

## DIAMOND CLASSIC 9 YEARS & UNDER EXCEPTIONS

9U will follow the "Diamond Classic Rules" Packet, with the following exceptions:

### Batting Order

A continuous batting order will occur. All teams must use the continuous batting order. Rostered players who are present and healthy must play. Coaches may not sit players for the game for the sole purpose of trimming the batting order.

### Base Running

1. Lead-offs are not allowed.
2. Stealing is legal, but runners may not leave the base until the pitch crosses home plate. In order for the penalty to be enforced, the defensive team must ask for a dead-ball appeal after the play.  
*If the pitch is not put into play*, the penalty for leaving early is that the runner is out. All other runners return to base at time of pitch, if they also tried to advance in any way.  
*If the pitch is batted into play*, the penalty for leaving early is that the runner who left early is out, and all other runners may advance on the batted ball. *In order for the runner who left early to be called out, the defensive team must ask for a dead-ball appeal after the play.*  
*In the event that this is the third out of the inning*, all runners on-base ahead of the penalized runner will count as runs *if* they scored legally during the play. Any runners who scored behind the penalized runner will not count.
3. Stealing home **is allowed**.

### Balks

No balks at the 9U level. If deemed necessary by the umpire, a 'warning' can stop play, but no runners can advance and no penalty enforced.

### Special Infield Rules

The infield fly rule **will not** be in effect.

Bunts **are** allowed.

Slash/Slug Bunts (fake bunt into full swing) **are not allowed**. Penalty: Batter out if not put in play. If put in play, batter is out, runners return to base occupied at time of infraction.

### Dropped Third Strike

No dropped third strike. A called or swung-at third strike will result in a strikeout regardless of whether the catcher holds onto the ball.

### Intentional Walks

No intentional walks at 9U.

### Time Limit

Time limit is 90 minutes (1 hour, 30 minutes). No new inning can begin after that time limit has passed. If the home team is ahead at the time of the time limit occurring, the game ends in the top half of the inning.