



YOUTH REC (11/12U) 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

Objectives and Goals:

The Liberty Parks and Recreation Youth Intro to Competitive 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 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 The USSSA Baseball and Softball Rule Books are the governing body of rules for our leagues unless superseded by specific youth baseball and softball program rules as set forth by the Liberty Parks and Recreation Department.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 score book 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/visor, shirt with number, and pants. Player names may appear on the uniform. Uniform shirts shall be the same color.
- Batters and base runners are required to wear approved head protection. Helmets with ear covering at all times during games will be required. Umpires are instructed to rigidly enforce this rule. Tennis shoes or non-metal cleats are to be worn in age divisions 8U-12U. In age divisions 13U and older, traditional metal spikes shall be permitted.
- Game balls are provided by LPR for each game.
- Each player must provide their own glove and are encouraged to have their own individual bat and helmet.

Game Time:

Games will start promptly as scheduled. A 15-minute grace period is allowed from the scheduled starting time before a forfeit is declared. Time begins after the 1st game pitch. 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 www.rainoutline.com

**updated daily at 3:30pm*

Schedule:

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

General Rules and Regulations for baseball and softball:

- Home team will be the official scorekeeper and shall be notified of all substitutions.
- Pre-game conference between umpires and managers will take place 5 minutes prior to the start of the game. Home/Visitor designation is determined by the schedule unless League Admin says otherwise. Teams will switch home/visitor for the 2nd game of doubleheader (if applicable).
- Dugouts are first come first served.
- Game balls are provided by the City of Liberty Parks and Recreation Department.
- No infield may be taken before games. Please warm up on your side of the infield / outfield. When taking soft toss, no hitting into the fences and please have players stand on dirt to swing.
- Seeding for final league standings
 - Record
 - Head to Head
 - Runs Allowed – Season Total
 - Run Differential (+/- of 8 runs per game)
 - Coin Flip

11U & 12U Kid Pitch League Rules

General League Rules and Field Dimensions:

- There will be a time limit of 1 hour and 45 minutes or 6 innings whichever comes first. If the score remains tied after 6 innings the game is over.
- Baseline shall be 70FT and pitching rubber at 50 FT for boys.
- Free substitutions after the playing requirements are 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 7 runs are scored.
- If the batter steps their foot entirely out of the batter's box, and makes fair contact with a ball, that is an illegal hit and **the batter will be called out**
- Bunting is allowed.
- Bat Regulations: -9, -8, and -5 bats are allowed

Fielding Rules:

- Player position: A team shall have three (3) outfielders, and six (6) infielders. Teams can start/end with 7 minimum players
- The infield fly rule will be in effect, with runners on first and second or with the bases loaded and less than 2 out, the batter is out.
- Catcher interference is awarded a walk.

Pitching Rules:

- No pitcher may pitch more than four innings OR 65 pitches per game. They may play separate or consecutive innings. One pitch counts as having pitched one inning. If a pitcher hits their pitch count in the middle of an at bat, the pitcher may finish the at bat before being taken out.
- 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:

- Stealing will be allowed; runners can only steal home if the ball is overthrown in the field, not if the ball is overthrown to the catcher
- 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.
- Lead offs are allowed but the runner may not advance bases until the ball has crossed Homeplate.
- Runners are allowed to advance more than 1 base at a time.

