



**CITY OF ANDERSON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
14 & UNDER
BASEBALL LEAGUE RULES**

Program Mission Statement:

To teach all participants to enjoy physical activities, promote a sense of achievement, help participants learn something about others, teach participants how to interact with friends and help participants feel closer to an adult figure.

ORGANIZATION:

1. There will be a maximum of 13 to 14 players on each team.
2. Each team will be allowed a maximum of 13 returning ballplayers on a first come-first served basis. These players must have played with this team last season to be considered returning.
3. Teams may have the Child(ren) of one head coach they are included in the 13 returning. Each team can have up to 2 assistants; new assistants can only be picked up after the draft if they have a child participating in the league. If the assistant does not have a child in the league then they can be picked up at any time. Teams are selected through a draft following player's skills tests. *There will be a 15-minute trading period immediately following the draft. No returning players may be traded – only those picked up in the draft are eligible to be traded. The traded players must be within one point of each other on the rating scale. For example, a 5 may only be traded for a 4 or 5 in return. The trade must be agreed upon in writing by both head coaches and approved by Rec. Department Staff. When the time limit is up, absolutely no more trades will be allowed.* **REQUESTS WILL NOT BE GUARANTEED.**
4. **No player participating in the 14 year old division can turn 15 on/before April 30. Each player should turn 13 on/before April 30. However, 12 year olds that turn 13 between May 1 and August 1 are allowed to play up. Players not meeting these guidelines will not be allowed to participate in this division.**
5. **NO PLAYER WILL BE ALLOWED TO PLAY IN 2 SEPARATE DIVISIONS or LEAGUES WITHIN THE SAME AGENCY. THEY MUST FINISH WITHIN THE DIVISION or LEAGUE THEY STARTED WITH. APPROVAL MUST COME FROM THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT, DEPENDING ON THE SITUATION.**

LEAGUE PLAY:

1. Play will be governed by rules as established in the Official Baseball Rules for Major League Baseball. Local League Rules, as listed here, will take precedent.
2. Youth approved bats will be legal for this league. Any bats in question should be brought to the Recreation Department for approval. Bats cannot have a barrel larger than 2 5/8 and must have the update certification stamp. Umpires will inspect bats and equipment prior to start of game.
3. A full game consists of 6 innings and should be at least 1hr. & 45 min. The game will end no matter what inning the game is in after the time limit is up. No new inning will start with 10 minutes or less. Once an inning starts it must be completed. In case of a tie game, it will end in a tie if the time limit is up or end after 7 innings. Any games ending in a tie will not be broken and stay ended in a tie. Once an inning starts, it must be completed, unless of bad weather. If a game is called because of bad weather after 3 innings have been played then it is a complete game. If a game is called in the top half of an inning after 3 innings are complete then it will fall back to the last complete inning. Example: If

the game reaches the top of the 4th and is called then it will fall back to the last complete inning, which is the 3rd. The final score will be recorded as it is at the end of 3 complete innings. The same would apply if the game was called in the 5th; then it would fall back to the 4th inning which would have been the last complete inning. The score would be recorded as it was at the end of 4 complete innings. If the game was in extra innings then the same would apply.

4. Umpires will prohibit unnecessary stalling actions by teams and eject offenders after one warning.
5. The 10 run lead rule will be in effect any time after 4 innings. A 20 run lead rule will be in effect after 3 innings. This rule is an exception to the guaranteed time limit of play.
6. Game time is forfeit time. However, when the preceding game runs longer, game time shall be when the umpire calls for action to begin. In case of a forfeit, a practice game may be played and the umpires will call the game.
7. Any game following the first game of the evening should start no more than 10 minutes after that game.
8. Teams are to warm up on the side of the ballfield prior to each game. There will be no infield warm-up before any game.
9. All teams will be required to use line-up cards. Each coach should furnish one to the scorekeeper of the opposing team prior to the beginning of the game. Full rosters with first and last names and uniform numbers should be listed at least 10 minutes before each game.
10. If the batter slings the bat; a warning will be given, this is a judgment call by the umpire(s). After the first warning; then it will be an automatic out for the rest of the game. Each team will receive their own warning.
11. Coaches are required to play all players present at least 2 innings on defense as well. Violation will result in forfeiture of the game. Exceptions: A child who misses too many practices without a valid reason does not have to be played. Opposing coach and umpires must be notified of this prior to the start of the ballgame and a notation made in the scorebook. **IF A PLAYER DOES NOT COMPLETE HIS REQUIRED INNINGS DUE TO A SHORTENED GAME HE MUST START THE NEXT BALLGAME.**
12. A team may put in a pinch runner for the catcher when he reaches base. The pinch runner must be a sub or last out. No entry needs to be made in the scorebook.
13. Base runners should use proper judgement when involved in a close play at home or any other base. Any unnecessary contact should be avoided whenever possible. Catcher should not block the base without the ball in his possession and should not be in the baseline without the ball. If in the umpire's judgement, flagrant contact is made, the player responsible is ejected.
14. When a team is on defense, the coaches must remain in the dugout area. If there is a question by the coach, he may request a time-out to discuss the matter with the umpire. You must wait for the time-out before coming onto the field. the umpire is in control of the game and does not have to grant a time-out. Warning for first offense, ejection for second offense. When the team is on offense, the coach must remain in the coaching box. A coach can be ejected at any time for behavior deemed inappropriate by an umpire or field supervisor.
15. **All players present are listed in the batting order and free substitution is allowed with all positions except pitcher.**
- 16.. **PITCHING – Regardless of age a pitcher may pitch six (6) innings per calendar week. If a team has a rained-out rescheduled during the same week it already has 2 games scheduled the pitchers will possibly be granted 2 additional innings for that week. Recreation Department will grant it if necessary. If a pitcher delivers one (1) pitch in an inning he shall be charged for one (1) inning pitched. The calendar week runs Monday through, and including Sunday. A pitcher must have two (2) calendar days rest between pitching assignments if he pitches more than two (2) innings in any one game. If a team has a make-up scheduled the same week as 2 regular scheduled games it will be more than 3 innings. If increased innings is granted by Recreation Department.**

CONDUCT:

Anyone not following these rules will be warned by the Field Supervisor. A second offense means the individual (s) will be asked to leave and should they not leave, the proper authorities will be contacted.

1. Players, coaches and parents must at all times display a manner that exhibits sportsmanship and good will.
2. No profanity or abusive language will be allowed at any time on city property.
3. Any discussion on the field will involve only one coach, and officials present.
4. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages will be allowed on the premises. Any person found to be under the influence will be asked to leave the area.
5. The use of all tobacco products will be prohibited during the game. One warning will be issued before ejection. Repeated offenses will result in suspension.
6. The umpire is in control of the game. In the event a team fails to respect the umpire's authority or decisions, the umpire is instructed to forfeit the game to the other team after one warning has been given that such action will be taken.
7. If a player, coach, or manager is put out of the game, he may be seated in the stands. If he continues to argue or show unsportsmanlike conduct, he will be asked to leave the field. If he does not leave, the game will be forfeited.
8. Any coach or player ejected from a game will automatically be suspended for the following game as well. A second offense will result in an immediate suspension. A hearing will be scheduled at the Recreation Department Office. The coach or player will not be allowed to play or coach until a hearing is held. The results of this hearing will determine eligibility for the remainder of the season.

PROTESTS:

1. No protest shall be considered unless it involved a question of eligibility or a misinterpretation of the rules.
2. Protests must be made verbally to the umpire who will notify the opposing coach. The protest must be made after the infraction and before the next pitch. The protest must be brought in writing, along with a \$25 fee to the Recreation Department Office by 4:30pm of the first business day following the game.

RAIN-OUT POLICY:

In case of rain on a scheduled game day, the decision will not be made until after 3:00pm. To find out the status of a game, you may call 226-2489 from a touch tone phone. This information may also be obtained from the internet at www.cityofandersonsc.com. If your game is rained out on Monday or Tuesday you may play Wednesday of that same week. If you have a game both Monday and Tuesday then you may play Wednesday and Saturday of that same week. If your game is rained out on Thursday or Friday you may play Saturday of that same week. If you have a game both Thursday and Friday then you may play Saturday of that same week and possibly Wednesday of the following week. The rescheduling of ballgames sometime deals with the number of games already scheduled during that same week. All game are rescheduled if at all possible; on occasion some games are not due to the timing of the rain out, how close it is to the end of the season, and if the game should affect the season ending standings. If rain comes after 5:00pm, a decision will be made at the field by the umpires. Please remember that our rain patterns are sketchy at times - if you are not sure, please go the field to avoid forfeits. In case of rain on a scheduled practice day, you will need to call your team coach. With the number of teams and other activities that we have, it is impossible for us to keep up with individual team schedules. Find out from the coach what the contingency plans may be for bad weather.