

# Chatham Youth League Baseball Bylaws

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## 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

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- 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.**

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- 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.

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**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.*

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**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.**

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

### **MAJOR LEAGUE DIVISION**

- A. No player under the age of nine (9), at the start of the current season; and has not turn 13 before April 15<sup>th</sup> of the current year will be allowed to participate in this league.
- B. Eligibility for this league will be based on player's ability. This determination is to be made by the Player Agent and League President. The Manager **MUST** report any questions of a player's ability to the Player Agent
- C. All players **SHOULD** arrive at the field at least 15 minutes before the game is scheduled to begin.
- D. Cleats are required for play. Metal/Spike cleats are **NOT** allowed.
- E. Each team will have a Manager (Head Coach) and two (2) Coaches (Assistant Coaches).
- F. Two coaches will be allowed as base coaches, and the remaining coach **MUST** remain in the dugout.
- G. Coaches **MUST** remain in the dugout during defensive play. Coaches are not allowed on the field during play.
- H. Teams may play **ONLY 9** players in the field for defensive play

### **(SPRING MAJOR LEAGUE PITCHING GUIDELINES)**

- I. All pitchers **MUST** abide by the Chatham Youth League pitching guidelines.
- J. (See Pitching Guidelines)
- K. Pitchers may not intentionally walk a batter without pitching the ball.
- L. If a catcher has caught 4 innings, they are ineligible to pitch in the same game. (If the catcher starts the 4<sup>th</sup> inning, then this constitutes as a whole inning.)
- M. If a pitcher has pitched 3 innings, they are ineligible to catch in the same game.
- N. Pitching Distance is 50 feet.
- O. Baseline Distance is 70 feet.

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## **(FALL MAJOR LEAGUE PITCHING GUIDELINES)**

### **PITCHERS MAY ONLY PITCH TWO INNINGS PER GAME WITH NO PITCH COUNT GUIDELINES TO FOLLOW!**

Players **MUST** be rotated in defensive play every other inning. Players may **NOT** sit out more than one consecutive inning.

**P.** The batting order will consist of ALL players present (continuous batting order)

**Q.** Big barrel bats are allowed.

**R.** A courtesy runner may be substituted for the catcher only once they reach a base.

**The last recorded out is the designated courtesy runner.**

**S.** Stealing is allowed in this division, and the player on base may take a lead.

**T.** **Once a team has a seven (7) run lead, stealing is prohibited for that team.**

**Runners may get a MAXIMUM of a three (3) step lead once their team has a seven (7) run lead. (MEANING NO SECONDARY LEAD AT ALL)**

**U.** Once a team has scored 5 runs in one inning, the third out is recorded.

**V.** Slaughter rule will be followed – ten (10) runs after four (4) innings of play.

**W.** Infield Fly Rule applies in this league.

**X.** Batters may advance on dropped third strike if first base is unoccupied or there are two outs!

**Y.** **NO NEW INNING WILL BEGIN AFTER AN HOUR & TWENTY MINUTES**

**Z.** A tournament may be played at the end of regular season during the Spring Season.

Spring Teams will be assigned tournament games based on regular season standings.

Tournament will follow regular season rules.

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## PITCHING GUIDELINES

*The number of pitches allowed is based on the pitcher's age. Specific periods of rest are in place when a pitcher reaches a higher threshold of pitches delivered in a day.*

The table below gives an overview of the number of pitches that will be allowed per day for each age group during the current season.

<b>LEAGUE AGE</b>	<b>PITCHES ALLOWED PER DAY</b>
<b>7-8</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>9-10</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>11-12</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>13-16</b>	<b>95</b>

The table below gives an outline of the number of calendar days of rest that must be observed based on the number of pitches thrown per game.

<b>PITCHES PER DAY</b>	<b>CALENDAR DAYS OF REST REQUIRED</b>
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<b>1-20</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>21-40</b>	<b>One (1)</b>
<b>41-60</b>	<b>Two (2)</b>
<b>61 or more</b>	<b>Three (3)</b>

## **DRAFT PROCESS FOR PLAYERS**

**THE DRAFT WILL BE A BLIND DRAFT TO EVENLY ASSIGN PLAYERS!**

During tryouts, each candidate should be given the opportunity to (1) bat/bunt, (2) field fly balls, (3) field ground balls, (4) throw, and (5) run in competition with children of the same league age. These tryout periods will be conducted in the presence of all managers who will observe the ability of each candidate. Each Manager will grade the candidates on the Player Agent's List for their own reference.

When a thorough tryout program has been completed, the player selection (draft) process will begin.