

**SOUTHWEST BASEBALL ASSOCIATION
CLARKDALE PARK
AUSTELL, GEORGIA**

PRE-BALL PLAYING RULES 2007

1. Should games be scheduled on school nights, they shall begin no later than 8:00 P.M. and be completed no later than 10:00 P.M.
2. All make up games shall be rescheduled by the President or Vice President, if time is permitting within the season playing schedule. Rain-out games will be rescheduled if time permits.
3. Officers, Coaches and other officials will maintain only the highest level of moral conduct. No drinking, cursing, abusive language or physical abuse of children will be permitted at any Association function. No smoking in the dugout.
4. The home team will be responsible for playing fields to be marked off properly.
5. Each team will be assigned certain days/hours to work the concession stand. Should the team fail to fulfill their obligation in the concession stand, trophies will not be provided by the association. The schedule will be prepared so the parents will work either before or after their children's game, and never during the game.
6. Minimum age to play Pre-Ball is 2 years of age, Maximum age to play in the Pre-Ball League is 4 years of age. The child cannot turn 5 prior to May 01, of the current playing season.
7. Teams will be picked on a date designated by the President.
8. Head coaches are responsible for their own sponsors. Sponsor fees are \$300.00. This must be furnished prior to the season start. (Spring Only)
9. After official registration ends and the team rosters are full, a waiting list will be formed in chronological order (by date) and should any vacancy in the proper age bracket come open, the first child will be placed on the team that has nine (9) or less players. This shall be kept by the President or Registration Chairperson.
10. Teams will consist of a maximum of 9 players.
11. Team assignment cut-off will be after the second full week of play.
12. All children will be treated equally.

Coaching

1. All coaches will clean up their dugout before leaving the field.

Game Length

1. A complete game consists of a minimum of 45 minutes of play.
2. An inning will be after all players have batted. Batting rotation will be based on your team's number of batters regardless of the opposing team's number of batters.
3. Remember, at no time is a player considered out in Pre-ball.

Player Eligibility

1. All players on a team shall wear association issued uniforms (hat, jersey & socks) and matching baseball pants (color to be determined by the parents and coaches of each team and purchased by the child's parents)
3. If undershirts are worn they will be a solid color (not white). The undershirt color must be consistent on a team.
4. When the batter approaches the plate, the batter's number must be visible at all times while bating.
5. Any child on the field playing and not paying attention to the game, if his safety is in jeopardy, may be removed from the field.
6. Continuous Batting Order will be used at all times in this league

Batting

1. Each player shall bat until the ball is hit into play.

Base Running

1. Players are not permitted to steal or lead off base.
2. Base runners may not advance more than one (1) base per hit, with the last batter hitting a Grand Slam and running all bases.

Pitching

1. No child "pitcher" may pitch more than one (1) inning in any game.

Basic Fielding/Positions

1. There can be no catcher on a PreBall team. The offensive team will be responsible for providing a coach (or parent) to act as a catcher.
2. There will be no intentional underhand throwing of the baseball to any bases unless the player is in a prone or otherwise position which makes the rolling of the ball the only way to reach the base. All of the throws must begin as an overhand thrown ball. Note: Please begin to teach your players the correct way to throw the ball.
3. No player will play forward of an imaginary line from the pitchers rubber to first or third base. Only the pitcher will be allowed to advance to this area once the ball has been hit to avoid potential collisions in this small area.

Southwest Baseball Association

Pre-Ball Playing Rules & General Information

Pre-Ball is designed to provide kids ages 2-4 with some fun and to learn something about our national pastime. No child should be criticized or made to feel bad because he did not make a play as hoped. All parents should understand that criticism can be detrimental to a child this age, and it is suggested that a team meeting should be held before the beginning of the season to discuss this with the parent. In addition, the following items should be included in your practice routine and be a major part of your main focus of instruction. At this age, it is not important whether we win or lose; leave that for the next league.

1. How to throw a ball overhand from the correct foot: (a) Step forward with your left foot for right hander's and; (b) step forward with your right foot for left handers.
2. How to catch (or hold the glove) to stop the ball and catch it in their glove.
3. Teach them how to be a part of the "team, that there should be no fighting over a ball, and that every member of the team is as important as the next player.
4. Teach them that after hitting the ball we run to first base, not second or third.

Lets Play Ball and Have Fun!!