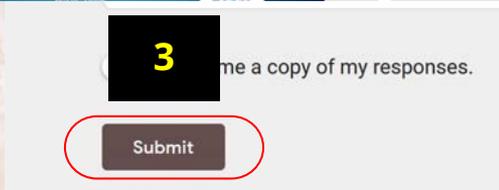




Program Updates
2021

Please SIGN IN



- ❖ Help us keep our contact list up to date by signing in!
 - In a browser go to SOUTH.PONY.ORG
 - From the menu, select BASEBALL INFORMATION > COAST REGION > HOUSTON SECTION (*see image 1*)
 - Once you are on the Houston page, click on MEETING SIGN IN found under the LINKS section (*see image 2*)
 - A new window will open taking you to the sign in form. Please be sure to click SUBMIT at the bottom of the form so we receive your responses. (*see image 3*)

With your permission, would like to share the contact details you provide on our Houston Area page as in previous years to allow other leagues and PONY affiliates in our area easy access to network with you! If you prefer your details not be share please send me a message and I will remove your details.



Agenda

- ❖ PONY Affiliate Guest Speakers
 - BSN
 - Mestmaker Insurance
 - Positive Coaching Alliance
 - Future Astros
 - Dicks Sporting Goods
- ❖ League Season Information
- ❖ League Registration
- ❖ 2021 Tournament Dates
- ❖ 2021 PONY Rules
- ❖ Hosting Opportunities
- ❖ General Announcements
- ❖ FREE Resources for PONY Leagues



BSN SPORTS



James Lynch

jwlynch@bsnsports.com



Mestmaker & Assoc.



Kristie Kovacih

661-332-0777

Tom Mestmaker



Positive Coaching Alliance



BETTER ATHLETES
BETTER PEOPLE

Ryan Virtue

ryan_virtue@positivecoach.org

440-465-6552



Future Astros



Ryan Veinotte

rveinotte@astros.com

713.259.8304



Dick's Sporting Goods



League Season Information

- ❖ Individual leagues will schedule their season according to local government guidelines.
- ❖ Leagues should develop and implement responsible guidelines for participation in regards to COVID-19. For guidance, please visit the [PONY Suggested Protocol](#) page online.
- ❖ League Insurance -
 - Gagliardi Insurance is no longer in business and therefore will not offer coverage for 2021.
 - Updates about Gagliardi Insurance can be found online at [PONY Insurance Carrier](#).
 - PONY has selected MestMaker at its new insurance provider. For more info please visit the KB on PONY.org or [click here](#).
 - Leagues may select their own insurance provider if they choose, see page 15 of the PONY rule book for minimum requirements.



League Registration

- ❖ Online registration for the 2021 season is now open. You may register at www.pony.org > REGISTRATION > Organization Registration
- ❖ League registration must be completed prior to the first game(s) of the season to avoid a late fee
- ❖ All teams must be registered in the organization
- ❖ Registration payments
 - If you paid for league registration in 2020 you should be receiving credit for your 2021 league registration if you did not have a 2020 season. If you are unsure, please contact PONY HQ for further details.
- ❖ League registration will not be complete until payment is received in PONY HQ



2021 Tournament Dates

FOAL 4U	LOCATION	START DATE	END DATE	REPORT DATE
Directors	TBD	6/4/2021	6/6/2021	6/3/2021
Section	TBD	6/11/2021	6/13/2021	6/10/2021
Region	TBD	6/18/2021	6/20/2021	6/17/2021
World Series	Deer Park, TX	7/8/2021	7/11/2021	7/11/2021
SHETLAND 6U	LOCATION	START DATE	END DATE	REPORT DATE
Directors	TBD	6/11/2021	6/13/2021	6/10/2021
District	TBD	6/18/2021	6/20/2021	6/17/2021
Section	TBD	6/25/2021	6/27/2021	6/24/2021
Region	TBD	7/1/2021	7/4/2021	6/30/2021
World Series	Youngsville, LA	7/21/2021	7/24/2021	7/20/2021
PINTO 7U	LOCATION	START DATE	END DATE	REPORT DATE
World Series	Deer Park, TX	7/8/2021	7/11/2021	7/7/2021
PINTO 8U	LOCATION	START DATE	END DATE	REPORT DATE
Directors	TBD	6/11/2021	6/13/2021	6/10/2021
District	TBD	6/18/2021	6/20/2021	6/17/2021
Section	TBD	6/25/2021	6/27/2021	6/24/2021
Region	TBD	7/1/2021	7/4/2021	6/30/2021
World Series	Youngsville, LA	7/21/2021	7/24/2021	7/20/2021



2021 Tournament Dates

MUSTANG 9U	LOCATION	START DATE	END DATE	REPORT DATE
Section	TBD	6/18/2021	6/20/2021	6/17/2021
Region	TBD	6/25/2021	6/27/2021	6/24/2021
Zone	Deer Park, TX	7/14/2021	7/17/2021	7/13/2021
World Series	Walnut, CA	7/23/2021	7/26/2021	7/22/2021
MUSTANG 10U	LOCATION	START DATE	END DATE	REPORT DATE
Directors	TBD	6/11/2021	6/13/2021	6/10/2021
District	TBD	6/18/2021	6/20/2021	6/17/2021
Section	TBD	6/25/2021	6/27/2021	6/24/2021
Region	TBD	7/1/2021	7/4/2021	6/30/2021
Zone	Deer Park, TX	7/21/2021	7/24/2021	7/20/2021
World Series	Youngsville, LA	7/30/2021	8/2/2021	7/29/2021
BRONCO 11U	LOCATION	START DATE	END DATE	REPORT DATE
Section	TBD	6/18/2021	6/20/2021	6/17/2021
Region	TBD	6/25/2021	6/27/2021	6/24/2021
Zone	Deer Park, TX	7/14/2021	7/17/2021	7/13/2021
World Series	Chesterfield, VA	7/23/2021	7/26/2021	7/22/2021



2021 Tournament Dates

BRONCO 12U	LOCATION	START DATE	END DATE	REPORT DATE
Directors	TBD	6/11/2021	6/13/2021	6/10/2021
District	TBD	6/18/2021	6/20/2021	6/17/2021
Section	TBD	6/25/2021	6/27/2021	6/24/2021
Region	TBD	7/1/2021	7/4/2021	6/30/2021
Zone	Deer Park, TX	7/21/2021	7/24/2021	7/20/2021
World Series	Laredo, TX	7/30/2021	8/2/2021	7/29/2021

PONY 13U	LOCATION	START DATE	END DATE	REPORT DATE
Directors	TBD	6/11/2021	6/13/2021	6/10/2021
Section (if needed)	TBD	6/25/2021	6/27/2021	6/24/2021
Region	TBD	7/1/2021	7/4/2021	6/30/2021
Zone	Deer Park, TX	7/14/2021	7/17/2021	7/13/2021
World Series	Whittier, CA	7/23/2021	7/26/2021	7/22/2021

PONY 14U	LOCATION	START DATE	END DATE	REPORT DATE
Directors	TBD	6/18/2021	6/20/2021	6/17/2021
Section	TBD	6/25/2021	6/27/2021	6/24/2021
Region	TBD	7/8/2021	7/11/2021	7/7/2021
Zone	Youngsville, LA	7/28/2021	7/31/2021	7/27/2021
World Series	Washington, PA	8/13/2021	8/19/2021	8/12/2021



2021 PONY Rules

- ❖ 2020 rule books will be used for 2021 season. *Age key in 2020 book not valid for 2021.
- ❖ New 2021 Age Key is available online - <https://ponybbsb.freshdesk.com/support/solutions/articles/27000058423-pony-baseball-league-age-key>
- ❖ Tournaments -
 - Local tournaments will begin in June
 - TIME LIMITS will be used for tournament games in the South Zone
 - Tournament dates are online at south.pony.org > Tournaments Information > Coast Region Baseball - Houston
 - International World Series qualifiers have been scheduled and are expected to be played. Participation of International teams in World Series is expected but remain fluid due to pandemic. PONY will follow all government guidelines.



2020 PONY Rules (Apply to 2021 Season)

◆ Background Checks

- **MANDATORY** for all league officials to include **ANYONE** who comes in contact with children/minors in the organization
- Organizations must **AT MINIMUM** search from the National Sex Offender Database
- **Recommended:** Additional checks of ID Search and National Criminal Search

◆ Pitch Smart terminology

- Pitch count limits will be based on the **player's League Age** not their actual age on game day

◆ Medical Release

- Parent/Guardian signature **is required** on Tournament Team Roster
- Players without a parent signature will not be allowed to participate in gameplay until the requirement is met

◆ Pitch Count Rest Threshold

- The pitcher will only be required to observe the calendar day(s) of rest **for the threshold he/she reached during the start of that at-bat**, provided the pitcher is removed before delivering a pitch to the next batter.



2020 PONY Rules (Apply to 2021 Season)

❖ **Mercy Rule**

- No longer worded as “10 Run Rule”
- Wording changed to accommodate
 - **Foal - Mustang:** 15 after 3 or 10 after 4 ()
 - **Bronco - Thoroughbred** 15 after 4 or 10 after 5 for

❖ **Foul Ball rule**

- Clarified to add “...any batted ball which does not touch or travel beyond...”
10-foot arc in front of home plate will be considered a foul-strike

❖ **Safety Balls**

- Clarification on Safety Ball for Foal and Shetland

❖ **Creation of Foal League - 4U**

- Foal players ineligible to participate in Pinto

❖ **Removal of 9 inning limit for Mustang and lower divisions**



2020 PONY Rules (Apply to 2021 Season)

◆ Infield Defensive Position

- For the purpose of preventing infielders from “playing in” - all Foal, Shetland, Pinto players who are in the defensive position of the infield - except for the catcher and pitcher - may not come any closer than 45 feet from home plate until the ball is hit

◆ Palomino Age Increase to 19U

◆ Two Team Tie Breaker: Classification as follows

- If both teams have not played head-to-head the team with the least number of runs allowed in all games played will advance.
- If both teams have allowed the same number of runs, the team with the most net runs (runs scored minus runs allowed) will advance.
- If teams remain tied after consideration of “a” and “b” the team that scored the most runs in their games will advance.

NOT EFFECTIVE FOR THIS PLAYING YEAR. WILL BE APPLICABLE IN 2022.



Tournament Hosting

- ❖ No hosting commitments have been made for the local 2021 tournaments
- ❖ Organizations interested in hosting must:
 - Have regulation field sizes for each division hosted
 - Provide adequate staff to run tournament
 - General Liaison - Host Chairperson
 - Scorekeepers/Scoreboard, Announcers (if applicable), Pitch Count personnel -- Neutral parties not associated with teams in game
 - Field Maintenance Staff
 - Provide iced water for all players and umpires (coolers in dugouts, shaded rest area for umpires)
 - Offer Concessions/Restrooms
 - Pay hosting fees prior to tournament commencement
- ❖ If your organization is interested in hosting tournaments for the 2021 season please email m.valenzuela@pony.org cc: b.brooks@pony.org



General Announcements

- ❖ There are NO FEE INCREASES for 2021 League Registration
- ❖ PONY Scholarship Program
 - A one time \$2,000 award will be presented to the winning recipient! Application & Requirements can be found here:
<https://www.pony.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1231905>
- ❖ PONY Knowledge Base
 - Need quick answers? Visit the PONY Knowledge Base for searchable help 24/7/365! If you can't find your answer in the KB, you can create a Support Ticket from the site and check your ticket status at anytime!
<https://ponybbsb.freshdesk.com/support/solutions>
- ❖ Share your stories with us!
 - PONY would love to shine the spotlight on those who are doing great things in the PONY community! Send your stories for a feature to m.valenzuela@pony.org cc: b.brooks@pony.org



FREE RESOURCES & PONY PARTNERS

PONY has partnered with several companies to offer great resources either FREE or discounted to all PONY organizations to assist with making league operations more efficient! Check out some of the partners below:



Contact Us

- ❖ PONY Division Director:
 - Billy Brooks - b.brooks@pony.org - (832) 453-8717
- ❖ Foal - Bronco Region Directors:
 - Melody Valenzuela - m.valenzuela@pony.org - (832) 815-9285
 - Rey Valenzuela - r.valenzuela@pony.org - (713) 459-8491
- ❖ Field Directors:
 - Robert Quada - r.quada@pony.org - (936) 662-0660
 - Dr. Henry Gomez - h.gomez@pony.org - (832) 746-4727



Social Media



PONY South Zone Coastal Region



PONY SZ Coastal Region



PONY South Zone Coastal Region

