

Constitution and By-Laws Garvin-Murray County Baseball and Softball Leagues

Article 1 – Name

1-1 This organization shall be known as the Garvin Murray County Baseball League or the Murray-Garvin Softball League and from time to time herein after referred to as GMCBL or MGCSL.

1-2 The GMCBL or MGCSL President is in charge of all correspondence between the OK Kids Association and the Garvin and Murray County Leagues. He must work with the Board of Directors to secure all necessary paperwork to insure the league's continued participation in the OK Kids Association. His duties also include notification of the Board of Directors of all league meetings, preside over these meetings and distribute rules and schedules. He will appoint a league secretary and a vice president.

1-3 The Board of Directors will consist of 2 representatives (1 for softball and 1 for baseball) from each town with the Garvin and Murray County Leagues.

The Board of Directors shall vote on any rule changes prior to the start of the season at the annual league meeting, held in February after the OK Kids annual state meeting. A majority vote will pass a proposal. In case of a tie, the League President shall break the tie.

The Board of Directors shall rule on situations during the season that are not covered by written rules, if it deems necessary.

1-4 Each town is responsible for setting up its own governing body.

Each town will be responsible for securing coaches in all age classifications, collection and payment of all league fees, collection of rosters, contract cards and proof of age documents. They will also be responsible for umpires for home games and field maintenance and preparation.

Article 2 – Players and Teams

2-1 Each player must live or attend a school within the boundaries of Garvin and Murray Counties to be eligible to play in this league.

2-2 Anyone wanting to participate in this league and they don't live within the boundaries must first be OK'd by the Board of Directors and second must follow the guidelines of the OK Kids rules for playing (Article 5, Rule 4 or the OK Kids handbook "Great Circle" rule)

'Great Circle' rule states that a straight line is drawn from the player's house, to the ball field in which his home games would be played. A circle is then drawn, with the player's house as the center. Any town that has an OK Kids team in the player's age division that is within the 'Great Circle' all coaches in that age division from the towns must sign a release for the player to be eligible to participate. If a coach does not sign off then that player will not be eligible.

2-3 Players will be classified as follows:

A: Coach-pitch boys and girls: 8-under, cannot be 9 years old prior to January 1 of the current year.

B: Pee-Wee and 10-under girls: 10-under, cannot be 11 years old prior to January 1 of the current year.

C: Midget and 12-under girls: 12-under, cannot be 13 years old prior to January 1 of the current year.

2-4 If a player moves up an age classification and plays one game he will not be allowed to move back down at any point in the season.

2-5 Teams may have no more than 18 players on their roster.

2-6 Independent teams are not allowed in the Garvin-Murray League. All teams must sign up through their respective towns and follow the rules of that town, the Garvin-Murray rules and the OK Kids Rules.

2-7 All Teams must participate in the preseason tournament and the end of season tournament. Any team that does not play must pay a \$50 fine to the town hosting the tournament. Failure to do so will hinder a team's participation to play in the future.

Article 3 - Coaches

3-1. Managers and coaches are responsible for the following:

3-2. They are to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner in dealing with umpires, opposing coaches, players and fans.

3-3. They are to control the conduct of their players and fans.

3-4. They are to be knowledgeable of the game of baseball, its rules and coaching methods.

3-5. The use of tobacco is prohibited while on the playing field or in the dugout.

3-6. Profanity or use of alcoholic beverages will not be allowed. Any manager or coach under the influence of alcohol on the playing or practice field will lose their team for the remainder of the season.

3-7. All coaches must pass a background check through their town before they will be allowed to coaches in the Garvin-Murray league. (background checks are located at pvyouthsports.com under the coaches tab)

3-8. Coaches must present a pass at the gate to be admitted into the facility without paying. The pass is only good for the pass holder and not his entire family. Anyone saying they are a coach but not having a pass will be charged accordingly.

Article 4 - Conduct

4-1. Coaches will be held responsible for the conduct of their players, fans as well as their own actions at all times. Violations may result in automatic suspensions.

4-2. Any coach or manager thrown out of any game will be suspended for the game they are ejected from and the next played league game. Any coach or manager thrown out twice during a season will be suspended for the rest of the year.

4-3. Any player thrown out of any game will be suspended for the remainder of that game and their next played league game.

4-4. Any PROFANITY, VERBAL ABUSE OF A PLAYER OR OFFICIAL, UNRULY CONDUCT BY ANYONE WHILE ATTENDING A LEAGUE GAME WILL RESULT IN AN EJECTION.

4-5. Any coach, manager, player or scorekeeper refusing to leave after an ejection will cause his/her team to forfeit that game.

4-6. All persons ejected MUST leave the ballpark.

4.7 Social Media

These Guidelines apply to all participants within the Garvin-Murray OK Kids Associations and its sports leagues that create or contribute to any type of Social Media, Examples, twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc.

Our goal is to ensure participation in social media that involves GM OK Kids is conducted with respect and safeguards confidential information of our participants.

A. Postings should not disclose any information that is confidential or disclose information to individuals, volunteer parents or children.

B. Do not post negative comments or pictures regarding any aspect of Youth Sports. This includes but it not limited to coaching, officiating, parents, staff or participants.

C. Comments that are posted that can be construed as harassment or bullying will not be tolerated.

Failure to comply with guidelines may result in removal from the Garvin-Murray OK Kids Association. All concerns regarding any aspect of the GM OK Kids should be immediately brought to the attention of the Garvin-Murray OK Kids President or the Garvin-Murray OK Kids Board members. Removal will be determined by OK Kids Board.

Article 5 – Umpires

5-1. Each town is responsible for supplying at least one certified/registered umpire for each game. If the umpire doesn't show and if both teams agree a non-certified umpire can be used, the coaches from both teams must sign both team scorebooks. If both teams do not agree to a non-certified umpire, then the game will be canceled and rescheduled for another date.

5-2. The home plate umpires shall have complete charge of the game. He shall have the authority to dismiss any player, coach or manager from the game. Any player, coach, or manager ejected by the umpire is automatically suspended for the rest of that game plus another game. An appeal may be made to the board of directors of the League but must be done within a 24 – hour period.

5-3. Umpires are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will display the knowledge of baseball or softball rules and fair play. Profanity or drinking of alcoholic beverages will not be permitted. The Board of Directors will automatically suspend any umpires suspected of being under the influence of alcoholic beverage pending investigation. Smoking will be allowed, but only during breaks between games and outside the playing fields. (This includes chewing tobacco or dipping). Umpires can expect to receive fair treatment from coaches, players and fans. They shall have full support from the Board of Directors.

5-4. Umpires will be expected to have a good working knowledge of baseball or softball rules and the mechanics of good umpiring.

5-5. Umpires shall report any major disturbances, protest by managers or question regarding their duties to the town coordinator in the city they are calling in. The coordinator shall in turn report to the League President and then to the Board of Directors.

- 5-6.** Any questions regarding the abilities of any umpires shall be handled by the head umpire and Board of Directors. Should any questions arise, they must be submitted in writing to the board.
- 5-7.** Umpires will be guaranteed pay for one game providing the game started and then was postponed by rain. If the second game is postponed by the first game's postponement, no money will be paid for the second game.
- 5-8.** If a forfeit occurs, the umpires will be paid. However, they must be assigned to a field and umpire in order to earn their umpire fee (scrimmage if necessary).
- 5-9.** If the umpire has been notified that a game (s) has been canceled, no umpire fee (s) will be paid for the game (s).
- 5-10.** Both managers must meet with the plate umpire immediately before the game time to discuss home team ground rules.
- 5-11.** Certified Umpires will be paid the following: \$30 across the board

Article 5 – Games

- 6-1.** Games must start promptly at the time that is shown on the schedule. Teams will be allowed a fifteen (15) minute grace period. Otherwise, the game will be forfeited.
- 6-2.** No infield practice will be permitted after the scheduled game time.
- 6-3.** The second game of two (2) scheduled league games must start within fifteen (15) minutes after completion of the first game. No infield practice will be permitted between games, unless the first game is completed early, then equal time will be allowed for practice.
- 6-4.** The pitcher will be allowed to throw a maximum of six (6) warm-up balls to start each inning. Then play must start immediately.
- 6-5.** League Coordinators have the final decision as to whether the diamond is in conditions for play in case of inclement weather. Coordinators shall make every effort to notify the league president by 4 p.m. if conditions are such that the game cannot be played as scheduled. **ALL CANCELLATIONS WILL BE POSTED ON THE LEAGUE WEBSITE. DO NOT CONTACT LEAGUE COORDINATORS OR THE LEAGUE PRESIDENT ABOUT CANCELLATIONS.** In case of a conflict on playing conditions, the local league president will make the final decision.
- 6-6.** Games that are postponed can be made up at a suitable date and time for both teams **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** Saturday's and Sunday's are options. Please coordinate with the town coordinator to assure field availability and official(s).
- 6-7.** Official baseball rules, OK Kids and ASA rules will be observed. Any technical infraction by the pitcher will be warned by the umpire before a penalty is imposed. The manager of the player will also be informed.
- 6-8.** Each home team shall furnish a minimum of two (2) new game balls for each game. Balls will be tournament quality.
- 6-9.** Complete team roster(s) and league dues must be submitted to the League President on or before the preseason tournament of current year. Any team that does not have their rosters in on the due date will pay a twenty dollar (\$20.00) penalty.
- 6-10.** League dues are one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per team.
- 6-11.** No game shall end in a tie. Games will be played until a winner is made.
- 6-12.** An on deck batter will be allowed to warm-up in the opposing teams warm-up circle for safety issues (i.e. If your team is in the third base dugout and a left handed batter is at the plate, the on deck batter may switch to the first base dugout warm-up circle. If your team is in the first base dugout and a right handed batter is at the plate, the on deck batter may switch to the third base dugouts warm-up circle.).
- 6-13.** Each player is required to have a number on their uniform.
- 6-14.** A team may start with no less than seven (7) players. Any team that starts a game with less than nine (9) players the number missing shall count as automatic outs when it comes their time at bat. If a team starts a game with less than nine (9) players and a player arrives late, the team can insert the player at the start of the next inning.
- 6-15.** All teams will play nine (9) and bat (9). Exception: 8-under girls will bat entire roster each game
- 6-16.** The pitching rule shall be as follows: On a manager's second trip to the mound to talk to the pitcher in any one inning, or on the third trip to the mound in a game, the manager must remove the pitcher from that position.
- 6-17.** In case of rain or postponement of game due to uncontrollable elements, the game will be official under the following conditions: (any game postponed prior to being an official game will be played over in its entirety).
- A.** Coach Pitch or 8-under girls: Played three (3) full innings or two and one-half (2 1/2) innings if the home team is ahead.
 - B.** Pee Wee or 10-under girls: Played three (3) full innings or two and one-half (2 1/2) innings if the home team is ahead.
 - C.** Midget or 12-under girls: Played four (4) full innings or three and one-half (3 1/2) innings if the home team is ahead.
- 6-18.** Players six (6) years old will be permitted to participate in league play.

Article 7 – Protests

A protest fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) must be submitted along with the written letter of protest within seventy two hours (72) of game in which protest occurred. This letter may be mailed or hand delivered to the GMCBL President. If protest is upheld, the money will be returned to the team. If protest is lost, money will go into the GMCBL account.

Article 8 – General Rules 1

8-1. In case of injured player, substitute has to be an original substitute, not on the starting line-up. Substitute(s) will be in the injured player(s) batting order, but can move to any position on the field. This rule will be used only if all substitutes available for the game have entered the game prior to the injury.

8-2. No new players may be added to the roster after May 13 of each season.

8-3. All games must be played by and cannot end by specific date set forth by the league.

8-4. The protest committee shall consist of the GMCBL President and the President of each town league. If any of the above members are involved in the protest, they will not be allowed to vote.

8-5. Gate admission to regular season games is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students (14-under) and senior's citizens

Gate admission to all Garvin-Murray OK Kids league tournaments (preseason and post season) is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students (14-under) and senior citizens. Local tournaments may charge what they want.

8-6. A team is required to play in the preseason and postseason tournaments. If a team does not play and does not give ample notification that they will not play they will be fined \$50, payable to the town hosting the tournament. If they fail to pay said fee then they will not be allowed to participate in league activities until the fine is paid.

GENERAL RULES 2

Time Limit Rule:

Coach Pitch, 8-under girls, 10-under girls: 1 hour or 5 innings, whichever comes first, no new inning shall start after 55 minutes of the official starting time.

Pee Wee, 12-under girls: 1 hour 15 minutes or 5 innings, whichever comes first, no new inning shall start after 1 hour and 10 minutes of the official starting time.

Midget: 1 hour 30 minutes or 6 innings, whichever comes first, no new inning shall start after 1 hour and 20 minutes of the official starting time.

Run Limit Rule:

Coach-Pitch, PeeWee, Midget, Machine-Pitch and 12-under fast-pitch – only 6 runs scored per inning by team at bat.

In 10-and-under softball - only 4 runs scored pre inning by team at bat. (Adopted 2016)

The half inning is ended when the fourth or sixth run crosses home plate and no more runs will count even if scored on same play.

Run Ahead Rule:

Coach-Pitch, PeeWee, Machine-Pitch and 12-under fast-pitch: run rule is 13 runs after 3 innings, 7 after 4 innings

10-Under Girls: run rule is 9 after 3 innings, 5 after 4 innings

Midgets run rule is 13 after 4 innings and 7 after 5 innings

If at a specified point, a team has reached the run ahead rule the game is officially ended. The umpire will call time and notify each manager and the official scorekeeper of the winner and the game will continue until time has expired.

ALL PLAYERS IN ALL AGE GROUPS WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY IN EACH GAME DURING THE SEASON. PLAYERS SHOULD PLAY AT LEAST ONE COMPLETE INNING PER GAME.

The only exception of this rule will be for disciplinary purposes and the manager will be responsible for advising the opposing manager, official scorekeeper, and the parent of the player before the start of the game. If the game is shortened due to the Run Limit, Run Ahead Rule, Time Limit Rule, or other factors, the coach will have complied with this rule if he substituted the players at a point that would have allowed them to play the required number of innings if the game had played to completion.

ANY RULES NOT COVERED IN THESE RULES WILL BE GOVERNED BY THE STATE OK KIDS RULES OR HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL RULES OR SOFTBALL RULES.