

Recreational Tournament Rules

3rd -6th Grade

Scoring/Home Team

- The team with the **higher seed** FROM LEAGUE PLAY will be the home team for all 3rd-6th grade.
- FCBC will have a Tournament Site Supervisor at your field who will have the updated bracket for all scores and pitching.
- Monday – Thursday games, the WINNING coach must email the Score and Pitching (for both teams) to Director@fcbcmail.org the night of the game. One PITCH equals ONE inning. You must NOTE Player first and last name, so MAKE SURE that your score keepers know this.
- Each coach will be given a game SCORE CARD by the umpire/field supervisor that you must write out your line up on with the players LAST/FIRST name. Please print clearly so that the other teams score keeper can also read the information.

Bracket Format

- Each team will play at least 2 games in the tournament.
- The top teams in each league will get a bye from the Play-in games and start on the playoff bracket.
- The winners of the play-in games will move to the playoff bracket.
- The losers of the play-in games will play a consolation bracket.
- **The playoff bracket is NOT a double-elimination format. In the first round, the winning team moves to the right half of the bracket and the losing team moves to the left.**
- On the right side, the winning teams continue to move the right and the losing teams are done with the tournament.
- On the left side, the winning teams continue to move to the left and the losing teams are done with the tournament.

Pitching Rules

- 3rd, & 4th, 5th – 6th Grade
 - A pitcher may pitch a maximum of 3 consecutive innings in one game. A pitcher may not return to pitch after being removed. A pitcher may pitch a maximum of 6 innings in the tournament.
 - If a pitcher throws one pitch in an inning the pitcher will be charged with a full inning.
 - In the 4th game each pitcher gets a 7th inning.

Run Rules

- The six-run rule will not be in effect
- 15 runs after 3 innings
- 10 runs after 4 innings

Extra Innings

- Teams will play until the tie is broken:
 - **California Tie Breaker will be used:**
 - If a game is tied after all innings have been completed or the time has expired, the “California” tie-breaker rule will go into effect. Each team puts the batter who is scheduled to bat last in that respective half of the inning on second base and plays out the full inning. This happens until the tie is broken and the game is complete.

Time Limit

- No new inning will begin after:
 - **3rd – 6th Grade → 1.5 hours**

Official Game

- Official game time will begin at the completion of the pre-game meeting.
- An Official Game is a game that has completed a full 5 innings of play. **If a game is suspended due to Darkness or Weather, and at the time of suspension of the game,** it was not an Official Game, the game will resume the next morning by 9am using the California Tie Breaker format to determine the outcome. Please also note that if a game is suspended after an Official Game has been completed, but the score at the end of the 5th inning was tied, then the teams will resume the game the next morning by 9:00 am pursuant to the California Tie Breaker format. Coaches do have the option to flip a coin to determine a winner rather than resume the game the next morning, but only if coaches from both teams agree.

Ejections

- Any coach ejected from a tournament game will sit out the next game regardless of the circumstance.
- Players ejected will sit out the game they are in. The ejected player may be further suspended depending on the nature of the infraction.
- Parents ejected for a game due to inappropriate behavior will be asked to leave the entire complex, for that game and the next. **Please inform your parents of this action.**

Awards

- First & Second place players will receive an individual team award, plus team plaque

Uniform

- All players must be in their FCBC uniform

Order of Seeds

Tournament seeding order will be based upon the win percentage at the conclusion of the regular season.

Win percentage, as opposed to the total number of wins, will be the determinate of seed order because of the possibility of an unequal number of games played due to weather related cancellations. Win percentage is calculated by dividing the number of wins (ties count as .5 wins) by the total number of games played. Win percentage will be calculated to 3 decimal places of precision (thousandths).

Tie-breaking procedures

The following criteria will be used to break ties between two or more teams with the same win percentage.

1. Head-to-head
2. Average run differential
 - a. $(\text{Total Runs Scored} - \text{Total Runs Allowed}) / \text{Games Played}$
3. Runs allowed per game
 - a. $\text{Total Runs Allowed} / \text{Games Played}$
4. Runs scored per game
 - a. $\text{Total Runs Scored} / \text{Games Played}$
5. Coin flip

*NOTE: Items 2, 3 & 4 will be calculated to 2 decimal places of precision (hundredths).

All Equipment must be left with Site Supervisor AFTER your LAST game at the Tournament ALONG with your JOB BOX KEY