

**2023 HAYS RECREATION COMMISSION
T-BALL LEAGUE RULES**

GENERAL RULES

1. **NUMBER OF PLAYERS:** Most teams will have 10 or 11 players per team. All players will play in the field. A team may start play, and continue a game with seven (7) players.
2. **PRACTICE TIMES:** Teams are allowed to practice two(2) hours per week. Practices are on a first come first serve basis this year due to lack of field availability.
3. **BATTING LINEUP:** All players on each team will bat each half inning. If one team has eleven (11) players they will bat all eleven (11) players each inning. If the other team has nine (9) players they will bat all nine (9) players each inning.
4. **DISCIPLINARY REASONS:** If for a specific reason a manager/coach sees fit not to play a player (disciplinary reasons), that manager /coach must first contact the Sports Department for approval before any action is taken. Coaches must have a justifiable reason for not playing their players. Coaches should contact parents first to determine the reason a player is absent. Some reasons are legitimate. Failure to comply with this rule will result in forfeiture of the game.
5. **HOME TEAM:** The home team will be listed first on the game schedule, the home team shall occupy the third base dugout.
6. **UMPIRE:** HRC DOES NOT PROVIDE UMPIRES FOR TBALL. COACHES ARE ENCOURAGED TO FIND A PARENT TO UMPIRE THE GAMES.
7. **BATTING HELMETS:** All batter/base runners must wear batting helmets at all times. All on-deck batters must wear batting helmets. ALL PLAYERS ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE THEIR OWN BATTING HELMET.
8. **CATCHERS EQUIPMENT:** Catcher will wear a helmet only, which will be provided at the games.
9. **THROWING THE BAT:** Any batter who intentionally throws the bat will be called out. Unintentional throwing of the bat, the batter will be warned and next time will be declared out.
10. **COACHING:** Two coaches are allowed on the field when their team is playing. These coaches are not allowed to interfere with play.
11. **GAME RESCHEDULES:** Games will only be rescheduled for the following reason: Weather postponements, field postponements or if a team has 5 or more players missing from their game.

12. **GAME CANCELLATIONS:** For game cancellation information you can sign up for HRC TextCaster on our website www.haysrec.org

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

1. **UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT:** *Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Any manager, coach, spectator or player who displays unsportsmanlike conduct may be suspended for subsequent games, the remainder of the season or longer if deemed necessary by the recreation commission. That manager, coach, spectator or player will not be allowed in the dugout and will be asked to leave the complex as well. If the manager, coach, spectator or player refuses to leave the complex that team will forfeit their game (Refer to the HRC Code of Conduct).*

2. **FOUL LANGUAGE:** Foul and/or profane language is considered unsportsmanlike conduct and is grounds for ejection. Any use of profanity audible to the umpire will result in ejection.

3. **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:** Beer and/or alcoholic beverages are not permitted inside Speier, Glassman & Massey Complexes. Violators will be asked to leave the complex or ballfield.

4. **TOBACCO:** Tobacco (smoking and chewing) is not permitted on the playing field or in the dugout area. Violation of this rule (by a manager, coach or player) is considered unsportsmanlike conduct and is grounds for ejection.

5. **CHATTERING:** Chattering of any kind directed at the opposing team will not be allowed. Teams may chatter to encourage their own team members, however.

LEAGUE SPECIFIC RULES 4 & 5 YR. OLD BOYS & GIRLS

1. **AGE:** The league is comprised of youth 4 and 5 years of age (age as of June 1, 2023).

2. **GAME LOCATION:** Bickle/Schmidt Sports Complex Northeast Quad. The games will be held on Wednesday evenings.

3. **TIME LIMIT & INNINGS:** Games will consist of five (5) innings with a one (1) hour time limit (which ever comes first). No new inning will begin after one (1) hour of play. The next inning begins as soon as the last out of the previous inning is made.

4. **NUMBER OF PLAYERS:** All players present will play in the field. **The infield is made up of a catcher, a pitcher and up to five (5) infielders.** All other players will play in the outfield and must be in the grass portion of the outfield. **All coaches are required to rotate their players in the field every inning.**

5. **SCORING:** Since teams bat their entire roster each inning, score will not be kept at the games. Remember this is still an Instructional League.
6. **BATTING:** All batters will use a batting tee and bat every inning.
7. **OUTS:** If a player is declared out by the umpire they may choose to continue to run the bases.
8. **OVERTHROWS:** In the event of an overthrow, base runners may advance (at the risk of being put out) one base only. For example: If a defensive player overthrows first base, the runner may advance to second base at the risk of being thrown out. If the defensive player overthrows second base the player may not advance to third base.
9. **TIME OUT:** The umpire will call time when in their judgment no further play is taking place and the ball is in possession of a infielder in the infield area. Once again this is an umpire's judgment call. Please keep in mind that every umpire is different and umpire A may call time quicker than umpire B, and may award a base when another umpire may not. Please coach your players to play within the spirit of the rule. This rule is not subject to protest.
10. **DEAD BALL AREA:** If a ball goes into the dugout all runners will advance one (1) base only.
11. **BASES:** The safety bases will be used for this league. The white portion is for the fielder and the orange portion is for the batter/baserunner. There is no penalty for a fielder touching the orange portion of the base or the batter/baserunner touching the white portion of the safety base.
12. **DEFENSIVE YOUTH PITCHER:** The defensive team's pitcher will take a position on the white chalk mark on the pitcher's mound. The pitcher is not allowed to move from this point until the ball is hit.
13. **BASE PATH DISTANCE:** Base paths are 60 feet.
14. **INFIELD FLY:** The infield fly rule will not apply.

HAYS RECREATION COMMISSION PLAYER - COACH - SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

1. DEFINITIONS:

A. Player - The person who "participates in the game". The person must be listed on the Certification of Roster form.

B. Coach - The person designated as the team spokesperson, and may be a player, non-player and/or team representative.

C. Spectator - The person who comes to the game to watch for leisure entertainment with no physical involvement.

D. Team Member - Coach, manager, player, non-player, team representative, and/or obvious fan.

E. Participation - Active involvement in the game, including sitting on the bench, coaching the players, etc...

F. Sports Official - The persons who administer the sports league/activity: referees, umpires, scorekeepers, supervisors, etc...

2. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS:

A. No team member shall at any time (in a threatening manner) lay a hand upon, shove, strike, or verbally threaten an opposing team member, Sports Official or spectator.

Offense

Lay a hand upon another person

Minimum Penalty

Suspension for the remainder of the season.

Maximum Penalty

Suspension for one (1) year or more as deemed appropriate by the HRC.

Possible Criminal Charges

Shove an official, coach or spectator or strike another person
punch of any kind

Suspension from the league for one (1) year.

Suspension from the league for more than one year as deemed appropriate by the HRC.

Possible Criminal Charges

Verbally threaten remainder another person.

Suspension for four (4) games

Suspension for the of the season.

Note: If any player is found guilty of assaulting a Sports Official as an aggressor, the entire team may be dismissed from the league, disbanded and never allowed to play as a team in any Recreation league program again. Damaged or stolen property will require immediate replacement. In addition, the player and/or team members may also face prosecution.

B. No team member shall refuse to abide by the Sports Official's decision.

Offense

Refusing to perform a duty that a Sports Official would normally request, i.e., filling in the team lineup on time, picking up trash left by the team, etc...

Minimum Penalty

Warning from the Sports Official

Maximum Penalty

Ejection from the game, & suspension from the team's next two (2) games.

C. No team member shall make obscene gestures nor make objectionable demonstrations of dissent towards the Sports Official.

Minimum Penalty

Ejection from that game.

Maximum Penalty

Ejection from the game, & suspension as deemed appropriate by the HRC.

D. No team member shall discuss with the Sports Official in any manner the decision reached by the Official, EXCEPT THE COACH OR TEAM SPOKESPERSON.

Minimum Penalty

Ejection from that game.

Maximum Penalty

Ejection from the game, & suspension as deemed appropriate by the HRC.

E. No team shall be guilty of using unnecessarily rough tactics against an opposing player.

Minimum Penalty

Ejection from that game.

Maximum Penalty

Ejection from the game, & suspension as deemed appropriate by the HRC.

3. Special Notes:

A. Any player who has been removed from a game on a misconduct charge is automatically on probation for the remainder of the season. If reported a second time for violation of the Code of Conduct, the player will be suspended from the remainder of the league season.

B. Any player ejected from a game MUST leave the GYM/FIELD within (2) MINUTES, without further verbal/physical abuse towards the Sports Official. Failure to do so can carry further penalties including suspension from play for the remainder of the season.

ANY PLAYER EJECTED THAT REFUSES TO LEAVE THE GYM/FIELD WITHIN TWO (2) MINUTES, CAN CAUSE HIS/HER TEAM TO FORFEIT.

C. Any player who is NOT allowed to participate in the team's next game(s) is furthermore NOT ALLOWED TO ATTEND AND/OR COACH ANY GAMES DURING THE SUSPENSION. The ejected player is banned from the facility during his/her suspension period.

D. The Code of Conduct is not protestable.

National Standards of NYSCA Coaches

The National Standards for Youth Sports place in motion a nationwide policy for youth leagues that strive to operate their programs with the best interests of children as their primary objective.

Copies of the National Standards For Youth Sports, with complete information including rationale and implementation, are made available to youth leagues by contracting NYCA Headquarters.

#1 Proper Sports Environment

Parents must consider and carefully choose the proper sports environment for their child, including the appropriate age and development for participation, the type of sport, the rules of the sport, the age range of the participants, and the proper level of physical and emotional stress.

#2 Programs Based on the Well-Being of Children

Parents must select youth sports programs that are developed and organized to enhance the emotional, physical, social and educational well-being of children.

#3 Drug, Tobacco & Alcohol-Free Environment

Parents must encourage a drug, tobacco and alcohol-free environment for their children.

#4 Part of a Child's Life

Parents must recognize that youth sports are only a part of a child's life.

#5 Training

Parents must insist that coaches are trained and certified.

#6 Parent's Active Role

Parents must make a serious effort to take an active role in the youth sports experience of their child providing positive support as a spectator, coach, league administrator and/or caring parent.

#7 Positive Role Models

Parents must provide positive role models, exhibiting sportsmanlike behavior at games, practices, and home, while also giving positive reinforcement to their child and support to their child's coaches.

#8 Parental Commitment

Parents must demonstrate their commitment to their child's youth sports experience by annually signing the Parents Code of Ethics Pledge.

#9 Safe Playing Situations

Parents must insist on safe playing facilities, healthful playing situations, and proper first aid applications, should the need arise.

#10 Equal Play Opportunity

Parents, coaches, and league administrators must provide equal play opportunity for all youth regardless of race, creed, sex, economic status or ability.

#11 Drug, Tobacco & Alcohol-Free Adults

Parents must be drug, tobacco and alcohol-free at youth league sporting events.

Coaches' Code of Ethics

I hereby pledge to live up to my certification as a NYSCA Coach by following the NYSCA Coaches' Code of Ethics.

I will place the emotional and physical well being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.

I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.

I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.

I will promise to review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players.

I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.

I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.

I will be knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and I will teach these rules to my players.

I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.

I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.

Coach Signature

Date

Parents' Code of Ethics

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports by following this Parents' Code of Ethics Pledge.

I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sports event.

I will place the emotional and physical well being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.

I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.

I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.

I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.

I will remember that the game is for youth—not for adults.

I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.

I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and official, with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.

I promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by doing whatever I can, such as being a respectful fan, assisting with coaching, or providing transportation.

I will require that my child's coach be trained in the responsibilities of being a youth sports coach and that the coach upholds the Coaches' Code of Ethics.

I will read the NYSCA National Standards for Youth Sports and do what I can to help all youth sports organizations implement and enforce them.

Parent signature

Parent Signature

Date

Players' Code of Ethics

I hereby pledge to provide a positive attitude and be responsible for my participation in Youth Sports by following this Code of Ethics:

I will encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials and parents at every game and practice.

I will attend every practice and game that is reasonable possible and notify my coach if I cannot.

I will expect to receive a fair and equal amount of playing time.

I will do my very best to listen and learn from my coaches.

I will treat my coaches with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or abilities and I will expect to be treated accordingly.

I deserve to have fun during my sports experience and will alert parents or coaches if it stops being FUN!

I deserve to play in an alcohol, tobacco and drug free environment and expect adults to respect that wish.

I will encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capacity because it's important to me.

I will do my very best in school.

I will remember that a sport is an opportunity to learn and have fun.

Players' Signature

Date