# Youth Baseball STEPHENVILLE PARKS & REC Blastball - 6U MCP Rules

### **Blastball Game Rules**

- Blastball is for 1-3 year-olds.
- Coaches and parents are recommended to be on the field to assist their child as needed.
- Game will start at scheduled time and last approximately 40 minutes or 3 complete innings.
- Each inning, batting order will reverse (I.E. first to last, last to first) batting order.
- This is a developmental league for fun and family involvement No score or standings will be kept.
- Since no scores or standings will be kept, there will be no official scoreboard.
- There are no outs and every player gets a bat.

# Set-Up

Base paths measure 50 feet in length. SPARD will supply all Blastball equipment, including a foam bat allocated for each player's use.

# <u>How to play</u>

- Blastball is played with two teams (offense and defense). The defensive players take position 35 feet from the blast tee in the pitching area. A Blastball is placed on the tee, the batter will hit the ball, and then run to first base.
- The offensive coach will help at the tee by placing the ball on the tee. The other offensive coach will act as the first base coach to encourage the batter to run.
- Please ensure that all players remain in the dugout and off the playing field while awaiting
  their turn to bat. It would be beneficial to have each player seated in their designated batting
  order to facilitate a seamless transition to the next batter.
- Defensive players will start from the pitching circle 35 feet from the tee. Please help encourage the kids to yell "BLAST" when they hold up the ball. Also, instruct the player to throw the ball only to the offensive coach at first base.
- Keep the games flowing by encouraging the kids to hustle.
- Always play the game with a main focus of FUN!

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## 4U T-ball

All siblings will be placed on the same team unless specified otherwise during registration.

## **Offensive**

At game time a supervisor will stand in the middle of the OYC complex and sound off a horn indicating the start of all games (clock starts). At the end of 50 minutes an additional horn will sound indicating the end of the game (clock stops).

Umpires will **not** be present at the games. Coaches from both teams are expected to respectfully monitor the game. The batting team may have a coach or parent volunteer at each base to help direct. All coaches **must** submit a background check prior to the first game.

Players will be given five attempts to hit off the tee. If unsuccessful after the fifth attempt, players will be permitted to run to first base, then proceed to the dugout and will be out.

Each team will go through the entire batting order each inning, the last batter will run all bases. Each inning, batting order will reverse (I.E. first to last, last to first) batting order.

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### **Defensive**

A team consists of 5 infielders: a pitcher, shortstop, first, second & third baseman. Remaining team members will play as outfielders. Additionally, infielders must be stationed behind an imaginary line drawn between first base and third base until the ball is hit. Once the ball is hit, they may move to field the ball.

The defensive player will field the ball and throw to first base.

Coaches are expected to rotate all players through all fielding positions each game (fill the field). Please only allow one participant for each position.

# **Practices/Games**

Practice days and times will be determined by the volunteer coach. SPARD is not responsible for determining practice days and times. Practices are not mandatory for this age group.

**Coaches will be the primary contact.** Coaches will contact parents prior to the first practice and will continue to communicate throughout the season. Please make sure you download (if needed) any additional communication app(s) requested by the coaches.

Game locations are subject to change depending on weather throughout the season. Games will be available for view prior to the first game on the TeamSideline website.

SPARD will not be recording score for this age group. Please always encourage teamwork, good sportsmanship, and most importantly – FUN!

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### **6U Modified Coach Pitch**

SPARD staff will do their best to accommodate parents' requests for specific team set-up (i.e., children on teams with their friends, coaches, etc.).

All siblings will be placed on the same team unless specified otherwise during registration.

Games will be 50 minutes in length.

### Offensive

Umpires and scorekeepers will be present at the games. Coaches from both teams are expected to respectfully monitor the game. The batting team may have a coach or parent volunteer at each base to help direct. All coaches <u>must</u> submit a background check prior to the first game.

It is a Hit or Sit division, as we are preparing them for coach pitch. If you strike out on 4 pitches you still get to tee it up for 2 swings off the tee, If the second swing results in a foul ball, the batter gets to swing again until the ball is either fair or a miss.

This division will bat the entire lineup, however after the 3rd out is made the batting team goes to the field and the fielding team comes in to bat.

- When the ball is controlled on the infield, the runner will stop advancing and go back to the nearest base.
- Players can advance more than 1 base at a time. Until the ball is controlled in the infield.

This division will only be allowed 7 runs per offensive half inning.

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### **Defensive**

The entire team is able to be on the field, however, only 5 players are allowed on the infield (pitcher, 1st, 2nd, SS, and 3rd) everyone else must stay in the outfield.

Additionally, infielders must be stationed behind an imaginary line drawn between first base and third base until the ball is hit. Once the ball is hit, they may move to field the ball.

The defensive player will field the ball, and throw to first.

Three coaches will be permitted on the field for the defending team. If both coaches agree, more or less coaches may be present on the field.

# **Practices/Games**

Coaches will have the opportunity to host practice at our facilities at least once a week. Practice days and times will be determined by the volunteer coach. SPARD is not responsible in determining practice days and times. Practices are not mandatory for this age group.

Coaches will be the primary contact. Coaches will contact parents prior to the first practice and will continue to communicate throughout the season. Please make sure you download (if needed) any additional communication app(s) requested by the coaches.

Game locations are subject to change depending on weather and availability of fields throughout the season. Games will be available for view prior to the first game on the TeamSideline website

SPARD will be recording score for this age group. Please always encourage teamwork, good sportsmanship, and most importantly – FUN!

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### **Code of Conduct**

- Please allow coaches to coach and participants to compete.
- During practices, parents are required to remain in the spectator area. Spectator areas include the dugout or outside the fenced area.
- Belongings and trash MUST be picked up after every practice. All equipment utilized must be put back to its original space.
- Please label all items. Coaches and SPARD are not responsible for stolen or lost items.
- Damage to SPARD property and others property is prohibited.
- Bullying or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated and could result in immediate suspension of the program. This applies to athletes, parents, volunteers, and coaches. We must support each other positively.

Violations to any Code of Conducts will be immediately addressed by the coaching and SPARD staff. If deemed appropriate this could result in, but not limited to, a suspension or a lifetime termination.

The City of Stephenville continues to promote programs, events and activities, within the Parks and Recreation system. We emphasize a positive, safe, and rewarding environment for the youth of the Stephenville community. We ask that all participants please support SPARD in this mission by being respectful of facilities, coaches, and to one another.