



# NEWBERRY COUNTY DYB HANDBOOK



**INTRODUCTION**

**WELCOME AND THANK YOU!** Whether you are returning or new this year, we truly appreciate your willingness to support our county and community through this program. We hope that this is a fun and educational season.

The Newberry County Parks and Recreation programs are designed to provide a safe, FUN, educational experience for the players and their families as well as to provide instruction and to inspire teamwork, sportsmanship and community awareness. One of our goals is to provide coaches with the resources needed to effectively lead their team through a successful season. Success is not just defined through winning though; at the end of the season, players should have learned the following:

- 🔗 Sports programs are instructional and FUN
- 🔗 The importance of teamwork and sportsmanship
- 🔗 The value of hard work and dedication
- 🔗 New skills or improved skills

The players’ development and ability to work together should be the focus rather than on winning or losing.

**Newberry County Parks & Recreation**

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**OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF POLICY FOR DIAMOND YOUTH BASEBALL (DYB)**

*It is the policy of DYB to promote the development of strong character, a right attitude, a sense of responsibility, and citizenship in youngsters using the game of baseball as a vehicle. It is the purpose of DYB to achieve this goal through fair play, good sportsmanship, and congenial fellowship with adult leaders providing the example while attempting to limit injury caused by overexertion. It is strictly against the policy of DYB for any person, either as a participant or a spectator, to engage in arguments, to use abusive language, to harass umpires, or to exhibit any behavior not in concert with the general intention of this policy statement. Team coaches are required to abide by this policy statement, and all parents and other adults are strongly encouraged to do so.*

**OBJECTIVES OF THE NEWBERRY COUNTY DYB PROGRAM**

- 🔗 Instruct players in the skills, rules, and fundamentals of the game.
- 🔗 Instill a sense of fun and sportsmanship in each player.
- 🔗 Practice positive coaching to increase player’s self-esteem and self-confidence.
- 🔗 Ensure players enjoy participating so they are more likely to continue playing.
- 🔗 Teach players about determination, commitment, hard work, and empathy.
- 🔗 Promote teamwork and good sportsmanship at all levels.



## INSURANCE INFORMATION

Accidental insurance is covered in the registration fee. This is a secondary accidental policy only. If your child should get hurt, please let the League Administrator know immediately and he/she will provide you with the forms to submit. Please keep all medical receipts for reimbursement. Due to the insurance liability limitations of this policy the following must be followed:

- ❖ ALL practices must be approved by the League Administrator/Representative to be declared an official DYB® (DYB) practice.
- ❖ NO bat boy/girl is allowed in the dugout or on the field other than as a team member.
- ❖ NO parents or spectators are allowed in the dugout UNLESS they are a coach on that team.
- ❖ DYB only recognizes three (3) coaches per team. You are allowed a manager (head coach) and two assistant coaches. On offense, a coach may be at first base, one at third base, and the other must be in the dugout (unless retrieving a bat). On defense, only one coach is permitted to stand in front of the dugout (this is discouraged but allowed).

## RULES

### DYB HIGHLIGHTED RULES

All rules in this section are merely highlights of commonly questioned, overlooked, or infringed rules from the DYB rulebook. The most recent rulebook can be found on the official DYB website: <https://dybusa.org>

#### Age Limits

- Any candidate who will attain the age of 8 to 12 on or before April 30 shall be eligible to compete in regular season and tournament play during the current DYB season.

#### ❖ Participation

- All players on every team must play at least three consecutive outs on defense and complete one time at bat in each game played by his/her team. A player who is injured may not participate in any game if they are unable to meet both the offensive and defensive participation requirements.

#### ❖ Helmets

- Must be worn by any offensive player while on the playing field – batter, on-deck batter, base runner, player base coach, etc. An offensive player shall not remove his helmet while on the playing field.

#### ❖ Batting

- If a player not listed in the first nine batting positions leaves the game because of injury, illness, or disqualification, before he/she takes his/her initial turn at bat, this position in the batting line up will be skipped and the next batter in the order will take his/her place. If this offensive position is one of the top nine, the removed player’s position will be filled by one of the official substitutes.

#### ❖ Pitching Limitations

- Pitch Count
  - A Minors (age 10 and under) pitcher shall NOT throw more than 75 pitches in a game or in a calendar day.
  - An “O”Zone (age 11 or 12; *this will include age 13*) pitcher shall NOT throw more than 85 pitches in a game or in a calendar day.

*Exception: If the pitcher reaches the daily pitch count limit while facing a batter, he/she may continue to pitch until the batter reaches base safely, is put out, or a third out is made on a base-runner to end the half-inning.*

- A pitcher shall be allowed to pitch in two or more games on the same calendar day provided he/she does not throw more than 30 cumulative pitches in the previous game(s) on the same calendar day.
- All pitchers must adhere to the following daily pitch count rest requirements:

League Age	No Rest	1 Day	2 Days	3 Days
09-12	1-30	31-45	46-65	66+

**There are no exceptions to the rest period pitch count thresholds.**



- Innings Limitations
  - A pitcher shall not pitch more than six (6) innings in the calendar week between 12:01 am on Monday to midnight the following Sunday. The pitching of one (1) pitch shall be counted as the pitching of one inning.
  - A pitcher who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of the game. Any player who has played the position of catcher in four or more complete innings (or, 12 outs) in a game is not eligible to pitch in that game.

**Note:** Official pitch count and innings pitched will be kept by the official scorer for each game and should be verified by the Head Coach at the conclusion of each inning (or half inning).

#### ⌘ Protests

- A protest which involves an umpire's judgement shall not be accepted.
- The only legal protest shall be one which involves a violation of playing rules or the use of an ineligible player. The protest must be made by the team manager (head coach) to the umpire before another pitch is thrown.

### **NEWBERRY COUNTY DYB LOCAL LEAGUE RULES**

All rules in this section are in addition to the DYB rules. The most recent rulebook can be found on the official DYB website: <https://dybusa.org>

#### ⌘ Age Limits

- Candidates must play in their respective age group as governed by DYB. No player may move up unless there is room on a team. The League Administrator will not place a younger player wanting to move up if it would displace an appropriate age player. A player who elects to play in an older age division (with parent and League Administrator approval and if space allows) during the regular season will only be eligible for All-Star selection in that age division (the age division they participated in during the regular season). A decision to play in an older age division MUST be made prior to player evaluations.

#### ⌘ Offensive Participation

- The Continuous Batting Order will be used during all levels of tournament play and the regular season.
- A player who arrives after the start of the game must be added to the bottom of the batting order.

#### ⌘ Defensive Participation

- Strongly recommended that players who do not start play every other inning – for a minimum of two times/innings in the field.
- The head coach must notify the official scorekeeper of defensive changes at the start of each inning until all players have met the defensive participation requirement.
- ONLY the team manager (head coach) is permitted out of the dugout during their defensive ½ of the inning. The team manager (head coach) should be alert and prepared to exit an active play area or risk an interference call. If a team manager (head coach) is determined by an umpire and/or league official to be a distraction or hindrance to the game, coaches, or players, they will be asked to remain in the dugout during their team's defensive participation.

#### ⌘ Start of Game

- Minimum number of players required to start or finish a game in any age group is eight (8) with consent of both coaches.

*If a team does NOT have at least 8 players at the scheduled game start time, there will be two options provided (with option A being the preferred option):*

- *The team will be provided a 10-minute grace period. The time limit of the game will be reduced by 10 minutes. If at the end of the 10-minute grace period the home team still does not have at least 8 players, the visiting team shall be declared the winner due to forfeiture. If the visiting team does not have 8 players either by the time the 8<sup>th</sup> batter in the line-up comes up or once they take the field on defense, the home team shall be declared the winner due to forfeiture.*
- *If the home team does not have at least 8 players at the scheduled game start time, they can elect to allow the visiting team to become the home team. If the now visiting team does not have 8 players either by the*



*time the 8<sup>th</sup> batter in the line-up comes up or once they take the field on defense, the home team shall be declared the winner due to forfeiture.*

#### 🔗 Time Limit

**Minors Time Limit: 1.5 Hours (1 Hr, 30 Min)**

**Ozone Time Limit: 1.75 Hours (1 Hr, 45 Min)**

- These are the time limits for games in Minors and Ozone to naturally come to an end (see page 26-27 of the DYB rulebook for more information).
- A new inning will not be allowed to start if there are 7 minutes or less remaining in the total time limit as referenced above.
- If the final out of an inning is recorded and a new inning begins just prior to the 7-minute window, the next inning will conclude that game. However, the maximum time for that inning to conclude naturally is 10 minutes beyond the total time limit as referenced above. If this occurs, the game will be paused where it stands. A regular season game that is paused due to time limit MAY be continued at a later date IF the outcome of the game has a bearing on determining the League Champion team. This will be determined by League Staff.

Examples:

- 1) Minors game begins at 5:45PM. The final out of an inning is recorded at 7:10PM (1 Hr, 25 Min). This falls within the 7-minute window and the score would be final.
- 2) Minors game begins at 5:45PM. The final out of an inning is recorded at 7:05PM (1 Hr, 20 Min). The next inning will begin, and the game has until 7:25PM to conclude naturally. At 7:25PM the game will be paused and only resumed at a later date IF the outcome of the game has a bearing on determining the League Champion team.

#### 🔗 General Rules

- Team/player chants should be directed to their team/players and should NOT target the opposing team or an opposing player. Umpires/league administrators/representatives will issue a warning for the first occurrence. A second and third occurrence will result in an offensive out for the team. If the issue persists, the Team Manager (head coach) will be ejected from the game.
- No one under the age of sixteen (16) years of age will be allowed in the press box without supervision.
- Game participants MUST remain in the dugout area except when at bat, on deck, or participating in the ballgame. No participants may leave the playing field area (outside the fences) until the completion of the game. The only exceptions to this rule will be for a child or coach to visit the restroom, or due to sickness.
- Only official league uniforms can be worn for regular season play. Player shirts and/or jerseys must be tucked in throughout the game.
- If a team function is held which involves the team and parents as a group, all players and parents must be invited to participate.
- NO fundraising or collection of any additional money from or for the team is allowed without prior approval from the League Administrator.
- DYB nor Newberry County Baseball have a rule that prevents a league age player from participating in middle school or high school baseball while simultaneously being a rostered player for a Newberry County DYB team. Player safety is paramount and should always be at the forefront of decisions to simultaneously participate in multiple leagues.

***It is the policy of Newberry County DYB that anyone (on or off the field) at any Newberry County DYB event does not have the right to conduct him or herself (physically or verbally) in a manner that negatively reflects on the Newberry County DYB players, County of Newberry, City of Newberry, Newberry County Family YMCA or the Town of Prosperity. If any person is in violation of this policy at any Newberry County DYB event, the violator will be escorted away from and banned from the event or playing facilities for the remainder of the day. In extreme cases, the League Administrator(s) may choose to ban a violator for longer durations, such as one week, one year, or for life.***





**\*LINE-UP PROVIDED TO OFFICIAL SCOREKEEPER PRIOR TO THE START OF THE GAME MUST INCLUDE EACH PLAYER’S JERSEY NUMBER, NAME, AND STARTING FIELD POSITION.**

## COACH SELECTION

All Coaches will be approved annually. To aid in approving coaches, all prospective coaches shall complete a coach’s application and must pass a background screening. A prospective coach will be denied a position if they intentionally provide false information. Each team will be allowed one (1) manager and (2) coaches, only the Manager (Head Coach) can act in the official capacity for the team. **ALL coaches (manager and assistant coaches) must complete the coach’s application and pass a background screening prior to practices/games.** Managers/coaches must be eighteen (18) years of age or older. Head coaches are NOT guaranteed specific assistant coaches and should NOT make player selections solely based on whom they prefer as an assistant coach.

## PLAYER EVALUATION/SELECTION

### Single League

The player evaluation, which will be under the direction of the League Administrator(s) (Newberry County Recreation Director) and/or Representative(s) (County/City Parks & Recreation staff), will fill all player vacancies. Players not attending the player evaluation will be placed at the end of the selection; the player’s name or number will be placed in a hat and randomly drawn following the pre-determined selection order. Any coach who conspires to fix or attempt to fix the draft selection, will be banned from the Newberry County DYB Program.

- ⌘ A draft will be conducted each year for all new players and those moving from Minors to “O”Zone AND possibly anytime a new team is added or an existing team is dropped based on the amount of returning players and their placement across the teams.
- ⌘ Any player from the previous season can ONLY be placed back in the draft when there are extenuating reasons and must be approved by the League Administrator(s). Participant’s parent or guardian must provide in writing the extenuating reason prior to the date of the player evaluation. If approval is not granted, the player will go back to the previous year’s team or may sit out a year and enter the player evaluation the following year.
- ⌘ Players moving into the area (after the registration period) will be placed on the waiting list. A player may be added to a team roster from the waiting list only after a player has been released from the roster (for reasons listed below) and only by the League Administrator/Representative(s). A player may only be added to a roster who was not on the waiting list by the League Administrator/Representative(s) and only when necessary to prevent a team roster from falling below nine (9) consistent players. Registration must be completed and the player must attend at least one practice prior to competing in a game. A player in this situation MAY not be eligible for All-Star Selection if they do not compete in enough games.
- ⌘ Only the manager (head coach) and one assistant coach (as long as the assistant coach does not have a child in the player evaluation) may be on the field during the player evaluation process. The manager’s (head coach’s) child is placed on their team and does not participate in the player evaluation.
- ⌘ Once a player is selected and placed on a team roster, only the League Administrator/ Representative(s) may release the child from the roster. A player may be dropped from the roster for the following reasons:
  - Moving out of the area
  - Sickness or injury
  - Lack of discipline (derogatory remarks, dissension, lack of respect for coaches or players)  
*These incidents must be communicated to the League Administrator/ Representative(s) as they occur to provide opportunity to correct the problem. Coaches may be asked to provide written documentation of each incident.*
  - Missing more than three (3) practices or games that are unexcused.  
*This is a team sport and everyone is needed. Excessive unexcused absences are unfair to all the other players that are making the practices and games. If there is an extenuating circumstance that prevents the player from showing up, then the League Administrator/ Representative(s) must be notified.*
- ⌘ Siblings are placed on the same team when they fall in the same age division unless the League Administrator is notified otherwise. Other requests for a specific team or coach may be made due to hardships or extenuating



circumstances but are NOT guaranteed and will be at the discretion of the League Administrator/Representative(s). These players will be required to attend the player evaluation and selection will be made as with all other players.

At the end of the draft, a coach MAY be allowed to trade a player with another coach with the approval of the League Administrator/Representative(s). A trade will only be permitted when a true need for such has been demonstrated or if there are extenuating circumstances. A trade will NOT be permitted solely because two players wish to be on the same team nor will a trade be permitted solely because two individuals wish to coach together. A trade must be of equal ability level and age and must be approved by the League Administrator/Representative(s).

***THIS SELECTION OF PLAYERS IS CONFIDENTIAL AND IS NOT TO BE DISCUSSED WITH ANYONE OUTSIDE OF THOSE ATTENDING THE SELECTION. ANY COACH RELEASING ANY INFORMATION ON THE ORDER OF PLAYER SELECTION WILL BE DISCIPLINED.***

### **Multi-League Note(s):**

\*A multi-league is formed if there are ten (10) or more teams per division (Minors or Ozone). This is determined prior to the start of the season. If a multi-league is required, an American and a National league will be selected. Each league will follow the above selection guidelines.

\*\*If it is determined that a multi-league is necessary (enough players have registered to form ten (10) or more teams within a division), all players will be required to attend a player evaluation. Players not attending the player evaluation will be placed at the end of the selection; the player's name or number will be placed in a hat and randomly drawn following the pre-determined selection order. Prior to the start of the player evaluation, each head coach will draw from a hat to determine if they will be in the American or National League. What league the head coach drew will not be disclosed until after player selections have been made. This is in an effort to eliminate the potential for the appearance of the stacking of teams.

\*\*\* At the end of the draft, a coach MAY be allowed to trade a player with another coach with the approval of the League Administrator/Representative(s). A trade will only be permitted when a true need for such has been demonstrated or if there are extenuating circumstances. A trade will NOT be permitted solely because two players wish to be on the same team nor will a trade be permitted solely because two individuals wish to coach together. A trade must be of equal ability level and age and must be approved by the League Administrator/Representative(s).

## **COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT**

As a volunteer coach in the Newberry County DYB program, I will do my best to behave in a sportsmanlike manner. The following list represents a limited set of guidelines for conduct.

As a coach, I will...

- ⌘ Create a fun and positive atmosphere for players and those on opposing teams.
- ⌘ Focus on the holistic development, welfare, enjoyment, and safety of the players.
- ⌘ Teach players to strive for success while playing fairly, observing the rules of the game and the highest levels of sportsmanship. This includes winning with humility and losing with dignity and teaching players to do the same. No one likes to lose, but how you handle losing says a lot about your character and the program as a whole.
  - Respect the competition – give them credit
  - Respect the game – focus on the positives and work on the negatives
  - Respect your team and opponents – win or lose – remember people are watching you AND listening to you; if you believe you must win at all cost, then you have ultimately lost...lost the opportunity to show your team what good sportsmanship looks like.
- ⌘ Refrain from using abusive or vulgar language, disruptive or inappropriate behavior.
- ⌘ Be respectful and courteous to umpires, coaches, players, parents, and spectators and teach players to do the same. I will not taunt, ridicule, or argue with any umpire, coach, player, parent, or spectator.
- ⌘ Follow DYB rules and regulations on a national, state, and local level.



- ❧ Attend all official meetings, trainings, and/or events of the local program unless hindered by unforeseen circumstances.
- ❧ Be present for all scheduled team practices and games or ensure an assistant coach is provided ample notification to cover.
- ❧ Help endow the DYB program with highest personal standards and regard the DYB program as an asset to my community.
- ❧ Model inclusive behavior, actively supporting cultural diversity while opposing all types of discrimination, including, but not limited to, racism and sexism, at all levels of baseball.
- ❧ Refrain from all manner of personal abuse and harassment of others, whether verbal, physical, emotional or sexual, and shall oppose such abuse and harassment at all levels of baseball.

I understand that...

- ❧ Newberry County DYB has told its umpires that they are not to reverse any judgment call (e.g., ball or strike, safe or out, fair or foul) based on arguments made by coaches or spectators.
- ❧ NO alcohol or tobacco products are allowed on the Newberry County DYB premises at any time.

## PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

Newberry County DYB seeks to encourage good sportsmanship, fair play, and team spirit among all players. Players are expected to:

- ❧ Have FUN!
- ❧ Be a good sport (win or lose), be honest, fair, and always show good sportsmanship to all coaches, players, umpires, and spectators.
- ❧ Learn the value of commitment to a team.
- ❧ Put personal goals aside for the betterment of the team.
- ❧ Show courtesy and respect to teammates, opponents, coaches, umpires, and spectators regardless of race, creed, color, nationality, or sex.
- ❧ Realize that athletic contests, including practice sessions are educational experiences and opportunities.

## PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Newberry County DYB recognizes that the lessons learned during youth baseball extend far beyond the baseball field. To help create a positive, encouraging environment for the players, Newberry County DYB requests each parent read the Parent Code of Conduct.

Parents are to:

- ❧ Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every practice and game (home or away).
- ❧ Place the emotional and physical well-being of the players ahead of their personal desire to win.
- ❧ Expect players will have a safe environment to play - free of drugs and alcohol; therefore, parents will refrain from their use at all Newberry County DYB events.
- ❧ Remember that the game is for the youth players – not adults. Players should be enjoying the sport.
- ❧ Refrain from going into the dugout, talking to their child at the dugout during game time (unless there is an emergency), and hanging out directly behind the dugout. This is a distraction to players and coaches.
- ❧ Refrain from confronting any coach during a practice and/or game. Discussions, differing opinions or other items should be addressed calmly with the coach away from the field and/or players after the practice or game.
- ❧ Ask their child to treat other players, coaches, spectators, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.





## COACH, PLAYER AND PARENT/SPECTATOR CONDUCT POLICY

### Procedure

- ⌘ Any occurrence of misbehavior will be documented before the incident is addressed unless the misbehavior is blatant and must be addressed immediately (examples are listed below). Documentation consists of one of two forms:
  - a League Representative personally witnesses the misbehavior and brings the matter to the League Administrator.
  - an eyewitness has observed the misbehavior and submits a signed complaint to the League Administrator/Representative(s) within one (1) week of the misbehavior.
- ⌘ Within three (3) days of having received the documentation of the incident, the League Administrator/Representative(s) will review the complaint, seek to interview others present who witnessed the behavior, and interview those whose actions are in question.
- ⌘ The League Administrator/Representative(s) will determine if the event was a serious violation of the code of conduct. If the circumstance does not dictate that the event is a violation, then the matter will be dropped and all participating parties will be notified.
- ⌘ If a complaint is determined to have violated the code of conduct and calls for disciplinary action, the following procedure will be followed:
  - Step 1 – Verbal Warning: A Newberry County DYB Administrator/Representative will discuss undesirable conduct with the parent, coach, or player and stress that this behavior will not be tolerated. This will be documented and kept on file.
  - Step 2 – Written Warning: A Newberry County DYB Administrator/Representative will meet with the parent, coach, or player to discuss actions. Furthermore, there will be a formal letter of reprimand given to the parent, coach, or player stating that the next offense could lead to the parent, coach, or player being banned for a period of 1 or more game(s).
  - Step 3 – Game Suspension: A Newberry County DYB Administrator/Representative will ban the parent, coach, or player from attending the next scheduled game. Another letter will be given to the parent, coach, or player stating that the next offense will lead to the parent, coach, or player being banned for the remainder of the season and possibly additional seasons.
  - Step 4 – Season Suspension: The parent, coach, or player will be banned from attending games for the remainder of the season. The parent, coach, or player will then have to make a formal written request to be reinstated into the league.

*NOTE: If a coach or player is EJECTED from a game by an umpire or the League Administrator/Representative(s), they will face a two-game suspension. If there are not two games remaining in the season, the suspension will carry into the next season. A coach or player who is EJECTED from a game will NOT be permitted to participate in All-Stars. A coach or player may face season suspension and may not be allowed to coach again, depending on the severity of the circumstances surrounding the ejection.*

*Any player or coach suspension will result in disqualifying the player or coach for All-Star nomination. If it is necessary that the coach be suspended for the remainder of a season, the League Administrator/Representative(s) will appoint a replacement coach and the League Administrator/Representative(s) will meet with the parents and players of the team to advise them of such actions. Any coach that is suspended for the year will not be allowed to take a head coaching position the following year. Any coach who conspires or attempts to fix the All-Star selection will be banned from the Newberry County DYB Program and not allowed to represent Newberry County DYB on the All-Star team if he/she wins the league. The League Administrator/Representative(s) will appoint a replacement coach or take over the All-Star team.*

Examples of misbehavior that will be addressed immediately:

*Note: These may be addressed by game officials (umpires), the League Administrator/Representative(s), or local law enforcement if necessary.*

- ⌘ Taunting of an umpire, coach, league official, opposing spectators, or player(s) in a negative manner.
- ⌘ Use of profanity or vulgar language.
- ⌘ Embarrassing negative remarks aimed at a player or player(s) – even if you are that player's parent.
- ⌘ Use of alcoholic beverages while at practice and/or game fields or while present on Town, City, or YMCA facilities.
- ⌘ Threatening or aggressive remarks towards umpires, coaches, league officials, or spectators.



- ℓ Physical confrontations with umpires, coaches, league officials, spectators, or players.
- ℓ Failure to remove yourself from the field after you have been ejected.

It is our hope that these procedures will not have to be used. Our main concern is for the enjoyment and recreation of the community of parents, coaches, and children who are out to enjoy team and family time together; therefore, we will not tolerate continued violations of the Coaches, Players, or Parents Code of Conduct. Please help us to provide the basis for all players to have fun, learn the game of baseball, and most of all develop the attitudes and good behavior associated with sportsmanship, fair play, and teamwork.

## **PRACTICES/GAMES**

- ℓ The League Administrator/Representative(s) is responsible for preparing practice schedules. Schedules will be communicated to coaches and parents/guardians as quickly and effectively as possible. To cut down on the number of papers passed out to individuals, limited hard copies of practice and/or game schedules will be printed. Schedules will be provided to parents/guardians via group messaging (Remind, Group Me, text message, or other electronic method when/if possible).
- ℓ Parents/guardians are encouraged to wait in the bleachers or in their vehicles for their players during practices when possible and appropriate unless they are assisting with the practice (and have been cleared to assist as a coach).
- ℓ Coaches should communicate practice end times to parents/guardians.
- ℓ All games played (regular, make-up, or scrimmage) must be approved by the League Administrator/ Representative(s) and must fall within all league rules.
- ℓ Parents/guardians are asked to have players at the field at least 15 minutes prior to the start time for games.
- ℓ A game consists of six (6) innings unless the 15-run rule after three (3) innings or the ten- (10) run rule after four (4) innings is enforced.
- ℓ Any game start delayed by weather or other reasons more than 30 minutes on a school night shall be rescheduled.

## **PRACTICE/GAME CANCELLATIONS**

- ℓ The League Administrator/Representative(s) will make every effort to communicate cancellations as far in advance as possible. However, decisions may be held until one hour prior to practice/game start time.
- ℓ Cancellations will be communicated from staff to coaches via text message. A response acknowledging receipt should be made.
- ℓ Coaches are responsible for communicating cancellations to parents/guardians.
- ℓ Game cancellations can only be made by the League Administrator/Representative(s).
- ℓ Cancellations may be made due to field safety, weather conditions, health concerns, etc.

## **MAKE-UP PRACTICES/GAMES**

- ℓ Newberry County Recreation Department staff will work with coaches to determine alternative practice days/times in the event a practice has to be cancelled.
- ℓ Every effort will be made to reschedule cancelled games to another date and/or time that works for the teams involved and for staff and umpires. Make-up games are to be made up on the earliest possible date as determined by the League Administrator/Representative(s). There is no guarantee every cancelled game will be rescheduled.

## **UMPIRES/OFFICIALS**

- ℓ The umpires will be paid the standard fee as approved by the County of Newberry reimbursement rules.
- ℓ Two umpires will be assigned for all games. No umpires under age 16 behind the plate.
- ℓ No umpire may call a game behind the plate in which his/her child participates. The only exception is if there is no other person available and the visiting team coach agrees.
- ℓ In the event an umpire does not show up for a game the League Administrator/Representative(s) may substitute or appoint someone to umpire.
- ℓ Contact the League Administrator/Representative(s) if an issue is noted with an umpire/official.



## TEAM/INDIVIDUAL PICTURES

- ☞ The Newberry County Recreation Department will arrange to have team/individual pictures taken by a professional photographer/company.
- ☞ A picture day schedule will be provided as soon as possible. Parents/guardians are encouraged to have their player(s) present for the team picture even if they do not plan to order individual pictures.

## TROPHIES

While the dedication, sportsmanship, and effort players put into the Newberry County DYB program is very much applauded, a participation trophy is not awarded to every player. Only the players of the team(s) who prevails as League Champion are provided a trophy in each division/league.

## ALL-STAR SELECTION GUIDELINES

The purpose of the All-Star procedures is to create consistency in the selection of All-Star teams in the Newberry County DYB program and to provide consistency in teams traveling outside to district level and above tournaments. It is a democratic process in which all head coaches in each division will have an equal voice and all players will have an equal opportunity.

### *Politics and popularity should not influence the selection.*

All-Star selections can have a major effect on the way our league is perceived in the community. It can also have a major effect on a child's attitude toward continuing to participate in the program. Careful consideration should be given to each player to ensure that the players most deserving to participate are the ones selected.

### **The following will be the process followed for the selection of the All-Star Team Manager (Head Coach):**

The All-Star head coach will be determined by a vote at the end of the regular season by each head coach and at least two staff members (a coach cannot vote for themselves) – being the league champion head coach will not automatically result in being the All-Star head coach.

### **The following will be the process followed for the selection of All-Star Players:**

1. Each Head Coach will bring a list of twelve (12) players whom he/she believes would make the ideal all-star team, meaning the top twelve (12) players in each division of the league from across ALL teams in that division. All All-Star selection lists will be turned in at the conclusion of the regular season. Head coaches are encouraged to get feedback regarding player nominations from their assistant coaches, although not mandatory. Discussions with assistant coaches should remain confidential and it should be made clear that a discussion about a player does not guarantee that player will be selected. There is NO minimum from any team that must be selected. When selecting All-Star players, coaches should consider a player's ability to play the game in pressure situations. All head coaches are challenged **to select the most qualified and deserving players who can/will commit to All-Stars.**
2. A selection meeting will be held at which the nominees will be disclosed and displayed for review. Only the head coach from each team will attend the All-Star Selection meeting. If they cannot attend, an assistant coach can attend in their place. **ONLY ONE REPRESENTATIVE FOR EACH TEAM WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE MEETING.**  
**First round:** Any player that is on every coach's list will automatically be added to the All-Star roster.  
**Second round:** Any player receiving 75% or more of the votes will be added to the All-Star roster.  
**NOTE:** If all 12 spots are filled after the second round and only alternates need to be selected, it will be based on the number of votes received and if cut and dry, the third round will not be required.

**Third round:** The remainder of the all-star team and alternates will be selected from the rest of the all-star team nominees through a one-day evaluation process. The All-Star Head Coach and a League Representative will run fielding, hitting, base running and/or pitching drills to evaluate the ability level of the remaining players. Attitude and sportsmanship will also factor into the selection process.

3. All coaches will sign a summary of the player selections prior to leaving the meeting.
4. The League Administrator will contact each player's parents/guardians to explain the next steps and expectations.



**PLEASE REMEMBER WE ARE TRYING TO PUT TOGETHER THE BEST ALL-STAR TEAM POSSIBLE TO REPRESENT OUR LEAGUE. THE SELECTION MEETING AND DISCUSSION ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND ARE NOT TO BE DISCUSSED WITH ANYONE OUTSIDE THE MEETING.** (There are always going to be many more kids and parents who believe themselves to be deserving than there are spots on the team.)

## **ALL-STAR EXPECTATIONS**

Being selected to participate in the All-Star experience should be considered an absolute honor. It is also a huge commitment for both the player and the parents/guardians. All-Star participants will be expected to attend all practices and cannot miss any games or participate in other leagues during tournament play. The cost to participate in the All-Star season is \$50. Each player will receive socks, belt, pants, cap, game jersey and a practice jersey. The District All-Star tournament typically begins on the Friday prior to Father's Day.

- Work hard AND have fun!
- All players will get to play, but the amount of playing time is dependent on their ability/effort and sportsmanship/attitude
- Players are expected to be on time for practices and games, on time means they arrive at least 5 minutes before the scheduled practice time or game warm-up time
- Players are expected to work together as a team and treat each other with respect on and off the field
- Players are expected to be 100% committed to the All-Star team and cannot miss any games; only allowed a maximum of three missed practices for legitimate, unavoidable reasons
- Players should not participate with any other baseball program once All-Star practices officially start and absolutely shall not participate with any other baseball program once the district tournament begins



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