15 years old before May 1, 2017.

13U - Must not be 14 years old before May 1, 2017.

Birth Certificates - Birth certificates are not required to be submitted to the NY GOLD PROSPECTS tournament officials, but coaches **MUST** ensure copies of all their players' birth certificates are on hand at all games (either with the coach, parent, or guardian). Any contesting of age must be completed before that game starts. Any birth certificate **MUST** be made available upon request by an opposing coach. Any age violation **shall result in forfeit of the game** so contested.

Insurance - Each team must carry a team liability insurance policy and provide a copy of the insurance certificate to the NY GOLD PROSPECTS tournament officials prior to tournament play.

Umpires - All umpire rulings are final. Umpire has the right to call a game at their discretion due to weather, darkness, or field conditions. Two certified umpires for each game shall be used, subject to availability.

Lineup Card - A lineup card shall be given to the opposing team coach and the Home Plate Umpire before each game. Player substitutions must be announced to the opposing coach. The lineup shall include the player name, position in the order, uniform number, and list all substitutes for the game. Any EH (up to two -if used) must bat at the end of the batting order and must be designated. The DH must be designated, if used (allowed for the pitcher only).

Official Game - Four (4) innings is an official game (3 ½ if the home team is ahead) in case of a shortened game due to weather, darkness, or field conditions.

Home/Away – Home and Away are by coin toss for all seed games, but are based on rank standings for Semi-final and Championship games (higher seed is Home team).

Time Limits - 7 inning games; but a strict **2 hour time limit** in pool play games. **No new inning shall start after exactly 2 hours**, as determined by the umpire(s). No delay of game will be allowed. Any inning **started before 2 hours** from the start time will be finished. **NOTE HOWEVER: A-Gold, B-Gold, and C-GOLD Semi-Final and Championship games will be played to the finish**, weather, darkness, and field conditions permitting.

In pool play games, extra inning(s) may be played to settle a tie, but only if the extra inning(s) can be started **before the 2 hour time limit**. In semi-final and Championships, games going beyond the scheduled start time of the next Semi-final or Championship game may be asked to resume play at an alternate field at the Tournament Director's discretion to ensure all Semi-final and Championship games are completed. **EXTRA INNING RULE - Extra inning rule puts a runner at second base to start the inning once a game reaches the 8th inning. The last batter in the batting order in the immediately preceding inning is placed on second base.**

Ties - Ties are recorded if they come into play in pool play, even if in an official game that was shortened.

Seeding Tiebreaker Rule – Seeding for the Semi-final and Championship games will be based upon seed game results. In order to determine placement and to break any tie in seeding pool play, the following are used: record, then head-to-head, then lowest runs allowed, then highest runs scored, then highest run differential, then coin flip.

In the case of some un-played games (e.g., rained out, darkness, field conditions) in an age group and where those teams have played an unequal number of games, we will use average runs allowed per inning to determine seeding for the Semi-Final and Championship games, followed by head-to-head, then average runs scored per inning, followed by coin toss, for placement and to break any tie.

Courtesy Runner: Teams are encouraged to replace the catcher and pitcher who is a base runner with a player listed as a substitute not currently in the batting order, or the last out if there is no such listed substitute.

Slide Rule - NFHS slide rule followed. The base runner must slide or avoid contact at a base when a play is being made there. This is an umpire judgment call.

Dugout Rules - Players, coaches, and assistants must remain in the dugout during the game, unless playing on the field, batting, coaching first or third base, or invited to the field by an umpire. Please *immediately* vacate the dugout at the game's end and **have post-game team meetings off the field. PLEASE CLEAN OUT YOUR DUGOUT and PLEASE RESPECT THE FIELDS.**

Must Field 8 Players - Must be able to field 8 eligible players at the scheduled start time, or a **forfeit** will be registered. If only 8 players, then an out must be registered as the missing player has their scheduled at bat.

Forfeit - For any forfeit, a 7-0 score and 7 innings of play will be awarded to the non-forfeiting team. Forfeits are called by the Umpires.

Uniforms - All players for a team shall wear a uniquely numbered, generally-matching uniform. No changing uniform during a game is allowed.

Balls - NY GOLD PROSPECTS tournament will supply 4 game balls for each game. **Please bring extra balls in case they are needed (especially at G&T).**

Bats – Minus 3 BBCOR bats ONLY. Max. diameter is 2 5/8 inches. Max. length is 34 inches. Minus 3 BBCOR wood bats allowed. **No modified bats.**

Helmets - Batters, base runners, and player base coaches must wear a batting helmet.

Warm-ups - Players or coaches warming up a pitcher must have facemask and chest protector.

Substitutions - We follow NFHS rules, except for the use of up to two EH. However, the EH may be moved freely each inning, if desired, defensively, but a player becoming an EH must remain in their same position in the batting lineup.

Pitchers - The number of innings that a pitcher may pitch is up to the coach's discretion. Use good judgment and protect the player's health. A pitcher may re-enter the game as a pitcher one time. The pitcher must be removed from the game: a) upon two visits to the pitcher in any inning, or b) upon a total of three visits to the pitcher in a game.

Conduct- Coaches are responsible for the conduct of themselves, their assistants, their players, and their fans/players' parents. Unsportsmanlike or threatening conduct will not be tolerated. Any coach or player ejected from a game shall immediately leave the playing facility for the duration of that game. Unless coaching a base, coaches may go onto the field only during time outs only with Umpire approval.

Final Score Reporting - Both teams **please report the official score to the NY GOLD Prospects Tournament Staff before leaving the field or call or text in the score into (607) 857-7456 immediately after the game.**

Rules – High School Federation Rules and these Official Tournament Rules shall apply. Where in conflict, these Official Tournament Rules shall override and govern. Rules interpretation shall be resolved by the Umpires and Tournament Director and shall be final.

Changes – The **NY GOLD Prospects Tournament** officials reserve the right to changes these rules, with proper notice by posting to www.teamvalle.com. See www.teamvalle.com for live score and pool standing updates.

Updated 6-21-17