

Knox Youth Sports Baseball

Major League Rules & Regulations

ORGANIZATION

1. Organization. Knox Youth Sports (KYS) Baseball is a division of Knox Youth Sports, Inc., a Tennessee not-for-profit organization.
2. Purpose. The purpose of the Knox Youth Sports Baseball program is to provide children with an opportunity to learn to play sports in a positive, wholesome and enjoyable environment. Emphasis will be placed on player participation, good sportsmanship and fair play.
3. Governing Body. Except as modified herein, KYS Baseball will be governed by TSSAA.

FIELD DIMENSIONS

1. Basepaths. Bases will be placed at 70'.
2. Pitching Distance. The coach/pitcher shall pitch from a distance of 50'.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Time Limit. Games are scheduled for a 1 and a ½ hour time limit. No new inning will begin after 1 hour and 25 minutes.
2. Home / Away. The home team will occupy the 1st base dugout and the away team will occupy the 3rd base dugout.
3. Scoring / Umpires. Score will be kept and KYS will provide umpires in the field.

PLAYING RULES

1. Participants. Each team must have at least eight players present to start the game. If a team does not have the minimum of eight, then that team will forfeit the game. Coaches must present a line-up with each player's name and uniform number to the scorekeeper prior to each game.
2. Player Participation. Each player present will be in the batting order for the entire game. If a player arrives late, that player will be added to the end of the batting order and may enter upon arrival.
 - a. Free defensive substitutions allowed. No child can sit more than one consecutive inning per game.
3. Defensive Positions. A team shall consist of players in the following positions:
 - a. 9 Players will play the field when on Defense.
4. Batting Regulations. When a team is at-bat, the following rules will apply:
 - a. Teams are required to use a continuous batting order – meaning all players present will be in the batting order.
 - b. Each half inning will consist of 3 outs, or the team scoring a maximum of 7 runs, whichever occurs first.

5. Base Running Regulations. Base runners must abide by the following:
 - a. Players are highly encouraged to slide whenever possible. The base runner must avoid deliberate contact. Incidental or deliberate contact will be a judgment call made by the umpire.
 - b. Lead-offs will be allowed with 3 step lead.
 - c. Dropped 3rd Strike – batter and runners may advance.
 - d. Teams have the option to pinch-run for the catcher in order to speed up the game. The pinch runner must be the last out.
6. Pitching Regulations. A pitcher may pitch a maximum of 6 innings per week. (Monday through Sunday is considered a baseball week.)
 - a. Pitching one pitch constitutes 1/3 of an inning.
 - b. We trust our coaches to stick to these pitching regulations out of safety to the kids.
 - c. In between innings, pitchers will be limited to (5) warm-up pitches. When a new pitcher is brought into the game, he/she will have up to (10) warm-up pitches.
 - d. Balks will be called.
7. Slaughter Rule.
 - a. 10 Runs After 4 Innings of Play
 - b. 8 Runs After 5 Innings of Play
8. Infield Fly. Infield Fly Rule will be enforced.
9. Overthrows. Overthrows into the dugout or over the fence will result in automatically awarding the runner one additional base.

GAMES

1. Location. All games will be played at Lakeshore Park on Lyons View Pike.
2. Game Day Announcements. KYS will make announcements regarding game postponements or cancellations due to inclement weather or other extraordinary situations at 4:00 PM on weekdays and prior to the first game on weekends.
3. Postponements / Rescheduling. Games can only be postponed or rescheduled by KYS. Coaches will be notified as soon as possible of rescheduled games.
4. Regulation Game. Teams will play 6 innings or one and one half hour, whichever occurs first. No new inning will begin after one hour and twenty-five minutes.
5. Tie Games. When the score is tied at the end of the time limit, the game will be called as a tie.

CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Coaches. Coaches are the authority figures for their teams and shall conduct themselves in a fashion designed to promote good sportsmanship and fair play.
 - a. Under no circumstances should a coach verbally or physically threaten, harass or abuse any player, umpire, coach or spectator.
 - b. Coaches will serve at the pleasure of Knox Youth Sports
2. Participants. All KYS participants are expected to behave in a sportsmanlike manner.
 - a. Under no circumstance should a participant verbally or physically threaten, harass or abuse any player, umpire, coach or spectator.

- b. Participants shall not throw batting helmets, bats or any other equipment.
 - c. Participants are allowed to encourage and cheer for their teams, while using common courtesy toward opposing teams.
- 3. Spectators. All persons other than those participating in a game may view the contest from the bleachers or other areas outside the playing field.
 - a. Spectators are not allowed on the playing field.
 - b. Under no circumstance should a spectator verbally or physically threaten, harass or abuse any player, umpire, coach or other spectator.
- 4. Penalties. If a coach, participant or spectator violates the Code of Conduct, KYS will take the following actions.
 - a. First offense will result in a warning.
 - b. Second offense will result in expulsion from the park with child and possible forfeiture of the game.
 - c. Third offense will result in possible suspension from KYS programs, to be considered by the Knox Youth Sports Board of Directors.

AMENDMENTS

- 1. Amendments. KYS may make amendments to these regulations as are needed. When changes are made, coaches will be notified as soon as possible.
- 2. Modifications. KYS reserves the right to make certain modifications, when deemed necessary, to the regulations, practice schedules, game schedules, etc.