Official League By-Laws/Handbook

Revised 2026

Board of Directors (2026–2027 Term)

President — Chris Mason
VP Baseball — Chuck Grooms
VP Softball — Casey Merchant
Boys Player Agents — Taylor Rogers, Sean Crigger
Girls Player Agents — Brianna Davis, Shawn Hawkins
Treasurer — Blaze Grooms
Secretary — Brandy Merchant
Registration & Public Relations — Hilary Luckett
Safety Officer — Greg Wells
Field Representative (Paid) — Dale Gordon
Concession Director (Paid) — Elizabeth Wells

League Operations

Scheduling

- No game schedule changes without approval from the President or Division VP.

Weather / Lightning Policy

- 30-minute delay after last lightning strike
- Additional strikes reset the clock
- Safety Officer decision is final

Rainouts

- Games with 1 completed inning will resume from stopping point
- Otherwise, game will restart

Players

- Will play in designated age division based on birthdate cut-offs
- May play up based on paretnt request due to skill and/or maturity
- May play down only with medical/developmental necessity and Board approval

Coaches

- Background check required
- Proper attire required, no open-toed shoes

Safety Rules

- No metal cleats
- Catchers must wear protective gear
- Helmets required when batting/running
- Face masks required where specified

Injury Procedure

- Stop play immediately
- Evaluate player
- Call 911 if necessary
- Report incident to Safety Officer

Mandatory Play Rule

- Roster under 12 players: Minimum 2 innings in field, Minimum 1 at-bat
- Roster 12+ players: Minimum 1 inning in field, Minimum 1 at-bat
- If, for any reason, not all batters in the lineup have had at least one at-bat during the game, any remaining batters shall be permitted to bat at the conclusion of the game. Any runs scored during this continuation shall not count.

Draft Rules

- Only head coaches (or one substitute may attend)
- Division VP and Player Agents should attend
- Snake draft format
- Coach's child selected in first round
- Siblings placed together unless requested
- "Return to Team" is for previous SPRING and in same age division only (Fall coach/team is not considered, and does not apply when aging to a new division)
- Late registrations is at Board discretion only to fill teams—team placement is not guaranteed, late fee will apply

All-Star Selection

- Coaches selected by Board
- Players nominated by coaches
- Final selection by VP, Player Agents, and All-Star Coach

Forfeit & Player Minimum Rule

Minimum Players Requirement

Teams must have at least 75% of their official roster present at game time for the game to count toward standings.

If Below 75% Attendance

- Game is recorded as a loss
- Opponent receives a win

Pickup Players

Teams may use pickup players to play the game.

- Game will still be played
- Result counts as official

Pickup Player Rules

- Must be registered with MCYBSL
- Must play outfield
- Must bat last
- Cannot pitch
- Can play up, cannot play down

General Conduct & Park Rules

To ensure a safe, fun, and family-friendly environment, all players, coaches, volunteers, and spectators are expected to follow these rules at Richard Cashion Sports Complex.

1. Health & Safety
    - The park is smoke-, vape-, tobacco-, alcohol-, and drug-free.
    - Do not smoke or vape immediately outside the entrance gates or in walkways. Spectators/participants should never have to walk through smoke to enter the park.
    - No pets are allowed. Service animals only.
2. Sports & Play Safety
    - Bicycles, scooters, and skateboards are prohibited inside the park.
    - No throwing balls or equipment in spectator areas or walkways.
3. Behavior & Respect
    - Respect all participants, coaches, volunteers, and spectators.
    - No profanity, harassment, or inappropriate behavior of any kind.
    - Encourage sportsmanship by being a positive example for players and fans.
    - Follow all instructions from officials, volunteers, and safety staff.
4. Cleanliness & Park Care
    - Keep walkways, bleachers, and entrances clear at all times.
    - Dispose of trash properly—help keep the park clean for everyone.
5. Reporting & Enforcement
    - Violations of rules should be reported immediately to the Safety Office or field staff.
    - Failure to comply with these rules may result in:
        - Removal from the park for the game, day, or season, or
        - Required league volunteer service, such as announcing, concessions, or general park cleanup.

Coach Removal Policy

To maintain a safe, respectful, and family-friendly environment, the league has established the following policy for coach conduct:

- Immediate Removal—If a coach acts unruly, aggressive, or disruptive during a game, the umpire has the authority to dismiss the coach immediately from the field and sidelines. At that time, another coach or designated adult will assume leadership responsibilities for the team, if needed, to continue the game.
- A coach who has been removed cannot return as a coach until the league board has completed a review of the incident. The board will determine if the coach may resume coaching, receive restrictions, or face disciplinary action.
    - The review will include the umpire's report of the incident, the coach's perspective, and input from other coaches, players, and spectators if necessary.
- Goals of the Policy are to ensure all games are conducted safely and respectfully, encourage positive sportsmanship and role modeling for players and fans, protect the integrity of the league and the park environment.

Toddler T-Ball Division Rules (Ages 3–4)
The goal of toddler baseball is to introduce young children to teamwork, friendship, and the basics of the game in a fun and encouraging environment. This division focuses on learning, participation, and excitement for the sport rather than competition.

Each team will bat twice and play defense twice per game. Field time is scheduled for 45 minutes, and games are expected to stay within that time slot. A game should be completed before the next scheduled game begins.

A one-to-one parent-to-player ratio is allowed on the field. If a child can participate independently, they may play without a parent them. If a child needs assistance or encouragement, a parent or guardian may join them. If a child becomes unruly or uncooperative, a coach may require a parent to join them. Parents should primarily focus on assisting their own child. Parents may guide and encourage players but should not interfere with play.

Each team will bat through the entire lineup twice per game. There will be no penalties for batting out of order, understanding that toddlers may occasionally need a restroom break or may simply need a moment before batting. Coaches are encouraged to rotate their lineup throughout the season so the same children are not consistently batting first or last.

Each batter will have four unassisted attempts to hit the ball off the tee. If the batter is unsuccessful after four attempts, a parent may assist with the swing to help ensure contact on the fifth attempt. The parent or coach at tee should secure the bat after hitting.

Runners may advance one base per hit. On the final batter of the lineup, all runners may advance and run the bases to home plate.

The infield for this division consists of the dirt area surrounding the bases.
All defensive players must remain in the infield dirt. No players should be placed in the grass outfield. No players will be required to sit in the dug-out during defensive play. A designated “pitcher” must remain behind the white line until the ball is hit.

If multiple players gather around the ball or a “ball pile” occurs, a coach may assist by handing the ball to the nearest player to keep the game moving and maintain player safety.

Batting helmets are required for all batters and runners. Each player is required to bring their own batting helmet and glove. Tennis shoes or cleats may be worn. Face masks are optional, as many are not sized appropriately for children in this age group.

No score will be kept. There are no outs and no umpires. The focus of this division is participation, fun, and learning the game. Coaches, parents, and fans are expected to demonstrate positive sportsmanship at all times.

Hybrid Baseball & Softball Division Rules (Ages 5-6)
The Hybrid Ball Division is designed to introduce players to game play by blending tee ball and coach pitch. The focus is on skill development, confidence, and fostering a love of the game. Players are encouraged to progress toward hitting coach pitches independently as the season advances.

Game Format
- Each game is 60
- minutes in length.
- Finish the current inning once time expires.
- Games may end in a tie (no extra innings).
- If a game becomes mathematically out of reach, it may be ended early.

Inning Structure
- Each team scores 5 runs per inning OR records 3 outs, whichever comes first.

Batting Rules
- Continuous batting order (all players bat).
- Each batter receives 3 coach pitches, followed by up to 2 hits off a tee (if needed). The goal is to reduce reliance on the tee as the season progresses.

Base Running
- No stealing bases. Base runners may advance at the direction of coaches only.

Coaching Positions
- Offensive Coaches may be stationed at 1st, 2nd, and 3rd base. They may not physically touch runners—verbal instruction only.
- Defensive Coach must remain near the catcher to keep the player safe and assist with returning the ball to the pitcher. Additional coaches may stand in the outfield in foul territory to assist but must stay out of play and not interfere with base coaches.

Defensive Alignment
- 10 players on defense at all times. Required positions include pitcher, catcher, infielders, and outfielders.

Safety Requirements
- Catcher must wear a helmet with face mask and a chest protector
- Pitcher, 1st base, and 3rd base must wear a protective face mask.
- Failure to follow safety rules may result in a forfeit. Teams are responsible for ensuring all safety requirements are met.

Pre-Game Requirements
- Teams must provide a roster/batting order to the announcer and the opposing coach at least 10 minutes prior to game time.

Coach Pitch Baseball & Softball Division Rules (Ages 7–8)
The Coach Pitch Division is designed to build fundamental skills while introducing more game independence. The focus remains on player development, confidence, and fostering a love of the game.

Game Format
- Each game is 60 minutes in length.
- Finish the current inning once time expires.
- Games may end in a tie (no extra innings).
- If a game becomes mathematically out of reach, it may be ended early.

Inning Structure
- Each team scores 5 runs per inning OR records 3 outs, whichever comes first.

Batting Rules
- Continuous batting order (all players bat).
- Coach will pitch to their team from a distance of 30–35 feet.

Base Running
- No stealing bases. Base runners advance at the direction of coaches only.

Defensive Alignment
- 10 players on defense at all times.
- Outfielders must remain on the grass until the ball is hit.
- If a team has more than 10 players:
    - Players must rotate defensively each inning
    - No player may sit out consecutive innings

Coaching Positions
- Offensive Coaches may be stationed at 1st and 3rd base. Coaches may not physically touch runners—verbal instruction only.
- Defensive Coach must remain near the catcher to ensure player safety and assist with returning the ball to the pitcher. Additional coaches may stand in the outfield in foul territory to assist, but must not interfere with play or base coaches.

Safety Requirements
    - Catcher must wear a helmet with face mask and a chest protector.
- Pitcher must wear a protective face mask.
- Failure to follow safety rules may result in a forfeit. Teams are responsible for ensuring all safety requirements are met.

Pre-Game Requirements
- Teams must provide a roster/batting order to the announcer and the opposing coach at least 10 minutes prior to game time.

Kid Pitch Baseball/Softball Division Rules (Ages 9-10)
The Kid Pitch Division emphasizes skill development, game awareness, and player independence, while fostering a love of the game. Players are expected to pitch, run, and field with increasing responsibility and focus on fundamentals.

Game Format
- Each game is 75 minutes long.
- Finish the current inning once time expires.
- Games may end in a tie (no extra innings).
- If a game becomes mathematically out of reach, it may be ended early.

Inning Structure
- Each team scores 7 runs per inning OR records 3 outs, whichever comes first.

Batting Rules
- Continuous batting order (all players bat). No drop third strike rule.

Base Running
- Stealing allowed after the pitch crosses the plate. No lead-offs.
- Runners must slide at home if there is a play at the plate; umpire discretion is final.

Defensive Alignment
- 9 players on defense at all times.
- Standard positions: pitcher, catcher, infielders, and outfielders.
- Outfielders must remain behind the designated grass line until the ball is hit.

Pitching Rules
- Maximum 65 pitches per week per (baseball) player—count resets weekly on Monday morning. Exceeding the weekly pitch limit results in a forfeit. Scorekeeper is responsible for tracking pitch counts.
- No pitching limits for softball.

Coaching Positions
- Offensive Coaches: May direct runners from bases but may not touch players.
- Defensive Coaches: Can assist with catcher safety and positioning but must stay out of the play path.

Safety Requirements
- Catchers must wear full gear.
- Failure to comply with safety rules may result in a forfeit.

Pre-Game Requirements
- Teams must provide a roster/batting order to the announcer and the opposing coach at least 10 minutes prior to game time.

Kid Pitch Baseball/Softball Division Rules (Ages 11-12)
Players in this division will continue to develop game skills in a more competitive environment, but the emphasis remains on learning, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

Game Format
- Each game is 80 minutes long.
- Finish the current inning once time expires.
- Games may end in a tie (no extra innings).
- If a game becomes mathematically out of reach, it may be ended early.

Inning Structure
- Each team scores 7 runs per inning OR records 3 outs, whichever comes first.

Batting Rules
- Continuous batting order (all players bat) or Mandatory Play Rule (page 9).
- Drop 3rd strike rule applies.

Base Running
- Leading-off is allowed for baseball only. Softball players may steal bases on the release of the pitch.
- Runners must slide at home if there is a play at the plate; umpire discretion is final.

Defensive Alignment
- 9 players on defense at all times.
- Standard positions: pitcher, catcher, infielders, and outfielders.
- Outfielders must remain behind the designated grass line until the ball is hit.

Pitching Rules
- Maximum 75 pitches per week per (baseball) player—count resets weekly on Monday morning. Exceeding the weekly pitch limit results in a forfeit. Scorekeeper is responsible for tracking pitch counts.
- No pitching limits for softball.

Coaching Positions
- Offensive Coaches: May direct runners from bases but may not touch players.
- Defensive Coaches: Must stay in dug-out unless it is time on the field.

Safety Requirements
- Catchers must wear full gear.
- Failure to comply with safety rules may result in a forfeit.

Pre-Game Requirements
- Teams must provide a roster/batting order to the announcer and the opposing coach at least 10 minutes prior to game time.