



YOUTH REC (9/10U) BASEBALL LEAGUE INFORMATION & RULE BOOK

**City of Liberty, Missouri
Parks and Recreation Department**

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LIBERTY PARKS AND RECREATION MISSION STATEMENT

Liberty Parks and Recreation is powered by a team of dedicated professionals who are committed to community impact, improvement, and innovation. We believe that creating community connections by providing the highest quality parks, programs, services, and facilities is essential to a prosperous and healthy community.

Objective and Goals:

The Liberty Parks and Recreation youth baseball and softball program is designed to give all boys and girls, through participation in practices and competitive games, the opportunity to learn and improve the fundamentals of the game of baseball and/or softball.

Coaches:

- Shall, above all, have the welfare of each child as his or her main objective.
- Must have reasonable knowledge of the game.
- Shall act as an example of good conduct and sportsmanship to his or her team in all league matters.
- Shall place emphasis of coaching on learning rules and fundamentals, participation, and personal enjoyment.

Sportsmanship:

Team members, coaches and spectators shall exhibit appropriate behavior toward other players, coaches, spectators, and officials. Unsportsmanlike conduct from team members and/or associates, including spectators, will result in one or more of the following:

- Player, coach or spectator ejection from the game
- Player, coach or spectator ejection from the league
- Player, coach or spectator suspension
- Forfeit of game

During the game, the officials have the authority to eject players, coaches and spectators. The Parks and Recreation Department has the final authority on determining the duration of suspension or other penalty. Any player (if he/she has a way home) and/or coach ejected from the game must leave the playing area. Failure to do so may result in forfeit of game. Anyone ejected from a game will be suspended for the next game.

Administration:

The Liberty Parks and Recreation Department facilitates the youth baseball and softball program. Decisions that are rendered by the Parks and Recreation Department are final. The USSSA Baseball and Softball Rule Books are the governing body of rules for our leagues unless superseded by specific youth baseball and softball program rules as set forth by the Liberty Parks and Recreation Department.

Protests:

Officials' decisions in all matters are final. There shall be no protests except in cases of violation of the minimum playing requirements. Intent to protest must be so noted in the scorebook by an umpire at the request of the coach within five minutes of the conclusion of the game. The protest must then be reported to the Parks and Recreation Department by the protesting coach the next working day. Report may be made in person or by phone.

Uniforms & Equipment:

- Required uniform consists of a baseball cap and shirt with number. Player names may appear on the uniform. Uniforms shall be the same color.
- Batters and base runners are required to wear approved head protection. Helmets with ear covering at all times during practice and games will be required. Umpires are instructed to rigidly enforce this rule.
- Tennis shoes or rubber cleats only are to be worn.
- LPR will supply all game balls.
- LPR will provide each team with a duffel bag contain catchers gear and practice balls. It is the responsibility of the head coach to see that the bag is then returned at the end of the season.
- Each player must provide their own glove, individual bats and helmet.
- Catchers are required to wear a protective cup.

Game Time:

Games will start promptly as scheduled. A team must have seven (7) uniformed players to start or continue a game. A 5-minute grace period is allowed from the scheduled starting time. The umpire's watch is official.

Weather Policy:

The umpire/supervisor has final say on whether a game will be temporarily suspended or postponed due to weather conditions or poor field conditions. If lightening is in the immediate area, the game shall be suspended immediately.

Weather Hotline:

816-735-4700 or <https://rainoutline.com/search/dnis/8167354700>

Schedule

All schedules will be posted online at www.teamsideline.com/liberty

9U & 10U Kid Pitch League Rules

General League Rules and Field Dimensions:

- There will be a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes for baseball or 5 innings whichever comes first. If the score is tied at the end of five innings, the game will be over.
- Baseline shall be 65 FT and rubber 46 FT
- Free substitution after playing requirements has been met.
- No player may sit the bench for more than 2 consecutive innings.
- Every child plays at least 3 innings.

Batting Rules:

- All players will be placed in the batting order. However, only 9 players will play the field each inning.
- Each batter and base runner must wear a batting helmet.
- Batter is automatically out on a dropped third strike.
- Each offensive team remains at bat until 3 outs occur or 6 runs are scored.
- Bunting is allowed.
- There are no walks after fourth ball; the offensive coach will take the pitchers position on the rubber and will take up where the pitcher left off in the count. **The coach can pitch overhand or underhand and can move up to the closest white hash to pitch (35 ft).** Each pitch will count as a strike whether or not the batter swings. The batter either strikes or puts the ball into play.
- A batter hit by a pitch is given a base. An umpire may award a strike if it is determined the batter purposely tried to get hit.
- If a batter steps their entire foot out of the batters' box and makes fair contact with a ball, that is an illegal hit and the batter will be called out.
- Bat Regulations: -10, -9, -8 bats are allowed.

Fielding Rules:

- Player position: A team shall have three (3) outfielders and six (6) infielders. Teams can start/end with a minimum 7 players
- Catcher interference is awarded a walk.

Pitching Rules:

- No pitcher/catcher may pitch/catch more than four innings per game. They may play separate or consecutive innings. One pitch will count as having pitched an entire inning.
- A new pitcher may take a total of 7 warm up pitches at the beginning of an inning as a replacement. A pitcher returning to the mound from a previous inning may take a total of 5 pitches before play begins.

Base Running Rules:

- Coach interference with runner (touching) causes runner to be out.
- No two people can occupy one base. Therefore the following runner will be called out. The preceding runner is entitled to the base unless forced to move up.
- Sliding is permitted; however, when sliding if a person has the ball and a runner runs into them, that runner will be called out. Malicious contact will not be tolerated. Players shall not block a base without possession of the ball.
- Stealing is allowed to second & third base only.
- The base runner may not leave the base until the ball crosses home plate. Base runner may not steal home, but may take home only after being forced in by a hit batter with bases loaded or because of a fairly hit ball.
- A runner can't advance on a passed ball thrown by the catcher to the pitcher. There will be a limit of one base on an overthrow.