

SHETLAND 6U Division Ground Rules

2025 Fall Ball

Unless modified below, PONY official rules shall govern gameplay.

Note from the League: Fall Ball is meant to be a developmental season for players wanting to get extra reps and for players jumping to a new division. We don't keep score in the Fall.

Please keep it about the kids.

Dugouts:

Home team will occupy the 3rd base dugout. Visitor will use the 1st base dugout. All offensive players – with the exception of the batter, on--deck batter and any base runners – must remain fully inside the dugout and remain in the dugout during play.

Uniforms:

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. No jewelry may be worn at any time on the fields (practices or games) with the exception of medical necklace/bracelet.

Play Minimums:

All players present and, in the lineup, shall play in the field every inning. Players must be rotated from the infield to the outfield each inning. Coaches are required to rotate the positions, so the most experienced players are not always in the most active fielding positions.

Pitching:

- 1) Pitching will be by machine ONLY.
- 2) Players will be given 3 pitches from the machine. If a player fouls the 3rd pitch, they shall get another pitch (similar to 2-strike count). If they fail to hit a pitch, they will be given the opportunity to hit from the tee. Managers are encouraged to load the ball as quickly as possible and not coach every pitch.
- 3) Machine settings will be Power Level 2, Micro Adjust 3, Release Block 4
- 4) Pitching machine will be set at **thirty-eight (38) feet** for the entire season.

Pre-game Field Prep:

Home team is responsible for preparing the field. For teams that are interleague between Rocklin, Roseville, Orangevale or Golden Eagle, if one of the teams playing is home to their field, regardless of being home/visiting team for the game, that team home to their field is responsible for field prep. Additionally, if two visiting teams have game at a location that is not their home location, the team from the previous game that is home to the field, should help prep the field for the following game. Coaches should be aware of game schedules and field prepping responsibilities each Sunday.

Final Game Field Duties:

The last team of the day/visiting team is responsible for cleaning up the field. This includes: watering the field, dragging, raking bases/basepaths, locking up chalk/bases/tools and ensuring the tractor is locked up in the shed. Coaches should be aware of game schedules and closing responsibilities.

Basepaths: Bases will be set at **fifty (50) feet**.

Batting:

- 1) Batters must wear a helmet any time they are on the field. Only the batter and the on-deck batter may swing a bat – NO EXCEPTIONS. Bats must be "USA Baseball" approved or carry the USA Baseball Sticker.
- 2) Every team must bat their complete lineup. All players in the lineup will be batted in order. Late players may be added to the end of the lineup. Managers are encouraged to allow players the opportunity to bat in all positions in the batting order.
- 3) Bunting is not permitted.

Base Running:

- 1) Runners are not allowed to lead off or steal.
- 2) Runners may advance to the next base on a batted ball ONLY if they have rounded the previous base before the ball has left the outfielder's hand.
- 3) Runners may not advance on overthrows.
- 4) There is no sliding at first base, sliding will only be permitted at 2nd, 3rd and home. All players must attempt to slide when necessary. Head-first sliding should be strongly discouraged by coaching staff. If sliding occurs at first base, player will be called out.

Outs:

There are no outs recorded - score is not kept. However, if an offensive player is ruled "out" due to a defensive play they must come off the bases.

Inning Duration:

Each half inning will consist of one rotation through the entire lineup.

Time Limit: Games have a drop-dead time of 1 hour and 15 minutes. No new inning may begin after 1 hour.