

Shetland Rules 2021

Shetland League goals:

To have fun, learn basic skills, and introduce baseball format by end of season.

Basic skills:

- Infield diamond and bases
- Player positions
- Foul lines
- Groundball infield throw to first base
- If fly-ball or pop-up is caught, it's an out
- Field position, including how to hold and control glove
- How to catch a thrown ball
- Keep ground ball in front of you using both hands to field
- Demonstrate proper technique to step and throw
- Batting – comfortable stance, keep eye on ball, swing level, step towards pitcher

Pony Baseball Rules apply with the following exceptions:

1. Both coaches should discuss ground rules before start of each game
2. Each game will consist of 4 innings (unless game time has exceeded one hour, then it should end after the last full inning played)
3. For the first 6 games of the season, when on offense, ALL players get a turn to bat (regardless if 3 outs were obtained). Players get one at-bat per inning (no more).
4. For the last 6 games of the season, when on offense, an inning ends after 3 outs have been obtained. Players get one at-bat per inning (no more), so if all players have batted and 3 outs have not been obtained, the ½ inning ends at that point with teams switching offense/defense.
5. Batter and runners should run one base at a time; unless the ball is hit into the outfield and then a 2nd base is allowed with the risk of being out.
6. Extra bases on over-throws are NOT allowed
7. Maximum of 5 runs per inning. This includes the last inning.
8. For the first 2 innings of each game the batter hits off of the tee
9. For the 3rd & 4th innings, each player will be given three pitches from his/her coach. If the ball is not hit after 3 pitches, the tee will be used.
10. A batter continues their "at bat" until they hit the ball – there are no strike outs
11. A 10 foot diameter arc will be placed in front of home plate. Any ball that does not travel to or past the arc will be considered a foul ball
12. A player may not play the same defensive position for more than one inning.
13. There is no official win-loss record. No official score is kept. A scorebook is given to the coaches to keep track of each games batting order.

- 14. No extra innings**
- 15. Coaches are allowed on the field during games, but must not touch a player at any time.**
- 16. Coaches (defensive and coach pitcher) are not to touch the ball in play at any time.**
- 17. All players must play in the proper defensive positions on the field**
- 18. Outfielders must play at least 5 feet behind the baseline.**
- 19. The kid pitcher must be even or behind the coach pitcher when in "ready position"**
- 20. For boys, an athletic cup should be worn**
- 21. All offensive players MUST wear a helmet with a facemask while on the field.**
- 22. No bat larger than 2 5/8 is allowed and must clearly be marked as such by the manufacturer**
- 23. Smoking is NOT allowed by any coach or manager at any practice or game.**
- 24. No alcoholic beverages are allowed at any time.**
- 25. Please create (or have a parent volunteer create) a treat schedule for all games**
- 26. Practices are not to exceed one hour.**