



## **Rocklin PONY – Pinto 8 2026 Rules**

### **Dugouts & Field:**

- Home team will occupy the 3<sup>rd</sup> base dugout. Visiting team will occupy the 1<sup>st</sup> base dugout.
- All offensive players – except for the batter, on-deck batter and any base runners – must remain fully inside the dugout and remain in the dugout during play.
- Base lengths are to be 60'. Pitching mound set at 40' (back of plate to front of rubber).

### **Field Prep & Scorekeeping:**

- The Home team is responsible for field prep (water, drag and chalk batter's boxes and base lines), and keeping score via Game Changer. The visiting team is responsible for cleanup if you're the last game of the day/night. This includes putting away the bases, replacing plugs, putting away chalkers and any other equipment and dragging/raking the field. As a best practice, if nobody is grabbing a tractor directly from you, put it away in the shed and lock up.

### **Uniforms & Equipment:**

- All players must wear their team jersey & hat, with the jersey tucked in. Plastic or molded cleats are recommended. No metal cleats are allowed. We recommend that all male players wear a cup.
- Helmets must be worn during all hitting activities in practice and while hitting or in the on-deck circle during games.
- All bats must have the USA stamp. Use of illegal bats (USSSA) will result in the player/manager ejection and suspension.

### **Playing the Field:**

- 9 defensive players will be used throughout the season.
- No player shall sit two (2) full innings until every player sits one (1) full inning.
- Every player must play a full defensive inning within the infield by the 3<sup>rd</sup> inning. In the event a game doesn't reach 3 innings due to time limit this is void.

### **Pitching:**

- Weeks 1-5 shall be player pitch. Should an at-bat reach a 4<sup>th</sup> ball called, the coach of the team batting will come in and assume the count (from the front of the mound standing/kneeling overhead).
- Weeks 6 through the balance of the season shall be player pitch only. Should an at-bat reach a 4<sup>th</sup> ball called, the batter will be awarded first base.
- If a pitcher hits three (3) batters in one inning they must be pulled from the mound.
- Pitch Smart Guidelines – 50 pitch daily max for league 7/8-year-olds. Days rest: 1-20 pitches 0 days, 21-35 1 day and 36-50 2 days. See Pitch Smart Guidelines or reach out to Pinto Player Agent for further clarification.
- In the event a player exceeds their daily max or the required rest days are not observed, the Manager will be suspended, and the player will not be able to pitch in their next game (regardless of rest days).
- A player may only play the pitcher or catcher position combined for a total of four (4) innings.

### **Hitting & Baserunning:**

- No bunting.
- Upon the batter hitting the ball in play, the baserunner shall not slide into first (1<sup>st</sup>) base. Should this occur, the player will be called out.
- Batter/Runners shall not advance on an overthrow. Players may advance on a ball hit to the outfield, but runners must stop once the ball is in possession of an infielder (on the dirt) and will be sent back to their base if they're not halfway to the next base when the ball is secured.
- Stealing is allowed, but the runner may not leave until the ball crosses the plate, no leads. No stealing of home plate, even on passed ball.

### **Game Length & Mercy Rule:**

- Games are scheduled for 6 innings. Each of the first five (5) innings will last three (3) outs or five (5) runs, whichever comes first. The 6<sup>th</sup> inning will last three (3) outs or ten (10) runs, whichever comes first.
- No new inning shall begin after one (1) hour and fifteen (15) minutes, drop dead at one (1) hour and thirty (30) minutes (On Saturdays only). Weeknight games may finish, but no new inning time still applies.
- If the visiting team is leading by at least 15 runs at the end of 3 or 10 runs at the end of 4 or more complete innings the game shall be declared complete, and the visiting team shall be declared the winner. If the home team is leading by at least 15 runs at the end of 3 or 10 runs at the end of 4 or more complete innings after the visiting team has completed batting the game shall be declared complete and the home team shall be declared the winner.