

*2012 URSL -- 15 Run Mercy Rule

- **15 Run Rule** – ACTIVE FOR ALL REGULAR SEASON GAMES PLUS ROUND 1 OF PLAYOFFS
 - Minimum of **4 ½ innings** (finished the top of the 5th) is necessary to be played to be considered a complete game. In that scenario the **HOME** team is winning by **15** or more runs, so they do **NOT** need to bat in the BOTTOM of the 5th.
 - The **HOME** team will **ALWAYS** have their chance to bat in the bottom of the 5th inning no how many runs they are down.
 - From the 6th Inning on (**6th, 7th and Extra Innings**) the **HOME** team will always have their chance to hit in their bottom half of the inning **PROVIDED** the score is **within** 15 runs prior to the start of the top half of the inning; **NOT** how the top half of that inning finished.
 - **Eg.** In the Top of **6th** the **HOME** team is losing to the **AWAY** team 14-0. The **AWAY** team scores 1 run in the top of the **6th** to make it 15-0. The game is **NOT** over as it previously has been in the past. The **HOME** team still gets to bat in the BOTTOM of the **6th** where they need to score at least 1 run for the game to proceed to the **7th** inning.
 - To take the previous example one step further, the **HOME** team scores 3 runs in the bottom of the **6th** inning; now the score is 14-3. It will **NOT** matter how many runs the **AWAY** team scores in the top of the **7th** the **HOME** will get their last at bat because the **7th** inning **started** with the **HOME** down only 11 runs.
 - The same rule applies for extra innings. Eg. Scored is tied 5-5 after **7** innings. In the top of the **8th** the **AWAY** team goes on a tear and scores 15 runs to make it 20-5. The game is **NOT** over. The **HOME** team will **ALWAYS** have their chance to bat in their bottom half of **ANY** extra inning.

**this ruling was changed via the coaches' vote at the coaches meeting on 2/18/2012*