



Rocklin PONY – Shetland 4/5 2026 Rules

Dugouts & Field:

- Home team will occupy the 3rd base dugout. Visiting team will occupy the 1st 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 50'. Pitching mound not used.

Field Prep & Scorekeeping:

- The Home team is responsible for field prep (water, drag and chalk batter's boxes and base lines. We don't keep score in Shetland. 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:

- All defensive players will play the field, nobody on the bench. Four (4) outfielders, an extra pitcher or infielder etc.
- Rotate players to all positions. You can swap infield to outfield mid inning or in between innings, but all players to play infield for at least half of the game.

Pitching:

- Pitching will be coach pitch from a knee or standing about 15-20 feet away. Each player will get three (3) pitches. If they foul off the 3rd pitch, they get another. If they're unable to put a ball in play, they'll hit off the tee until a ball is put in play.

Hitting & Baserunning:

- Upon the batter hitting the ball in play, the baserunner typically just runs to first base. If they hit it into the outfield through all players and you can get them to run to another base, go for it.
- Baserunners stay on the bases even if they're out. Keep it fun. Give the kid a high five because he got a hit, give the other kid a high five because he actually got an out.

Game Length & Mercy Rule:

- We typically get through two (2) full innings, but no new inning after one (1) hour, drop dead is at one (1) hour and 15 minutes. No mercy rule, no score.