

Warrington Youth Baseball

Instructional Division (Coach Pitch)

Rules and Information

RULES AND INFORMATION

- Games will be played at scheduled times.
- No head coach is to deviate from their assigned schedule without approval from the League Director.
- Rain outs will be called by the Home Team Coach and/or League Director.
- Prior to each game, the home team is responsible for preparing the field: lining the field, installing the bases, general safety maintenance, etc. Also, once the game is complete, the home team must ensure that all liner, tools, and bases are put away and the sheds and toolboxes are locked.
- On Saturdays and Sundays, the fields are set up by the home team that plays the first game of the day. Once the last game is complete, the home team must ensure that all liners, tools, and bases are stored and the sheds or toolboxes closed and locked. If you are not sure if there is a game after your game, please put everything away and lock up.
- Each team is responsible for picking up trash around the dugout or bench area after the game.
- No gum chewing during a game (choking hazard)
- Field maintenance is always needed. Once during the season your team may be asked to assist one weekend day during the season. Please ask parents to cooperate with this request.
- **Following each game both teams MUST hand drag and rake the field.**
- The only people allowed in the dugout or bench area during a game are the players and coaches. Please keep brothers and sisters out of this area.

GAME RULES

- NO on-deck batter. The only person with a bat in their hands is the hitter. NO EXCEPTIONS!
- The most important issue relating to the game schedule is that the games are to last 1.5 hours at the most (or 6 innings). There are a few reasons for this, one being age/attention span, but as important is the traffic flow in and out of the park. The games schedules also take into account traffic patterns, and as such please adhere to the 1.5 hour game times.
- If a player makes an out as a batter or base runner they shall be removed from the base. Each team will be allowed to bat their entire lineup each inning.
- Teams must bat their entire lineup (all 10, 11 or 12 players). Once all players in the lineup have batted in an inning, the inning is over. Please do not have the last batter in an inning circle the bases (unless they have legitimately clobbered the ball into the next county). We will be teaching the kids to make plays at all bases, and the practice of having the last batter circle the bases often result in a wild chase with kids running in all directions. To prevent collisions, please have the last batter and all base runners stop once they have reached the appropriate base and then proceed to the dugout in an orderly manner
- The batting order should be rotated every game. **Do not** use different batting orders within the same game (e.g., inning by inning).
- There are no balls or called strikes. If a player does not put the ball in play after 7 swings (or after looking at several good pitches go by), use the batting tee (provided in the equipment shed). While we all want every player to hit a pitched ball, throwing too many pitches to a single batter really slows the game down and causes the other players to lose interest. Please try to keep the game moving at a good pace.
- Extra base hits will be allowed. Base runners must stop at the base to which they were advancing as soon as the ball leaves the outfielder's hand. If the ball does not leave the infield, runners cannot advance beyond the next base from where they started. Please use good judgment. We want to teach the kids the right way to run the bases, "running hard for a double, going from 1st to 3rd on a ball in the gap but only in legitimate situations." Once an outfielder throws the ball, no further advancement is allowed.
- There will be no advancing on overthrows at any base.
- Stealing or taking leads is not allowed.
- Each player must play in the field. Any one child may play a position a maximum of twice in the same game. No Exceptions! Use common sense when placing players in certain positions. It is important that all players get a chance to play all positions during the season. Common sense is important here - coaches should not put players in a position where they cannot protect themselves, first

basemen that have no chance at catching a ball, a pitcher that has trouble paying attention, etc.

- Each team will field ten players per inning, using 4 outfielders in an umbrella scheme (No Short fielder). The outfielders must play in the outfield grass, there are not extra infielders.
- On defense, it is important that we teach the kids to make plays appropriately. Teach them about force outs and how to make the right play. Enforce that a player throw the ball to a teammate covering a base, discourage them from fielding the ball and chasing down runners themselves (unless, of course, if this is the right baseball play given the situation). This teaches them the proper way to play the game and will avoid collisions.
- Outfielders cannot make plays on a base. If an outfielder fields a ball and runs the ball to a base for a force play, or covers a base and receives a throw from an infielder for a force play, it will **NOT** be considered an out. It is important that we teach the infielders to cover the bases. Note: if an outfielder is legitimately playing in the outfield grass, fields a ball and throws to an infielder covering a base for a force out, an out will be recorded.
- We will not be keeping score. Encourage the kids to have fun and learn the game.
- Sportsmanship and positive attitudes towards and between players is important. Encourage them to praise each other, and to respect the opposing players and teams. **NO NEGATIVE TALK SHOULD BE CONDONED OR ALLOWED FROM KIDS OR PARENTS.**
- If a child is placing himself in a dangerous position due to lack of attention and concentration on a given day, switch his position with another child on the field or move him out of danger. Do this in a creative and sensible way.