

Rye Brook Little League

Minor League Softball

Uniforms

- The Rye Brook Recreation Department will issue a complete uniform to all players, which will consist of a team shirt, socks, and hat. Players are required to wear black baseball pants to complete their uniform.
- Players are required to wear their complete uniform to each game.

Equipment

- The Rye Brook Recreation Department will supply all necessary equipment **except** fielders' gloves and batting helmets.
- Plastic or hard rubber cleated shoes or sneakers are acceptable, **metal spikes are prohibited**.
- Team coaches are responsible for **all** equipment issued to their team and must return the equipment at the end of the season.
- Coaches are responsible for keeping the equipment safely behind the dugout fence.

Games

- All games will be played on Saturdays at 1:00pm and weekday evenings at 6:00pm. For all games, players should arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. Doubleheaders will not be permitted.
- Teams must have **a minimum of 7 players and 1 coach to start the game**. Failure to field the minimum by 15 minutes after the scheduled start time will result in a rearrangement of teams and a game will be played.
- The team at bat will be permitted to have a coach at 1st and 3rd base only. All other coaches are to remain in the dugout area. **No adults or non-team members will be permitted to play in an actual game (i.e., No adult catchers).**
- Games will consist of 6 innings but may finish before 6 innings due to darkness or if another game is scheduled. **During a weekend game when another game is scheduled afterward, no new inning will be started after 90 minutes from the scheduled start time of the game.**
- An official game is 2 ½ innings if the home team is winning; 3 innings if the visitor is winning. This rule only applies if a game is called due to rain. It is the umpire's decision in consultation with the coaches, as to whether or not a game shall be called due to darkness and/or rain.
- Innings will consist of 3 outs, or batting through the order, whichever comes first. Each team may bat the maximum number of the larger team present to bat through their batting order.
- No one is permitted behind the backstop at any time except the on-deck batter. The on-deck batter is the only player besides the batter permitted to swing a bat and this must be done in the on-deck circle. **All other players should remain on the bench away from the on-deck circle.**
- **Coaches** are responsible for keeping their players on the bench when not fielding, batting or on-deck. Please speak to your team players at the beginning of the season.

Pitching/Catching

- Coaches will pitch to their own team using an underhand lob. Strikeouts occur only on a swinging miss of the third strike. **The last two weeks of the season**, the girls should try to pitch for the final 2 innings using the 5 balls, 3 strike counts when girls are pitching. If there are 4 walks in an inning the coach will finish pitching that inning.
- The adult pitcher must make every attempt to get out of the way of the batted ball. A batted ball that hits the adult pitcher is considered a dead ball.
- If a pitch hits a batter, the batter is awarded 1st base and all other forced runners advance a base.
- All catchers must wear a mask/helmet, chest protector and shin guards.
- Strikeouts occur from **3 missed swings**.

- Foul outs back to the catcher only occur if the ball is hit above the batter's head, otherwise it is a foul tip. A foul tip on the third strike is not an out. However, a foul tip with two strikes that is caught by the catcher regardless of height is an out.
- There will be no "dropped third strike" rule. If a player strikes out, the batter is out regardless of whether the catcher holds onto the ball.
- No player shall catch more than 2 innings per game unless the player **desires** to play the position.

Batting and Base Running

- All players are placed in the batting order. Players arriving after the coaches have exchanged batting orders shall be placed at the bottom of the order.
- Players are required to wear a batting helmet while batting and running the bases.
- Bunting is not permitted.
- Base runners are not permitted to steal. The umpire will call out runners leaving early.
- Base runners are permitted to "tag-up" (both fair and foul balls).
- The last batter due up in an inning in which the defensive team fails to get 3 outs shall never be walked unless approved by the batting team's coach. Otherwise, pitchers must pitch until the batter is out or safe.
- Base runners are not permitted to run intentionally into a baseman or catcher. Players involved in intentional collisions are subject to ejection from the game.
- A ball that bounces onto the pavement in right field at Garibaldi Park is a ground rule double.
- Throwing of the bat will: 1st time the coach/player will be warned, 2nd time batter will be called out, 3rd time batter will not bat anymore in that game.

Fielding

- All teams will play a maximum of 11 players in the field each inning according to the following: 4-outfielders and 7-infielders.
- **No player shall sit a second inning until every player has sat out for at least one full inning. All players must play a minimum of 1 inning in the infield and outfield prior to the 4th inning during each game.**
- While the ball is in bounds, the fielding team must make all plays and the base runners may continue to advance. Play will be stopped when a defensive player has possession of the ball anywhere in the infield and calls "time-out" and the umpire awards the time-out. Runners that are halfway towards a base may advance only to the base they were going to when the time out was awarded. If a ball is overthrown and goes out of bounds, runners may advance one extra base. The out of bounds lines are the marked lines in left and right field.
- There will be no "infield fly rule".
- No player can be removed in the middle of an inning except pitchers, or in the case of injury or unsportsmanlike conduct. If a pitcher is removed in mid-inning, the pitcher may play any other position in the field.

Miscellaneous

- All players, coaches and parents/spectators are expected to exhibit good sportsmanship as outlined in the Rye Brook Recreation Sportsmanship Guidelines.
- Any player who throws a bat or helmet intentionally will receive one warning and will be ejected from the game after the second offense.
- Umpires will have the power to eject from the game any players exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct.
- Umpires will have the power to eject from the game any coaches exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct or smoking.
- Each coach needs to be certified by the Rye Brook Recreation Department.