



# Collinsville Youth Baseball and Softball League T-Ball Program Rules

Revised 3.18.2025

***Collinsville Parks and Recreation Leagues are recreational in nature and are designed for all kids to play and improve their skills. This league is not about winning but learning to play the game.***

*\*Standings/statistics will not be kept by the league office\**

The Collinsville Youth Baseball and Softball Leagues will operate under the official USSSA rules with the following league amendments and inclusions.

Spring/Summer season, teams will have a 12-game schedule with 10-games guaranteed  
*No games will be scheduled after July 1<sup>st</sup>*

## **Personal Conduct and Policy**

### **TEAM CONDUCT**

1. Coaches, players, and spectators shall not dispute calls made by the umpire. Any verbal/physical abuse towards umpires will not be tolerated. Abuse of any kind will result in an ejection and a minimum one-game suspension.
2. No manager, player, coach, or spectator may charge, threaten, or abuse an umpire at any time.
3. Absolutely no foul language should be used in practices or games. The use of foul language can also result in a minimum one-game suspension.
4. Teams can cheer/develop cheers for their own team, however, no chants/jeers/boos can be directed at any opposing player/coach/team.
5. Only coaches are allowed on the fields during games. Any parent entering the field will result in a minimum one game suspension. *Exception: parent(s) attending to an injured player/child.*
6. All spectators, not directly involved in the game, must stay more than 10ft outside the foul territory.
7. Umpires are instructed to deal only with coaches. Coaches are responsible for correcting any conduct issues with players, coaches, or spectators.
8. If a discipline problem arises with a player during a practice/game, and the coach wishes to sit that player out, the coach has the right to sit that player. In a game situation, if this problem arises, please notify the opposing coach and umpire of the situation.
  - a. *In the event a player must be benched because of behavior issues, please notify the Parks and Rec staff.*
9. Tobacco and vape products are not allowed to be used on the playing fields or in the dugouts on all park property. If someone wishes to use tobacco/vape products, they must be a **minimum of 50ft** from any athletic field/dugout.

#### **Umpire in Charge (U.I.C.)**

Michael Romanich

[mromanich@collinsvilleil.org](mailto:mromanich@collinsvilleil.org)

#### **Recreation Superintendent**

Kristen Siebert

[recsuperintendent@collinsvilleil.org](mailto:recsuperintendent@collinsvilleil.org)

### **Schedule Requests:**

Cheryl Romanich

[cherylatchbsl@gmail.com](mailto:cherylatchbsl@gmail.com)

# Playing Field/Equipment/Uniform

## PLAYING FIELD

- Bases will set at **55ft**
- Pitching rubber set at **35ft**
- **10-foot Fair Play Line**

## EQUIPMENT

- Parks and Rec will provide teams with the following equipment to use for the season:
  - Batting Tee
  - 4-5 Batting helmets
  - 2-3 bats
  - 8-12 safety baseballs (8.5 inch)

*If any equipment breaks, different sizes are needed, or needs to be replaced, please contact the U.I.C.*

\*Equipment must be returned within 30 days of the team's final game to receive a full coaching refund\*  
*This includes returning the 8-12 practice baseballs provided at the beginning of the season*

## UNIFORM

- Collinsville Parks and Recreation will provide the following uniform items:
  - Player uniform shirt
  - League hat
  - Coach shirt and league hat for up to 3 coaches
  - *Teams may NOT make any alterations to the uniform (adding names, logos, etc.)*
- Pant and sock colors of the uniform will not be mandated by the league
- Coaches will inform parents on what color pants and socks to wear
  - A player cannot be benched because they are not wearing the correct colors.
- Players will need their own cleats and glove.
  - Rubber molded cleats are recommended but sneakers are allowed
  - Metal cleats are **NOT allowed**

## Game Play

### GAME LENGTH

- Game length: 60 minutes
- *The game clock will start at scheduled game time and will be a running game clock.*
- A complete inning is defined as each player getting the opportunity to bat
- No new inning will start after 60 minutes of play
- No new inning may start within 15 minutes of the next scheduled game on the field in use.
- Any game called due to time expiration will be considered complete, regardless of the number of innings played.

### COACHING

- **The MAXIMUM** number of offensive coaches on the field per team is 3. The maximum number of defensive coaches on the field is 2.
- **Confirmed team coaches are the only adults allowed on the field.**
- **Parents are not allowed to be on the field—need to be behind fence (refer to rule section regarding Team Conduct).**
- **Coaches must wear the coach's uniform. If a non-verified coach is on the field in a coaching capacity, the offending team will be charged with a coaching violation and the team will forfeit.**

## PLAYERS/ROSTERS/SUBSTITUTIONS

### ➤ **Players**

- Late arriving players should be placed at the bottom of the batting order.
- A team must have a minimum of 6 players to start a game
  - **Borrowing Players**
    - *A team may borrow a player from another team in the same division,*
    - *Borrowed player cannot be from the current opposing team*
    - *Borrowed player must wear their original team's uniform*
    - *Any borrowed player must be identified during the Coaches Meeting at home plate before the start of the game. The opposing coach must agree to allow player(s).*
    - *The number of borrowed players must be less than the rostered number of original players. If a team does not have enough rostered original players in attendance, the game must be rescheduled.*

### ➤ **Rosters**

- Team roster will allow a maximum of 14 players.

### ➤ **Game Substitutions**

- Players may be freely substituted (*substitutions will not alter the batting order*)
- Any player that must leave the game due to injury, illness, or personal reason, will not change the batting order or penalize the team.

## FIELDING

- Every player on the defensive team will be on the field when the opposing team is batting.
- Defensive teams will fill all the traditional positions (excluding the catcher position). Any additional players will be placed in the outfield positions.
- Players should experience multiple playing positions throughout a single game.
- Two coaches are allowed on the field to help with defensive positioning
- *Fielding players must remain behind or equal to the pitching rubber until the ball is put in play.*

## BATTING/BATTING ORDER/BASERUNNING

### ➤ **Batting/Batting Order**

- **Bats must be listed as a T-Ball bat and have the official T-Ball mark on barrel of bat.**
- All players must be listed in the batting order, and all players will bat each inning
- Players will be allowed 3 swing opportunities to hit from the tee.
- Regardless of the batting outcome, the batter will run to first base.

### ➤ **“Fair Play Line” Rule**

- There shall be a chalk line 10 feet from the apex of home plate. ***The batted ball must cross this line to be considered fair and playable***
  - If a batted ball does not cross the line, the batter will be allowed to try again until the batted ball has crossed it, or the batter has reached their limit of 3 attempts off the batting tee.
  - *No fielding players are allowed to cross the line when approaching home plate. Fielding players must remain equal to or behind the pitching rubber until the ball is put in play.*
  - The ball may only be fielded once it has passed the “Fair Play Line”
- **Offensive players within the field of play shall always be wearing a batting helmet. Helmets may not be removed until the player has left the field of play.**

### ➤ **Batting/Batting Order**

- When the batted ball is put into play, players may advance multiple bases, however, once a play has been made defensively, each baserunner must stop running and go to the base they are closest to.
  - Runners cannot advance on throwing errors
    - *Example: the batter puts the ball in play to the shortstop, the shortstop fields the ball and throws it to 1st base. The first baseman misses the throw, the runner will stop at 1st base.*
- Players **cannot** lead off the base. At least one foot must remain on the bag.
- No official “outs” will be made--all players will get the opportunity to run the bases.
- Sliding into bases and stealing bases is not permitted.

## WEATHER POLICY

# CPRD Weather/Rainout Hotline 618-346-7529

*(This is the Parks and Recreation Office Phone number)*

**Press #1**

**\*Updates will be made no later than 4pm on weekday games\***

**\*Updates will be posted 2 hours before the first scheduled game on Saturdays and will be updated throughout the day if needed\***

## **DO NOT CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR CANCELLATION INFORMATION**

All cancellations and changes will be posted on the weather/rainout hotline

*A complete copy of CPRD's Weather Policy and Reschedule Policy can be found on the CBSL website*

**\*\*Official game cancellations will be made by the League Office ONLY\*\***

### Rain/Inclement Weather Policy

Cancellation due to unplayable conditions or unforeseen conflicts will have the potential to be rescheduled.

### Lightning Policy

If lightning can be seen, all persons shall leave the field/facility and move to a safe area, such as car, pavilion, etc. and enter a mandatory 20-minute delay. If no lightning is seen for 20 minutes, play will resume. If lightning is seen anytime within the 20-minute delay, the countdown resets to 20 minutes. *This is required of all user groups at the Collinsville athletic facility.*

***\*The U.I.C. and/or the Site Supervisor will be the official timekeeper for any lightning delays. Game cannot resume until given approval from the U.I.C or Site Supervisor\****

### Heat Policy

Hot weather policy for cancellations, delays, and heat safety procedures for any outdoor facilities includes the following:

- **Heat Index of 95-99 degrees**
  - Optional break-in-play every 30 minutes with break up to 10 minutes in length
  - Watch and monitor participants for heat related illnesses and take any necessary action
- **Heat Index 100-105 degrees**
  - Mandatory water breaks every 30 minutes with break up to 10 minutes in length
  - Game clock does NOT stop
  - Players must hydrate, remove protective gear, and attempt to find shade if available
  - Players in the Catcher position, may not catch for more than two consecutive innings
  - Watch and monitor participants and take any necessary action
- **Heat Index greater than 105 degrees**
  - Start of game is delayed; new start time to be decided upon by a representative of the Parks and Recreation Department
  - If the heat index has not changed, the game will be cancelled
  - All rules for the Heat Index of 100-105 degrees will be followed

### Cold Weather Policy

Cold Weather cancellation policy for any outdoor facility includes wind chill or temperature **at or below 24 degrees** for *internal programs*.