

## SHOOT OUT TOURNAMENT RULES

**General Statement:** The basis of a “Shoot Out” format is mini games played with shortened time limits over the course of one day such as a holiday weekend or at other possible times of necessity. Its purpose is to afford the completion of a tournament in a short period of time. All participants should play all games at a rapid pace with lots of hustle. The ending of one game and starting of the next game should be almost instantaneous. Umpires should stay in position for a minimum of four (4) mini games before swapping. Scorekeepers should exchange line-ups and teams should conduct pre-game meetings well in advance of the scheduled game time. Similarly, teams should only conduct post-game meetings after completely vacating the playing field and dugout areas.

**SO-1.00** Recommended Game Lengths & Time Limits:

**SO-1.00.A** Pool Play games, Consolation games and Bracket Play games:

**SO-1.00.A.1** 4U-8U: Four (4) innings. No new inning shall start after :40.

**SO-1.00.A.2** 9U-12U: Five (5) innings. No new inning shall start after :45.

**SO-1.00.A.3** 13U-18U: Five (5) innings. No new inning shall start after :50.

**SO-1.00.B** Championship games:

**SO-1.00.B.1** 4U-8U: Four (4) innings. No new inning shall start after :55.

**SO-1.00.B.2** 9U-12U: Five (5) innings. No new inning shall start after 1:00.

**SO-1.00.B.3** 13U-18U: Five (5) innings. No new inning shall start after 1:05.

**Rule SO-1.00 Comment:** In enforcing this rule, the home team shall not bat if they are winning and an imposed time limit expires. Similarly, if the home team is batting and an imposed time limit expires, the home team shall cease batting and the game ends.

**SO-1.01** (Chart SO-1.01) An imposed Mercy (run) Rule shall be used to complete a regulation game when one team’s margin of lead is greater than or equal to the run total listed in the Run Differential column in the corresponding inning listed in the Start Inning column.

LENGTH OF GAME	RUN DIFFERENTIAL	START INNING
4 Innings	5	2nd Inning
5 Innings	8	2nd Inning
5 Innings	5	3rd Inning

Chart SO-1.01

**Rule SO-1.01 Comment:** In enforcing this rule, the home team shall not bat if they are winning and the mercy requirement is met prior to the bottom half of the listed inning. Similarly, if the home team is batting and meets the mercy requirement in the bottom half of a listed inning the home team shall immediately cease batting and the game ends.

**SO-1.02** All batters shall start each at-bat with a one (1) ball and one (1) strike count.

**SO-1.03** Tournament Directors shall schedule not more than ten (:10) to fifteen (:15) minutes between games nor more than thirty (:30) to forty-five (:45) minutes between the completion of Pool Play games and the first round of Bracket Play games.

**SO-1.04** With the exception of the above, all other Official Rules applicable to standard tournament formats shall also be applicable to the “Shoot Out” format.