

Bronco Division
Spring 2024 Outline of Play

A. Division Structure

- a. The Bronco division will form one league.
- b. Based upon the number of available registered players, Player Agent and Division Representative (DR) shall create a quantity of teams with the intent to achieve 11-13 players on each team after late sign-ups. A game schedule will be created to maximize the number of games, which can be played upon the number of teams and the number of available game days in the season (intent to play a minimum of 14 regular season games).

B. All Managers are responsible to review the **MHPB** rules of play **which are** on the website. Highlights are as follows:

- a. Games are seven (7) innings, played to completion with the following time modifications/exceptions:
 - i. For games in which there is no game that follows on that field immediately after that game: No new inning will be started 2 hours after the game began. If an inning begins 1 hour and 59 minutes, or less, after the start of the game, the inning **WILL** be played to completion. Completion defined as visiting team bats until division defined inning end and home team bats only if they are behind in the score or the score is tied. If the game is tied at the completion of the full inning, and it is past the 2 hour time limit, the game will be deemed a tie. Exception to the "**WILL** be played to completion" statement is in case of darkness or rain or other unforeseen event. In those cases, umpire judgment will prevail and in the event that inning is not completed, the score in the game reverts back to the score when the inning began.
 - ii. For games in which there is a game that immediately follows on that field: No new inning will be started 1 hour and 46 minutes after the game began. If an inning begins 1 hour and 45 minutes, or less, after the start of the game, the inning **SHOULD** be played to completion. Completion defined as visiting team bats until division defined inning end and home team bats only if they are behind in the score or the score is tied. If the game is tied at the completion of the full inning, and it is past the 2 hour time limit, the game will be deemed a tie. Umpire judgment will prevail if the game nears the 2 hour time limit. If the umpire deems the game over due to the 2 hour time limit and the full inning has not been completed, the score in the game reverts back to the score when the inning began.
- b. There are no maximum runs per inning.
- c. There is no 10-run mercy rule due to minimum play time rule.
- d. Each team will have only nine (9) defensive players on the field at a time.
- e. All players present will be inserted into the batting line-up
 - i. Each team will bat their entire roster
 - ii. Late players will be inserted at the bottom of the order

- iii. If a player leaves before game completion or a player is injured during the game, that player is skipped in the batting line-up and the team will not be assessed an out.
 - f. By the end of the 6th inning, every player must have played at least 3 defensive innings
 - i. If a player has not met the minimum play time as outlined in the MHPB rulebook, that player shall play the entire next game.
 - g. A courtesy runner will be allowed for a catcher if:
 - i. there are two outs;
 - ii. the player who made the last batted out will be the runner; and
 - iii. the same catcher will play the following inning as catcher.
 - h. Balks will be called as a warning only for games through **the first 7 regular season games (first half)**. After **that**, balks will be called for the rest of the regular season as well as the Post Season tournament.
 - i. Hitting sticks are not allowed to be used during games.
 - j. Managers are responsible to hold plate meetings with competing Managers to ensure rules are discussed and agreed upon prior to games.
 - k. **Runners should slide at home plate if, in the umpire's judgment, there is a play at the plate per Section 9, item S (a) of the MHPB Rules.**
 - l. **Per the MHPB rules at Section 9 item R, a line perpendicular to the 3rd base line shall be marked to serve as a safety line for all base running and squeeze plays between 3rd and home. A runner in motion towards home plate, who is closer to home plate than this line when the following occurs, shall be declared out: 15 feet from 3rd base when the ball is released by the pitcher.**
- C. Affidavits must be filled out with pitch count and an "X" for innings a player was on the bench. If two MHPB teams are playing, the home team is responsible for signing and completing the affidavit and obtaining the visitor team manager signature. If you are playing a non-MHPB team you do not need to fill out their portion of the affidavit but you are still responsible for completing an affidavit for your team. Scan and email all affidavits to the DR within 24 hours of the completion of the game.
- D. Pitching
- a. Maximum pitches in one calendar day = 85 (soft total – pitcher may complete pitching to a batter if the pitcher starts the batter with less than 85 pitches)
 - b. Pitchers who throw between 1-20 pitches in a day are not required to rest a calendar day before throwing any additional pitches. Pitchers who throw between 21-35 pitches in a day must rest 1 calendar day before throwing any additional pitches. Pitchers who throw between 36-50 pitches in a day must rest 2 calendar day before throwing any additional pitches. Pitchers who throw between 51-65 pitches in a day must rest 3 calendar day before throwing any additional pitches. Pitchers who throw 66 or more pitches must rest 4 calendar days before throwing any additional pitches.
 - c. **Per the MHPB Rules at Section 10 item Q, pitchers will not be allowed to continue pitching after hitting more than one batter in an inning or more than two**

batters in a game. As such, pitchers must be removed if they hit 2 batters in an inning or 3 batters in a game.

- E. Regular Season – All games versus MHPB teams count in the standings. Standings will determine seeds for post-season tournament.
- F. Post Season Tournament – City championship tournament will be double elimination
 - a. MHPB provides trophies for 1st and 2nd place teams.
- G. Memorial Day Tournament – Number of teams/locations to be determined.
- H. All Star Tournament – Number of teams/locations to be determined.
- I. Managers
 - a. Managers decide on color of pants, socks and belt (these items are NOT PROVIDED by MHPB)
- J. Games/Practices
 - a. NO ONE IS ALLOWED ON THE BRITTON OR CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL FIELDS PRIOR TO 4:30 PM DURING THE WEEK
 - b. You will have one or two practices during the week and games will be either during the week and/or on Saturdays
 - c. You may need to travel to San Jose for some regular season, inter-lock games
 - d. Britton infield will be dragged after each practice and game.
 - e. For games at Britton, both teams are responsible for field set up/take down (this includes dragging and raking the field, chalking the base lines and batter's boxes for games and fences for games).
- K. Equipment (including equipment bag, catcher's gear, practice and game balls) will be made available if needed by managers.
- L. Gates – last team on field is responsible for locking all MHPB gates
 - a. DO NOT GIVE LOCK CODES OUT TO PARENTS OR PLAYERS! ONLY COACHES.
 - b. Lock combinations to follow.
- M. Bronco Division Representative (DR)

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