

Competition Format and Rules

Format et règlement des compétitions

As of WED 21 OCT 2026

Youth Olympic Competition Format

The Baseball5 competition at Dakar 2026 Summer Youth Olympic Games is a single mixed event. The five day tournament runs from 30 October to 3 November 2026.

- All games are contested on "best of three sets" format, in which each set is composed of five innings. In order to win the game, the team has to win two sets out of three. The third set is played only if there is a tie after the first two sets.
- The opening round is composed of two groups of four teams, each team plays every other team in their group. The best team in each group advances to the semifinals. The second and third best teams advance to the quarterfinals. The last team in each group contests the placement game for 7th place.
- Winners of the quarterfinals advance to the semifinals, and the losing teams contest the placement game for 5th place
- Winners of the semifinals play in the gold medal game, and the losing teams play in the bronze medal game

Differences between the Youth Baseball5 World Cup and the Summer Youth Olympic Games

There are more teams in the Youth Baseball5 World Cup and the competition format is different with teams competing in an Opening Round, advancing to a round of 16 playoffs phase, and finally the medal games.

Changes since Buenos Aires 2018 Summer Youth Olympic Games

Baseball5 is on the programme for the first time in the Summer Youth Olympic Games at Dakar 2026. It was previously a demonstration sport in Buenos Aires 2018.

Sport Rules and Procedures

Tie Break Rules

Opening round:

Teams will be ranked after the opening round by win-loss record of all games played. A tie exists when two or more teams have the same win-loss record. All ties after the opening round will be broken by the following criteria:

1. The team that won the game between the teams tied shall be given the higher position
2. Team Quality Balance (TQB)
   The TQB is calculated as follows: (runs scored/innings played at bat) - (runs allowed/innings played on defence). For a three-way tie and when the TQB is needed to break the tie, the TQB will place all three teams from highest to lowest ranking.
   Note that for special cases of games ending on the top of the inning or in a walk-off situation further calculation may be needed.
3. Coin toss

Set:

In case of a tied set, the teams shall play and complete extra innings until one team scores more runs than the opponent.

- The first extra inning will start with a runner on first base
- The second extra inning will begin with runners on first and second base
- Runners will start on all bases from the third extra inning onwards. Runners must be placed on bases without modifying the batting order.

Penalties / Disqualification Rules

Players and team officials may be suspended for one or more games for disciplinary matters. In extreme cases a player or team official may be excluded from the competition.

Note:
For further information please consult: www.wbsc.org