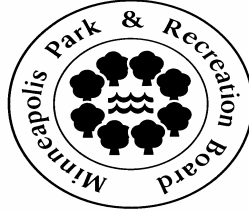


2004 Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Youth Baseball Bulletin



League Directors

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Important Dates:

Wednesday, April 21

Rosters due to MPRB Youth Sports

Wednesday, April 28

Pre-Season Coaches Meeting
7:30pm at King Park

Monday, May 3

Classic and Rec Leagues begin

Monday, May 10

Jr. RBI games begin

Wednesday, June 2

Rookie League Pitching Machine rosters due to
Youth Sports Office

Tuesday, June 15

Rookie League Pitching Machine Leagues begin

Monday, June 21

Final rosters for Classic and Rec Leagues due to
MPRB Youth Sports

Tuesday, June 29

RBI Night at the Metrodome
Twins vs White Sox

Wednesday, June 30

Rookie League Night at the Metrodome
Twins vs White Sox

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Team Fees:

REC Leagues	FREE
Classic Leagues	\$180
Pitching Machine	FREE

Post Season Tournaments

July 6-17	10U & 12U
July 19-24	15U (Jr. RBI)

NYSCA Coaches Certification

Coaches must be NYSCA certified for team to participate in MPRB season. Please see page 10 for clinic information.

Non-Park Agencies

Non-Park Agencies please turn rosters in directly to the Youth Sports office. Please see page 7 for Agency registration information.

MPRB RULES

Rules published by the National Federation of State High Schools Association shall govern all games with the following exceptions:

GAME SPECIFICATIONS

		<u>Pitching</u>	<u>Bases</u>	<u>Time limit*</u>
<u>REC Leagues</u>				
Rookie League Pitching Machine				
	6 innings (10 run after 5)	46'	60'	1 hr 45 min
10U	6 Innings (10 run after 5)	46'	60'	1 hr 45 min
12U	6 Innings (10 run after 5)	52'	75'	1 hr 45 min
15U	7 Innings (10 run after 5)	60' - 6"	90'	2 hrs
<u>Classic Leagues</u>				
10U	6 Innings (10 run after 5)	46'	60'	1 hr 45 min
12U	6 Innings (10 run after 5)	52'	75'	1 hr 45 min

***All leagues: No new inning may start after time limit**

- **8 players** must be on the field to start play. Teams with 7 players or less at 10 minutes after game time will forfeit the game.
- All games are considered official at one-half of scheduled innings, unless the home team is behind, in which case the home team must complete its half inning. There will be no extra inning games, tie games will remain a tie. There will be no sus
- Games will not continue once lightning has been spotted. Games may be re-started when / if weather conditions improve.

MAKE-UP GAME POLICY

League games will not be rescheduled except for bad weather. Center Directors will reschedule ALL make up games at their game site or park. Depending on field availability, **coaches should expect to play any day including Fridays or Saturdays.** Coaches should call the game site, and talk with the Center Director to find out their rescheduled game date.

PITCHING RULES

<u>Division</u>	<u>Maximum Amount A Player May Pitch Per Game</u>
10U (REC & Classic)	9 outs per game
12U (REC & Classic)	9 outs per game
15U (REC & Classic)	12 outs per game

Note: Outs may be non-consecutive.

Once a pitcher has been removed, he/she may not re-enter to pitch until a new inning has begun.

New this year: A pitcher may re-enter the pitcher position only one time.

Example: a pitcher is removed in the first inning and re-enters the pitcher position in the third inning. When the pitcher is removed again, he / she may not re-enter the pitcher position again.

EQUIPMENT

- a. A catcher must wear a protective helmet, facemask, throat protector, chest protector, shin guards, and athletic supporter with a cup.
Penalty: Correction must be made for a player to participate.
- b. **Metal spikes are not allowed.**
- c. **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT EACH PLAYER WEAR A DIFFERENT NUMBER ON THE BACK OF THEIR SHIRT.** Non silk-screened numbers are acceptable. If duplicate numbers, one number must be altered or correction must be made for a player to participate.
- d. All batters, on-deck batters, runners and player/coaches will be required to wear approved protective helmets with earflaps. **Penalty:** Correction must be made for a player to participate
- e. **Bats** -- Must be an Official Baseball Bat.
- f. **Head decoration and headwear**
 - a. The Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board may on an individual basis allow a player to participate while wearing a head covering if it meets the following criteria:
 - i. For medical or cosmetic reasons – In the event a participant is required by a licensed medical physician to cover his/her head with a covering or wrap, the physician's statement is required before the state association can approve a covering or wrap which is not abrasive, hard or dangerous to any other player and which is attached in such a way it is highly unlikely that it will come off during play.
 - ii. For religious reasons – In the event there is documented evidence provided to the state association that a participant may not expose his/her uncovered head the state association may approve a covering or wrap which is not abrasive, hard or dangerous to any other player and which is attached in such a way it is highly unlikely it will come off during play.

BENCH AND FIELD CONDUCT

A coach, player, or other bench personnel shall not:

- a. Use language intended to intimidate, or use profanity
- b. Charge an umpire
- c. Deliberately throw a bat, helmet, or other equipment
- d. Use tobacco or tobacco-like products within the confines of the field
- e. Argue balls and strikes, or umpire judgment calls

Penalty - One team warning for each of the above; Next violation will result in an ejection.

MPRB LEAGUE RULES: ALL

1. **Batting Order** - The batting order shall include **all players** in uniform, and they will bat in this order throughout the game. Late arrivals will be added to the bottom of the batting order. If for any reason a player has to leave the game, that position in the batting order will be left blank.

2. **Participation/Substitution** - All players in uniform must play a minimum of **two** complete innings (6 outs) in the field, **before the start of the last inning**. Defensive substitution shall be unlimited for position players up to the maximum number of innings/outs allowed. **Once a pitcher has been removed, he/she may not re-enter to pitch until a new inning has begun. Penalty:** Game forfeit.
3. **No pinch-running.** A base runner that is injured will be replaced with the player who was last put out.
4. Coaches have the authority to withhold a player from competition for disciplinary reasons. They must inform the umpire and opposing coach prior to the start of the game.
5. The **infield fly rule** is in effect for all divisions.
6. Any runner is out when he/she does not attempt to get around a fielder who has the ball and is waiting to make the tag, or if he/she maliciously runs into a fielder. Malicious contact will also result in the offender being **ejected** from the game.
7. The home team will occupy the third base bench. Schedules will list home teams.
8. Team benches may be only occupied by the team players, coaches, and scorekeeper.

Rookie League Pitching Machine Playing Rules

- Batter gets 5 pitches. No walks, No strikeouts. If ball is not hit after 5 pitches, batter is out.
- 5-Run per inning rule (In effect for the first 4 innings of the game). The half inning will end after 3 outs are made or 5 runs have been scored, whichever comes first. This rule will be waived in the fifth and sixth inning
- Pitching machine will be set at 46 feet.
- Umpire will operate pitching machine. If machine fails to operate, coaches may pitch to own teams batters.
- No stealing or advancing a base on pitch that gets by the catcher.
- No pinch running. An injured base runner will be replaced with the player that made out last.
- Team in the field will consist of 10 players, ten may play with a pitcher and 4 outfielders.

10 & Under Playing Rules

1. Batters are automatically out on a dropped third strike.
2. Runners on third may **ONLY** advance on a batted ball or forced walk home.
3. Teams may play with 10 defensive players, specifically a fourth outfielder, who may line up no closer than 15 feet from any baseline.

4. No leading off or stealing of base until pitched ball hits catchers glove or a wild pitch is thrown.
Violation - Runner is called OUT!
5. The Balk Rule is not enforced.
6. **REC LEAGUE ONLY : 5-Run per inning rule (In effect for the first 4 innings of the game).** The half inning will end after 3 outs are made or 5 runs have been scored, which ever comes first. This rule will be waived in the **fifth and sixth inning** and each inning after.
****This rule is not enforced in the 10U Classic League*****
7. Once the pitcher has the ball in his/her glove, and is within 6 feet of the rubber, the umpire may call Time Out - thus preventing any base runners from advancing.

12 & Under Playing Rules

1. Use regular High School stealing and leading off rules.
2. The Balk Rule will be called.
3. When the ball is in the infield, and a fielder shows control, and the runners make no attempt to advance, **then** the umpire **may** call time out.

15 & Under Playing Rules

- 15U plays by the rules published by the National Federation of State High School Association. Exceptions are listed under *MPRB Rules: All Divisions*

PROTESTS AND SUSPENSIONS

- **Coaches who believe any player playing on the opposite team is an ineligible player may request, before the end of the game, that the official require the player in doubt to sign the officials' report card with name, address and birth-date.** Refusal of a player to comply with the request will be considered proof of ineligibility since this procedure must be followed to prove that a player actually participated in the game. **All protests must be written.** Using an ineligible player will result in the forfeit of the game. If both teams use ineligible players, both teams will be given a loss and the game will not be replayed.
1. Coaches should follow up eligibility protest in writing with the League Director, no later than **2 working days (48 hours)** after completion of the protested game.
 3. Any player using an assumed name, giving incorrect age, or playing with a team other than one properly bearing his registration, is ineligible and will be subject to suspension or loss of games to be determined by the league director.
 4. Any team, which continues to use an ineligible or suspended player, will be dropped from the league.

5. Any player **fighting** before, during or after the game will be suspended from that contest and will be suspended for **(A) first offense** - next three games, **(B) second offense** - the rest of the season.
- a. Any **player or coach** who physically assaults an official shall be subject to a **one-year suspension** from all MPRB Youth Sports League Programs from date of incident.
6. A player that is ejected for unsportsmanlike behavior will also be suspended for the following game.

2004 League Options

Players must be 8 yrs old by September 1, 2003 to participate in the youth baseball program.

Rookie League Options

10 & Under (9-10 yr olds): Birth dates: 9-2-92 through 9-1-94

Plus any 5th graders during 2003-04 school year with birth dates June 1 through August 31, 1992.
(Only 8 yr olds as of Sept. 1, 2003 eligible for up waiver to this division)

- **Classic League** Mon/Wed May 3 – July 1 **Cost: \$200**
(Advanced skill level teams; 20 games including end of season tournament July 6-17)

Roster Size: 13

- **Rec League** Mon/Wed May 3 – July 1 **Free**
(Intermediate skill level teams; 13-14 games including end of season tournament July 6-17)

Roster Size: 15

12 & Under (11-12 yr olds): Birth dates: 9-2-90 through 9-1-92

Plus any 7th graders during 2003-04 school year with birth dates June 1 through August 31, 1990.
(Only 10 yr olds as of Sept. 1, 2003 eligible for up waiver to this division)

- **Classic League** Tues/Thurs May 4 – July 1 **Cost: \$200**
(Advanced skill level teams; 20 games including end of season tournament July 6-17)

Roster Size: 13

- **Rec League** Tues/Thurs May 4 – July 1 **Free**
(Intermediate skill level teams; 13-14 games including end of season tournament July 6-17)

Roster Size: 15

* **Parade League** Saturdays June 5th-July 17th Cost \$15 per player

For more information on the Parade League contact Brian Hronski at 612-230-6485

RBI Options

Jr. RBI - 15 & Under (13-15 yr olds) Birth dates: 9-2-87 through 9-1-90

Plus any 10th graders during 2003-04 school year with birth dates June 1 through August 31, 1987.

- **Jr. RBI*** Mon / Thurs May 3 – July 15 **Free**
(One division; 18 games including end of season tournament July 19-24)
- Minneapolis champion will play the St. Paul champion July 28 in St. Paul

Roster Size: 15

Sr. RBI - 18 & Under (16-18 yr olds) Birth dates: 9-2-85 through 9-1-87

- **Sr. RBI*** Mon / Wed. June 7 – August 6 **Free**

*****Additional baseball opportunity for 9-12 yr olds*****

Pitching Machine (9 – 12 yr olds) Cannot turn 13 yrs old before 9/1/04 **Free**

- Summer Season (Pitching Machine League) Tues/Thurs June 15 – July 22
This is a developmental league for youth beginning to play the game of baseball.

AGE WAIVER POLICY

- Coaches and / or parents wishing to waive a player to another division must contact their Center Director

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REGISTRATION DETAILS

1. Players must be registered on an official roster form. **INFORMATION ABOUT PLAYERS SHALL BE FILLED IN COMPLETELY, WITH PROOF OF AGE BY TIME OF REGISTRATION.** District Supervisors, Center Directors and Coaches must sign off on all rosters. The coach may submit birth certificate, baptismal certificate, immunization card, certificate from school administration, etc. to Center Director for age verification. 80% of the team roster must live within the Minneapolis city limits.
2. Players may register with one Park Board youth team and in one division only. A player that is proved ineligible for playing on two teams will cause a loss of games for both teams in which player participated. Transfer from one team to another will not be permitted after a player has played in a scheduled game. (Any deviation from this rule must be approved by the League Directors.)
3. Agencies are welcome to participate in Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board youth sports leagues. Agencies must submit rosters by the due date directly to the appropriate League Director in the MPRB Youth Sports Office. Proof of age must accompany each player on the roster. These documents may be one of the following: **birth certificate, baptismal certificate, immunization card, certificate from school administration.** 80% of the team roster must live within the Minneapolis city limits.
4. **REC Leagues:** Team roster registration is **fifteen (15)** players. (Any deviation from this rule must be approved by the League Director.) **Note:** A person shall not be denied the right to participate if all MPRB registration requirements have been met. (Player registration may not be denied until the roster exceeds **15** players.)
5. **Classic Leagues** roster size will be 13. Teams may request increased roster sizes. Requests must be approved by the League Director. **Note:** A person shall not be denied the right to participate if all MPRB registration requirements have been met. (Player registration may not be denied until the roster exceeds **13** players.)

NYSCA Certification

- Wednesday, April 28, 2004 – NYSCA General Clinic – M.L. King Park 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
- Wednesday, April 28, 2004 – Pre-Season Coaches Meeting at M.L. King Park 7:30 pm - Specific
- Monday, May 17, 2004 – NYSCA General & Specific Clinic – Logan Park 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
- Wednesday, May 19, 2004 – NYSCA General & Specific Clinic – Stewart Park 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
- Tuesday, May 25, 2004 – NYSCA General & Specific Clinic – Lynnhurst Park 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
- Thursday, May 27, 2004 – NYSCA General & Specific Clinic – North Commons 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

All coaches must attend a general clinic and a sport specific-softball clinic. Coaches who are currently certified from coaching other MPRB sports must attend a sport specific clinic. Coaches who were certified last season (general and specific-softball) only need to sign the code of ethics on the back of the roster to re-certify.
***** If you have any questions on your certification, please contact the league director or park director to assure active certification is on file.*****



SPORTSMANSHIP CODE FOR SPECTATORS

The Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board is taking a serious approach to ensuring that youth participating in our athletic programs have a safe, healthy, and positive environment in which to play and develop their skills.

Please adhere to the following Sportsmanship Code while attend MPRB youth athletic events:

- **Keep cheering positive**
- **Respect the opposing team and fans**
- **Learn and understand the rules of the game**
- **Respect the judgment of the officials
(Even if you disagree with them)**
- **Accept winning or losing with dignity**

Examples of Unsportsmanlike Behavior

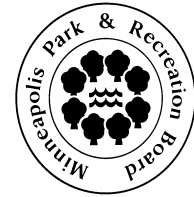
- Disrespectful or derogatory yells or gestures (such as pointing and chanting “you, you, you”)
- Loud negative reaction to officials’ calls
- Distracting players attempting free throws by yelling or stomping your feet
- Swearing
- Coming on the playing field/court at any time
- Chants or yells with inappropriate content (racial, sexual, or gender connotations)
- Degrading yells about a player’s body size or shape
- Degrading yells about a player’s lack of skill or ability
- Encouraging players to inflict injury on other players
- Throwing objects onto the field/court
- Arguing with coaches, officials or other fans

If a spectator exhibits behavior that is inappropriate or unsportsmanlike, the staff person will hand the spectator a card that reads:

**We appreciate your attendance at this youth sports event.
 Our participants need your positive support and encouragement.
 Abusive or unsportsmanlike behavior towards players, coaches or
 fans
 Will not be tolerated.**

If your behavior continues, we will stop the game

***If a spectator consistently uses unacceptable behavior, MPRB staff will stop the game until the person leaves the premises. If a spectator refuses to leave the premises, the officials will declare the game to be over.**



YOUTH BASEBALL CLINIC FOR ALL MPRB PLAYERS AGES 8-16

Monday, May 10, 2004

At Parade Baseball Stadium

600 Kenwood Pkwy

and

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

At North Commons Park

503 Irving Ave. N.

6:00pm – 7:30pm	10U and Pitching Machine Leagues
7:30pm – 9:00pm	12U & 15U teams

In its 44th season, the Twins Youth Baseball Clinics give youth from all over the region the opportunity to learn the game of baseball from outstanding clinicians while at the same time receiving a positive message to stay in school and to say "No" to drugs and alcohol.

The clinics are free, require no registration, and are open to boys and girls ages 8 to 16. The clinics will be broken into two 90-minute sessions, the first for kids 8 - 12 years old and the second for ages 13 - 16. Twins baseball instructors will teach hitting, fielding, and pitching at each session.

Created in 1961 by longtime Twins scout Angelo Guiliani, the clinics serve as a way for the Twins to promote the game of baseball with kids throughout the region. Since the program began 44 years ago, more than 800,000 boys and girls have taken part in the Twins clinics.

For more information, call Kent Brevik with the Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board at 612-230-6495.



Pitch Hit & Run



2004 Local Competition Sites & Dates

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PARK</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHECK – IN</u>
Thursday, April 15 th	Hiawatha Sch. Park 370-4952	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Check – In Time 5:15pm
Friday, April 16 th	Bryn Mawr 370-4941 - Kenwood	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Check – In Time 5:15pm
Tuesday, April 20 th	Folwell 370-4917	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Check – In Time 5:15pm
Monday, April 26 th	Waite Park 370-4959	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Check – In Time 5:15pm
Tuesday, April 27 th	Armatage Park 370-4912	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Check – In Time 5:15pm

Baseball / Softball Players – This is your opportunity to showcase your fundamental skills of pitching, hitting and running.

Boys and Girls ages 7 –14 are invited to participate in this FREE Baseball event.

Please bring age verification to participate in this event!

Players have the chance to qualify for the Sectional Competition in your area. Top performers at the Sectionals become eligible to advance to the Team Championships hosted by all the Major League Baseball teams. The National Finals will occur during the All-Star week July 11 –14 in Houston, TX.

All finalists from local competitions will be contacted prior to the Sectional Meet early in May 2004.

Sectional Meet

When: Friday, May 21, 2004 Where: Neiman Sports Complex

Time: Check In – 5:15pm Competition begins at 6:00pm

Finalists from all local competitions will be competing against one another for best score.
(Rain Date will be May 28th, 2004 – Neiman Sports Complex)

**For more information please call one of the Parks listed above or
Brian 612-230-6485 / Kent 612-230-6495!**