

**City of Clinton Recreation and Parks**

**Baseball Rules and Guidelines**

**National Federation High School** rules will be enforced with the exception of the rules listed:

 **Divisions and Ages:**

* ***T-Ball*** 4-6 years old
	+ Must turn 4 **on**  or **before** the deadline and cannot turn 7 **before** the deadline
* ***Minor League*** 9-10 years old
	+ Must turn 9 **on** or  **before** the deadline and cannot turn 11 **before** the deadline
* ***Major League*** 11-12 years old
	+ Must turn 11 **on** or  **before** the deadline and cannot turn 13 **before** the deadline

**AGE DEADLINE IS MAY 1ST OF CURRENT YEAR**

**NO CHILD WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN A GAME OR PRACTICE WITHOUT A SIGNED REGISTRATION FORM, BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND RECEIPT OF PAYMENT GIVEN BY A CRP STAFF MEMBER**

 **Field size:**

* T-Ball Pitching N/A Bases 60'
* Minor League Pitching 46’ Bases 60’
* Major League Pitching 46' Bases 60'

**Regular Season Games:**

* **T-Ball**
	+ Games will be 4 innings in length so each player has the opportunity to bat twice.
	+ Games will last no longer than one hour.
	+ Five swings to put the ball into play. After 5th pitch, player must hit off of batting tee.
	+ The last hitter of the inning will be announced when he/she comes up to hit.
	+ Teams either bat all the lineup or half and then switch. Each player will hit twice per game.
	+ Defense will consist of one pitcher, 4 infielders and all remaining players in the outfield.
	+ Coaches will be allowed to be on the field while on defense.
	+ No score will be kept and outs are not made.
* **Minor and Major**
* Games will be 6 innings in length or 1 hour and 30 minutes.
* New inning will not start after the 75 minute mark.
* Mercy rule is 10 runs after 4. If the home team is ahead after three and one half innings they will not bat.
* Teams will hit at least 9 players. May choose to hit everybody on roster. Teams that choose to bat entire roster will have free defensive substitution for that game. Any player starting in the lineup but is not in the field is the EH and is considered a defensive starter for substitution purposes. Teams must decide to hit 9 or whole roster before game begins.
* All players must play for a total of 6 outs on defense and have at least 1 at bat.
* Starters may re-enter once, including the DH, as long as the player occupies the same position in the batting order. Starting pitchers may be re-entered, but not as pitchers. If a pitcher is removed from the mound, they cannot return to the game as a pitcher under any circumstance.
* Courtesy runner is only allowed for the catcher with 2 outs and is mandatory. The courtesy runner must be the player that recorded the last out.
* **Head first slides are NOT allowed. Feet first slides ONLY!!** Cannot go into any base cleat up. Automatic out and possible ejection. Cannot run into the catcher and no head first slides at home plate. Runner will be ruled out and possible ejection.
* Pitchers are allowed a max of 6 innings per week. 1 pitch counts as an inning. **Warm up pitches included!**
* Minor and Major - cannot advance to first base on a mishandled 3rd strike by the catcher.
* Closed bases, no leads. Runners may attempt to steal once the ball crosses home plate. Leaving the base too early will result in a dead ball out. Stealing home is allowed.
* Players who arrive late can be added to the bottom of the batting order. If a player is not present when the lineup is submitted to official scorer, that position in the order will be an out each time it comes up.
* All batters **MUST** were a helmet with a facemask securely attached to the helmet.
* **Practices**
* Will be limited to one hour each day.
* **Practices will be scheduled by Clinton Recreation staff.**
* No more than 3 practices per week**.**
* **POSTPONED GAME AND INCLEMENT WEATHER**
	+ Coaches will be notified by CRP staff of a game postponement and it is his/her responsibility to contact their players and notify them of the change.
	+ Only the Clinton Recreation staff will have the authority to postpone a game due to inclement weather. Once the game begins, it is up to the umpire crew to make a decision.
	+ Any make up and or unfinished games with less than 4 innings completed will be rescheduled by the CRP staff at the earliest convenience.
	+ If there is inclement weather, call the City of Clinton Recreation and Parks Department at 299-4906 to find out the status of that evenings games.

**\*\*ALL PLAYERS PRESENT FOR THE GAME MUST PLAY. FAILURE OF THE COACH TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN A FORFEIT AND A ONE GAME SUSPENSION. A SECOND OFFENSE WILL RESULT IN THE COACH BEING REMOVED FROM THE TEAM. \*\***

**ALL COACHES, HEAD AND ASSISTANTS, MUST FILL OUT A COACHES APPLICATION AND BACKGROUND CHECK FORM. VOLUNTEERS THAT HAVE NOT COMPLETED THE PROPER PAPER WORK CANNOT BE ON THE FIELD DURING PRACTICE OR GAMES.**

**\*\*CITY OF CLINTON RECREATION STAFF RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DISCIPLINE ANY PLAYER, COACH OR PARENT IN ATTENDANCE AT THE PARK. ANYONE ACTING UNRULY WILL BE WARNED, AND SECOND OFFENSE WILL RESULT IN REMOVAL FROM THE PARK AND A POSSIBLE SUSPENSION FROM FURTHER CLINTON RECREATION AND PARKS EVENTS\*\***

**WE ARE HERE FOR THE KIDS. PLAYERS PLAY THE GAME; COACHES COACH THE PLAYERS AND PARENTS WATCH AND SUPPORT THE PLAYERS. THERE WILL BE ZERO TOLERANCE FOR UNRULY AND DISRESPECTFUL PLAYERS, COACHES AND SPECTATORS. RESPECT THE CRP STAFF AND UMPIRES.**