

Chatham Youth League Baseball Bylaws

ALL LEAGUES

I. Overall Rules

- A. All players must provide a birth certificate in order to play.
- B. The AGE cutoff date for baseball will be April 15th of the current year.
- C. Chatham Youth League has no boundary restriction. All are welcome to participate.
- D. There will be no refunds of registration fees without a doctor's excuse.
- E. No one can request to be paired up with a coach or another player (unless they are siblings), except T-Ball.
- F. Everyone is required to help with the fundraising program of the season.

II. Playing Rules

- A. All games will be played according to the official Chatham Youth League baseball rules.
- B. Players for the Tee Ball & Instructional League divisions will be assigned to teams by the President and Player Agent. No tryouts are required.
- C. Players for the Minor and Major are required to participate in a draft. There will be no player cuts. The draft is to distribute the talent throughout the league. The draft process is a blind draft and subject to change upon discretion of the Board.

Chatham Youth League Baseball Bylaws

- D. No player wearing casts of any kind, be it for arms, legs, body, constructed on any kind of material (fiberglass, plaster, either hard or soft) will be allowed to play. The player will be allowed to resume play when the cast is removed; however, a physician MUST sign a release stating that the player may resume play.**
- E. All batters and those warming up at bat must wear a protective helmet.**
- F. Big barrel bats are allowed.**
- G. Catchers must wear a protective helmet and mask (including throat protector) during all practices and games. This includes any player warming up the pitcher.**
- H. All catchers in the Instructional, Minor, and Major League Divisions MUST wear a protective cup at all practices and games.**
- I. All players in the Minor and Major League Divisions MUST wear a protective cup at all practices and games.**
- J. Players suspended from school will not be allowed to practice or play in games until the suspension is lifted. Such players may dress out in full uniform and sit with the team in support.**
- K. Each player in all league divisions MUST not sit the bench more than 1 inning consecutively.**
- L. All games at Crider Field MUST be completed by 9:45 pm. Lights MUST be turned off by 10:00 pm per town ordinance.**

III. Team Requirements

- A. The Home team will occupy the third base dugout.**

Chatham Youth League Baseball Bylaws

- B. The Home Team will provide one person to keep the official scorebook. This person must sit at the designated scorer's table.
- C. The Visiting Team will provide one person to keep the official pitch count record. This person must sit at the designated scorer's table.
- D. All players, managers, and coaches **MUST** wear their uniform shirts and hats during play. Players' shirts **MUST** be tucked in before entering play. No jewelry of any kind can be worn during a game.
- E. No one will be allowed in the dugout during the game **EXCEPT** the Manager, Coaches, and Players.
- F. Players may **NOT** leave the dugout during the game unless it is an emergency.
- G. Food is **NOT** allowed in the dugout. Drinks are allowed but **MUST** be in place at the beginning of the game.

IV. Coaches and Managers

- A. Potential Managers and Coaches will be nominated by the League President and approved by the Board of Directors.
- B. All League Managers and Coaches **MUST** promote and maintain good sportsmanship at all times, including practices, games, or any league functions. Managers and Coaches **MUST** treat all League officials and umpires with courtesy and respect.
- C. Upon the ejection from a game, from an umpire, all persons are required to leave the premises and can stay in the parking lot until the game has ended.
- D. Managers and Coaches **MUST** refrain from the use of **ALL** tobacco products outside of the designated area.

Chatham Youth League Baseball Bylaws

E. Managers/Coaches may be asked to line the field prior to each game.

F. Managers/Coaches are required to remove trash from their respective dugouts after their game is complete.

V. League Discipline

Players, Managers, and Coaches are expected to maintain a high standard of conduct and sportsmanship. Enforcement of playing rules at league games is the sole responsibility of the umpire(s) who have been assigned to the game. Enforcement of additional league conduct rules is the joint responsibility of the umpires assigned to the game and any board members present at the game. The Player Agent MUST be informed of any incident regarding a player.

Chatham Youth League Baseball Bylaws

A. If a Manager, Coach, Player, or Spectator is ejected from a game for any violations, he/she MUST leave the premises, but may stay in the parking lot to pick up child. Failure to act accordingly may result in the forfeiture of the game and suspension from the league for the rest of the season.

B. If a Manager, Coach, Player, or Spectator is ejected from a second game during the same season, the manager, coach, player or spectator may be suspended from league play pending a hearing with the Board of Directors.

VI. Miscellaneous Provisions

A. The League President and Player Agent reserve the right to move a player from one division to another based on the player's ability or lack thereof.

B. The use of ALL tobacco products is prohibited except in the designated area.

C. Any situation that is not covered in these bylaws will be ruled upon by the Board of Directors in the best interests of the League.

D. Bylaws Violations

1. The Board of Directors will review any violations of the bylaws. The Board of Directors may take any action that is deemed necessary. The Board of Director's decision is final.

E. Injuries

1. The injured player will be removed from the game.

2. A substitute player MUST be entered.

3. The injured player will NOT be allowed to return to the game until the problem has been corrected. If any part of the player's uniform/clothing is visibly soiled, it MUST be changed before returning to the game.

Chatham Youth League Baseball Bylaws

4. Managers/Coaches and anyone else involved with the injured player

INSTRUCTIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION

- A. No player under the age of six (6), at the start of the current season, will be allowed to participate in this league without approval.
- B. All players SHOULD arrive at the field at least 15 minutes before the game is scheduled to begin.
- C. Tennis shoes or cleats are required for play.
- D. There will be no official umpire on duty for this division. Managers/Coaches will serve as umpires.
- E. Each team will have a Manager (Head Coach) and three (3) Coaches (Assistant Coaches).
- F. All four coaches will be allowed in the field during defensive play, one of which MUST stand behind the catcher. If all four coaches are in the field, a dugout volunteer MUST be designated to be in the dugout with players not in the field.
- G. Managers/Coaches will pitch to their players using the pitching machine. Each player will be allowed three (3) swinging strikes or a maximum five (5) pitches. A player cannot advance on the final pitch unless the ball is put into the field of play. The player is called out if the fifth pitch is not hit.
- H. Teams may play 10 players in the field for defensive play. (Four outfielders) **Outfielders are to be behind the base path**
- I. Players MUST be rotated in defensive play every other inning. Players may NOT sit out more than one consecutive inning.
- J. The batting order will consist of ALL players present (continuous batting order)
- K. Big barrel bats are allowed.
- L. Bunting, stealing, and throwing of the bat is prohibited. Penalty for any of these actions is an automatic out.
- M. Sliding into first base is prohibited.
- N. Headfirst slides are prohibited.
- O. **When the ball is hit, the defensive team shall make an attempt of a proper play. In the event the ball is overthrown, the runner is allowed to advance only one (1) base.**

Chatham Youth League Baseball Bylaws

- P. Two (2) outs will be recorded when the seventh batter comes to the plate in the same inning.**
- Q. Upon the last person of the line-up completing their turn at bat; a third out is recorded.**
- R. No new inning will begin after one (1) hour and twenty (20) minutes.**