City of Hernando

Baseball/Softball/T-ball

Parent Packet
City of Hernando

Registration Guidelines

1. Coaches cannot place a child on any team. A child must be officially registered and placed on a team through the City of Hernando Parks & Recreation department.

2. Teams are formed using the following process:
   a. Evaluations are held to determine the skill level of the players in the league.
   b. Evaluation scores are tallied and put into a spreadsheet.
   c. At the coaches meeting, Coaches can protect their child and their assistant coach's child. Each coach will be allowed picks to be made in a standard "snake" style draft format. Order determined by random draw.
   d. Parks staff ensures that the rosters are balanced by age and skill level.

3. Due to the large number of registrations in each sport, we cannot and will not honor any special requests, such as child being placed with a particular coach, team or friend as well as any transportation request. The Sibling Rule and Coaches' Children Rule are the ONLY situations in which children are placed on a particular team.

4. The Sibling Rule – Siblings that live in the same household and meet the requirements of the same age group will be placed on the same team.

5. Coaches' Children Rule – A coach's child(ren) will be placed on his/her team as long as he/she is coaching that child's age group. Each coach is allowed to ONE assistant coach, and the assistant coach's child(ren) fall under this same rule.

6. A birth certificate is required to register. We may have your child's birth certificate on file if the previously played in one of our programs. We will be happy to check, but if we do not have it on file, it is your responsibility to provide a copy. We cannot register a child without a copy of a certified birth certificate.
7. Children that are not registered during regular registration will be placed on a waiting list for that age group. No money will be taken at this time. The waiting list DOES NOT GUARANTEE YOUR CHILD WILL BE PLACED ON A TEAM. If there is an opening in your child’s age group, we will call the first time on the waiting list. If you do not choose to register, we will move to the next name.

8. Children that are pulled from the waiting list may be delayed in receiving their uniform. We cannot guarantee receipt of uniforms by the start of the season for children pulled from the waiting list.

9. Refunds – 100% refund is request is made before your child is placed on a team. 75% refund is request is made before uniforms are ordered. 50% refund if request is made before the first game. NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN AFTER THE 1ST GAME.

10. Children can play up 1 age group.

11. Parents must understand that you are registering your child for a team sport. Attendance at practices and games are key to a successful team. The participation policies apply to all children registered in Hernando Parks and Recreation team sport programs.
T-Ball Rules
Ages 3 & 4

1. All players play. All players bat each inning. The next inning reverse the order.
2. Game time is 2 innings or 1 hour.
3. No catcher.
4. A player may be pitched to, but for 2 pitches only. Then 5 tries off the tee.
5. Teams on defense: Play all infield positions but catcher and put the rest of the players in the outfield. Switch infield players with outfield players after the inning.
6. No score is kept.
7. This is a learning league. Teach the kids the correct way to play.
8. No stealing bases.
9. Clean the dugout and surrounding areas before leaving the field.
10. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their team.
2019 Baseball/Softball
Rules

- Hernando Parks and Recreation baseball and softball program will be governed by the rules of **Dizzy Dean Baseball/Softball** with the following local rules.

- **Time Limits**
  - 5-8 Baseball/6u-8u Softball – 6 innings or 1 hour and 10 minutes, whichever comes first
  - 9-12 Baseball/10u-12u Softball – 6 innings or 1 hour and 20 minutes, whichever comes first.
  - 13-18 Baseball/14u-19u Softball – 7 innings or 1 hour and 30 minutes, whichever comes first.

- **Mercy Rule**
  - The game will end with one team is mathematically eliminated.

- **Run Limits**
  - Baseball – all ages = 7 runs (9/10 ONLY - 5 Runs)
  - Softball – all ages = 5 runs

- **Coaches**
  - Only 4 coaches maximum are allowed in the dugout with the players.
  - 5-8 Baseball/6u-8u Softball ONLY – Each team is allowed a coach on the field while on defense. The coach must be positioned behind the last outfield in foul territory at all time. The coach may only provide instructions and cannot be involved in play.

- **Conduct**
  - The head coach is responsible for the conduct of their players, parents and fans. One warning will be given to the head coach and then ejection. The ejected person will have one minute to vacate the premises. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of the game by the offending team. Any coach or player ejected will be required to sit out the following game. NO EXCEPTIONS!

- **Playing time**
  - Each team is required to bat their entire roster.
    - Should a player show up after the start of the game, the player can be added to “Caspers” spot in the lineup.
  - No player shall sit for 2 consecutive innings on defense.

- **Required number of players**
  - 5-8 Baseball/6u-12u Softball = 10 players
  - 9-18 Baseball/14u-19u Softball = 9 players
    - A team may play with 2 less players than the required number but will take an out for one of the missing players.
- **Weather**
  - All game updates will be posted on [http://www.hernadoschedulesstandings.com/](http://www.hernadoschedulesstandings.com/) before 4pm. In the event of a cancellation after the game has started, the game will be considered complete if 3 ¾ innings were finished with the home team winning OR 4 innings completed.

- **Dizzy Dean Rules & City League Rules**
  - All other rules governing play will be determined by 2017 Dizzy Dean rules. If Dizzy Dean does not address the rule, MLB rules will be followed.
  - Slide Rule – If there is a close play at second, third, or home plate the runner MUST slide or avoid contact with the fielder. If not, result will be an automatic out.
  - Pitches
    1. 6yr-8yr Baseball = 5 Pitches or 3 Strikes
    2. 6u-8u Softball = 5 Pitches or 3 Strikes
    3. 5yr Baseball – 4 pitches and 1 swing off Tee OR 5 pitches/3 strikes
    4. 9/10, 11/2, & 13/14 will be honoring the Dizzy Dean pitch count rule. We will however be adding 10 pitches to the total pitch count.

- **Pick up players**
  - Pick up players are not allowed. If a team uses a player from other team, whether the opposing coach agrees or not, the game will result in a forfeit.
Baseball/Softball

All-Stars

1. Each coach will nominate five players from his team to be placed on the all-star ballot.

2. All Star meeting will take place and allow each head coach an opportunity to discuss the players on the ballot.

3. At the end of the meeting, coaches will vote and teams will be announced that night.

4. Coaches will select 8 players from the ballot and the head coach gets to pick the remaining players.

5. No coach or player that is ejected from a game will be eligible for all stars.

6. The head coach will be selected by vote. Each coach will vote for a coach to be the head coach for all-stars. The top vote getter will be the coach. If the case of a tie, the Athletic Director will choose the head coach.
Weather Policy

City of Hernando Parks and Recreation

1. If Desoto County schools are closed or close early, all practices and games for Hernando Parks will be cancelled for the day. If the closure occurs on a Friday, no weekend games will take place.

2. Heat Policy: If the heat index is 95 degrees to 104 degrees, a 10 minute water break is mandatory every 20 minutes of a practice or game. A cytometer or weather app is used to determine the heat index. The official app choice for Hernando Parks is Coach Smart.

3. Thunder/Lighting Policy: If thunder is heard or cloud-to-ground lighting is seen, all activity must discontinue immediately and all participants should head to safety. You must wait 30 minutes with no thunder or lighting activity before resuming any activity.

4. Rainouts – All rainouts will be determined 2 hours prior to the start of practice or games. For example if the first game is at 6:00 p.m., the determination if games will be rained out will be made at 4:00 p.m. Check Hernando Parks facebook page, or the website at cityofhernando.org for game/field cancellations.
As with any large organization, on occasion problems will occur. When problems do occur, we want to insure that everyone in our programs receive fair and equal treatment. Your participation and our volunteer coaches are vital to our organizations' success. The following grievance procedures have been established:

1. Arrange a private meeting with your coach to try and resolve the problem.

2. If the problem is not resolved, call the parks office to arrange a meeting with the Sports Coordinator. At this time you will be asked to submit, in writing, a detailed account of the problem to the Sports Coordinator prior to the meeting. You may call 662-429-2688 to schedule this meeting.

3. If the problem is not resolved, the Sports Coordinator will arrange a meeting with the Athletic Director and Parks Director to attempt to resolve the problem.

4. The Parks Director is the final step and will decide what steps, if any, need to occur.
Model Youth Athletic Code of Conduct - Hernando Parks & Rec

Preamble:
Youth sports programs play an important role in promoting the physical, social and emotional development of children. It is therefore essential for parents, coaches and officials to encourage youth athletes to embrace the values of good sportsmanship. Moreover, adults involved in youth sports events should be models of good sportsmanship and should lead by example by demonstrating fairness, respect and self control.

I therefore pledge to be responsible for my words and actions while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a youth sports event and shall conform my behavior to the following code of conduct:

1. I will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
2. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
3. I will not engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
4. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
5. I will not use drugs or alcohol while at a youth sports event and will not attend, coach, officiate or participate in a youth sports event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
6. I will not permit my child, or encourage any other person, to use drugs or alcohol at a youth sports event and will not permit my child, or encourage any other person, to attend, coach, officiate or participate in a youth sports event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
7. I will not engage in the use of profanity.
8. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in the use of profanity.
9. I will treat any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or ability.
10. I will encourage my child to treat any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or ability.
11. I will not engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
12. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
13. I will not initiate a fight or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
14. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to initiate a fight or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.

I hereby agree that if I fail to conform my conduct to the foregoing while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a youth sports event I will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to the following in any order or combination:

1. Verbal warning issued by a league, organization or school official.
2. Written warning issued by a league, organization or school official.
3. Suspension or immediate ejection from a youth sports event issued by a league, organization or school official who is authorized to issue such suspension or ejection by a school board or youth sports organization.
4. Suspension from multiple youth sports events issued by a league, organization or school official who is authorized to issue such suspension by a school board or youth sports organization.
5. Season suspension or multiple season suspension issued by a school board or youth sports organization.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ______________________