

# **2008/09 Season Youth Baseball Rulebook**



  
**CITY OF**  
**SUNRISE**  
*Department of Leisure Services*

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## **CITY OF SUNRISE YOUTH SPORTS MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the City of Sunrise Baseball program is to provide a well-supervised program, to teach good sportsmanship, and to promote physical fitness and mental well-being to the youth of our community, while encouraging the interest of youth in the game of Baseball and teaching the fundamentals of the game.

The rules stated in this book are not intended to be a reprint or quote to the Little League rulebook published by Little League Baseball Inc. All of the rules contained herein have been approved by Little League Baseball and supersede all rules contained in the 2008 Little League rules. All rules not contained herein are deferred to all rules published by Little League Baseball Inc.

## **NYSCA COACHES CODE OF ETHICS**

- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- I will remember to treat each player as an individual, remembering the large spread of emotional and physical development for the same age group.
- I will do my very best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.
- I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for my players.
- I will lead, by example, in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
- I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all youth sporting events.
- I will insure that I am knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and that I will teach these rules to my players.
- I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.
- I will remember that I am a youth coach, and that the game is for children, not adults.

## **LEAGUE ORGANIZATION:**

There will be the following leagues within the City of Sunrise Baseball Program.

Instructional T-Ball - To include players who were born on or between 5/1/02 and 4/30/03.

6 Year T-Ball - To include players who were born on or between 5/1/01 and 4/30/02.

7 Year T-Ball - To include players who were born on or between 5/1/00 and 4/30/01.

Farm League - To include players who were born on or between 5/1/99 and 4/30/00.

Minor League – To include players who were born on or between 5/1/97 and 4/30/99.

Major League – To include players who were born on or between 5/1/95 and 4/30/97.

Junior League - To include players who were born on or between 5/1/93 and 4/30/95.

Senior League - To include players who were born on or between 5/1/91 and 4/30/93.

Date of birth of participants shall be certified by birth certificates or documentation deemed appropriate by the Department of Leisure Services. A photocopy of a birth certificate or other documentation will be required by the Department of Leisure Services (if not on file) at the time of registration.

Late registrations will be assigned to a waiting list and appointed by Leisure Services in accordance with the Late Sign-Ups section in this book.

All participants must be registered with the City of Sunrise Department of Leisure Services before participating in the sport.

## **LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION**

The City of Sunrise Baseball Program will be administered by the Department of Leisure Services.

Athletic Supervisor/League President will act as the president of the program.

Will have the authority to suspend any manager or coach; this is subject to appeal.

Will act as overall coordinator for the program.

Is responsible to communicate all information to division commissioners.

Is responsible to assist the Department of Leisure Services in implementing all the rules and regulations.

Is responsible for appointing the division commissioners, managers, coaches and Baseball Advisory Committee.

Manager-Coaching combinations will be approved by the Department of Leisure Services.

#### RECREATION LEADER/VICE PRESIDENT-

Will act as the Vice President of the program.

Will also act as Player Agent who will assist Division Commissioners in conducting tryouts and/or player ratings.

He/she will assist in player selections, assist Commissioners in checking birth records and eligibility of players. He/she will supervise and coordinate the transfer of players and will maintain all draft records.

Senior League Commissioner - Will act as Senior League Commissioner

Junior League Commissioner - Will act as Junior League Commissioner

Little League - Major League Commissioner - Will act as Commissioner of the Major League Division

Little League - Minor League Commissioner - Will act as Commissioner of the Minor League Division of the Little League Program.

Farm Commissioner - Will act as Commissioner of the Farm Division.

T-Ball Commissioner - Will act as Commissioner of the T-ball and Instructional T-Ball Divisions.

Baseball Division Commissioner Duties - The Baseball Advisory Committee shall be composed of volunteer members, invited to serve by the Department of Leisure Services. Invitation and retention of committee members/Board members shall be at the sole discretion of the Department.

Make recommendations to the Department and Athletic Supervisor regarding appointment of coaches and other volunteers.

Make recommendations for the rule modifications, procedures and guidelines regarding the conduct of a specific sport league.

Make recommendations toward the general improvement of sports program.

Will serve as a sounding board to the Athletic Supervisor/President on issues brought to the committee for consideration.

Make staff aware of existing problems relative to the sport program.

Interpret program goals, decisions and changes to the public.

Conduct official protest hearing and serve as a forum for fielding complaints and or suggestions for the program.

Serves in various volunteer capacities as appointed by the department and is convenient to and agreed upon by the committee members.

Baseball Advisory Committee Members serve as an extension of the staff. The committee may provide recommendations only. All recommendations will be taken under advisement by Department staff.

## **OFFICIAL SCOREKEEPERS**

The home team will be responsible to keep the official scorebook.

## **SAFETY OFFICER AND STAFF**

The safety officer and his/her staff coordinates all safety activities; ensures safe playing conditions; and reports suggestions to the league president.

## **MANAGER/COACHES DUTIES**

Will be of good moral character and able to deal with children, assistant coaches, parents, game officials, city officials, and league administrators in a positive manner.

Responsible for the selection of his/her team.

Responsible for the return of all equipment and uniforms issued to him/her. Failure to return issued equipment may

result in disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the Department of Leisure Services.

Responsible for the teams actions, including parents and fans, and to represent the team in communications with the umpire and opposing team.

Responsible to appoint a representative to replace him/her if he/she is unable to be present.

Coaches will be required to undergo a criminal background screening.

Will be responsible for turning in a line-up card to the plate umpire prior to the start of the game.

A supplied game sheet will be filled in by the home team and turned into the Leisure Services by the winning team within 48 hours after the game. Failure to comply with this rule may result in the manager or coach being suspended from the game following the infraction. NOTE: The original completed game sheet shall be the property of the Department of Leisure Services, and shall constitute the official game record for all information contained therein.

Responsible to keep himself/herself, his/her coaches and team in the dugouts or appropriate areas throughout the game.

A manager may take disciplinary action against a player (i.e. benching a player) however, prior approval must be made with the Division Commissioner. Opposing coach and game umpire must be notified before game time of such a disciplinary action. All disciplinary action shall be reviewed by the Athletic Supervisor/President.

Note: Any coach found abusing this rule shall be subject to the following

1st offense: Two (2) game suspension.

2nd offense: Season expulsion.

Coaches will always maintain a positive atmosphere at all team functions.

There shall be no mechanical devices to amplify a coach's voice, unless used as an accomodation for a participant with a hearing limitation.

The manager of the home team shall be responsible for preparing the game sheet and designating an official score-

keeper. Under these circumstances the home team manager shall comply with all requirements of the official scorekeeper. NOTE: The home team score book is the official score book and must be made available for review by the visiting team.

Responsible to insure that all equipment is in good working order and complies with the requirements of Little League Baseball, Inc. and/or City baseball rules before and during all games and practices.

Responsible for properly filling out pitching affidavits at the conclusion of each game and the home plate umpire has signed the pitching affidavit. This responsibility is for each manager of the game.

## **PROTESTS**

All participants are urged to take precautions to prevent protests. When a protest is imminent, all potential offenders should be notified immediately.

If League President is present at a game that is under protest, League President can rule on the protest.

All protests on violations of playing rules in officially scheduled games must be made in writing, in addition to being noted on the game sheet and filed with the Division Commissioner within 24 hours following the scheduled starting time of the game under protest. Judgement calls are not subject to protest. The rule and section under protest must be clearly denoted and specified in the protest.

All protests received on playing rules after the time specified above will not be considered. Managers or Coaches contemplating a protest on violations of playing rules on the field of play must notify the umpire immediately of their desire, and before the next pitch. Time and conditions of protest shall be noted on the game sheet and both scorebooks by the umpire at this time.

The Division Commissioner shall notify the Athletic Supervisor/President of all protests immediately upon receipt. A protest fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) must accompany each protest. In the event the protest is overruled or declared invalid by the Baseball Advisory Committee, the fee will be retained by the Department of Leisure Services.

All protests will be reviewed to determine whether it is a valid protest and if it should be brought before the Baseball Advisory Committee/Little League Board of Directors. All protests will be handled at the regular scheduled Baseball Advisory meeting.

If a hearing is granted, both involved teams will be notified, by the appropriate official(s), of the time and place of the hearing. NOTE: Whenever a matter of protest arises during the progress of any game, the Manager, Coach, or appointed team representative of the protesting team will notify the umpire and manager of the opposing team immediately that the game is being continued under protest. This will enable all interested parties to take notice of the conditions, which aid in the proper determination of the issue(s). At the time of the protest, both managers/acting managers and umpires must acknowledge the protest by signing the official game sheet at the time of the protest.

Managers of both teams involved, umpires, or their designated representatives will be invited to the hearing.

## **DISCIPLINARY RULINGS**

Participants ejected from a game will not be allowed to play in the next game. If a participant is ejected he/she may appeal the ejection within 48 hours. Appeal must be submitted to the Athletic Supervisor.

Players guilty of fighting on the field before, during or after games shall receive a three (3) game suspension. The suspension will include the current game, if in progress, and two (2) additional games. If the fighting occurs after a game, the suspension will be for the next three (3) games. It shall be noted on the game sheet.

Players guilty of making threatening gestures against other players, coaches, spectators, umpires, city officials, commissioners or any other people shall receive a two game suspension. Managers, coaches, commissioners, guilty of this offense shall be suspended for four games.

Managers, coaches, commissioners, players guilty of pushing, striking or any other physical contact against any other coach, umpire, city officials, commissioner or spectator may receive a minimum of one (1) year suspension to a maxi-

mum of lifetime suspension.

**NOTE:** An ejected manager/coach and player must leave the playing area within 2 minutes. They may not sit in the stands and may not be recalled. Any disciplinary action taken will carry over the eligibility of an individual to coach or otherwise participate in all programs/sports administered by the Department of Leisure Services.

Coaches and players who are ejected from a game are not permitted back onto the field during the game or after the game. Persons ejected from a game are not permitted to talk to any umpire after the game is over. Coaches and players ejected from a game who do approach the game umpires at anytime after their ejection or go onto the field may face additional game suspensions and/or be suspended for the remainder of the season.

Managers and/or coaches who are found to have intentionally violated the terms and/or the spirit of these rules shall be subject to discipline upon recommendation of the Baseball Advisory Committee, with the final approval of the Department of Leisure Services. If suspension is not appropriate, the offender may be placed on probation under conditions specified by the baseball Advisory Committee/ Department of Leisure Services.

All conditions surrounding any disciplinary case must be placed in writing by the Division Commissioner and placed in the Leisure Services office files.

All appeals will be reviewed by the City Representative, and Division Commissioner/V.P to determine if it should be brought before the Baseball Advisory Committee.

## **TEAMS**

Each recreation team shall consist of a minimum of 11 and a maximum of 15 players whose names shall be registered with the Department of Leisure Services.

All games must begin with (9) players and may finish with (8). In T-Ball and Farm, should the tenth player arrive, he will be immediately placed into the game and his name inserted at the bottom of the line-up. Should additional players arrive later, their names will be inserted at the bottom of the line-up in order of arrival.

Teams will be considered returning teams when one or more players return from the previous year's roster.

## **SELECTION OF PLAYERS**

Returning Players- All players currently on last years major, junior and senior league rosters will continue to play on the same team they were on and will not be rated.

The following players will be rated:

1. Players signing up for the first time, except Instructional T-Ball division.
2. Players removed from last year's team.
3. Players eligible to move up from the next lower division.

Ratings: Players will be rated in respective divisions by a minimum of 5 volunteers with knowledge of the sport and a representative of the city. If additional persons are needed the Athletic Supervisor shall appoint them. Ratings will be an individual effort and rater's cannot discuss ratings with each other or participants.

Players will be rated on a scale of 1 through 5 (one being excellent). This will be based on their ability to perform. The highest and lowest score will be eliminated and the remainder will be averaged and that rating will be assigned to the player. Every attempt will be made to make teams equal.

Player Eligibility: Only players of eligible age, whose eligibility is determined by the Leisure Services Department, shall have active participation in the program.

Birth certificates, hospital certificates, or other legal documents, which must be presented to a league official at the time of registration, shall certify date of birth of new players, or registrations will not be accepted. Photostat copies of any of these certificates are acceptable. Notarized statements of birth dates are not acceptable.

## **EXCEPTIONS**

A coach may request the release of a player at the end of the season as long as playing ability is not the reason for the request. Upon approval of the Athletic Supervisor/League President, the parents of the player involved will receive a

letter of explanation and the player will be placed into the draft.

A letter from a parent on file in the Department of Leisure services prior to the beginning of ratings upon review and approval excludes a player from playing for one specific manager.

A parent may request their child be released from a team, due to a conflict(s) or problems with team personnel only. **NOTE:** Players released from roster under rule B or C cannot be frozen.

### **DRAFT (T-Ball, Farm & Minor Divisions)**

League rosters with all players name and assigned ratings will be given to each coach at the start of the draft.

Frozen players will be assigned to the appropriate coach.

Coaches will begin assigning players to teams attempting to keep teams as evenly balanced as possible.

Parent requests will be reviewed and honored appropriately.

If coaches are having difficulty assigning a player to a team a City of Sunrise representative will assign the player to a team.

The head coaches or designees will draw numbers to determine who will receive the first team selection.

Coaches will choose pre-selected teams in the order previously determined.

Coaches will receive one trade. This will take place after the teams have been selected. A team without a coach will be frozen and no trades will be allowed.

Coaches will be allowed to freeze one player. If a coach elects to have an assistant coach then the assistant coach will be allowed to freeze one player.

Coaches with no children, in division they are coaching, may freeze one participant.

### **DRAFT (Major, Junior & Senior)**

Major, Junior, and Senior Divisions, the draft order will be; a new team will receive first pick. If there is more then one (1)

new team, order will be determined among them by a coin toss or drawing numbers from a hat. The order of draft picks shall remain the same in each round.

**Frozen Players** - Coaches can only freeze their own children. If more than one is in the same playing division, all of the children will be placed on the team and counted as one freeze. All coaches and assistant coaches must complete the background check prior to the draft in order for a freeze to be accommodated.

### **Non-Rated Player**

**Known Non-Rated Players** - These players will be assigned a rating by a city representative.

**Unkown Non-Rated Players** - A rating sheet will be distributed to all coaches at the draft. The sheet will have the name of all non-rated unknown players. Coaches will have the opportunity to rate any players, in which they have knowledge of the participant's skill level. A city representative will collect sheets. Scores will be averaged, throwing out the highest and lowest score. Player will be assigned that rating.

Any unknown players with no rating will be randomly placed on teams, through a blind drawing. These players cannot be traded.

Siblings will automatically be assigned to the same team if ability and league age allows. The team involved will forego the draft round in which these children were rated.

### **SECRECY**

Players shall never be told their rating or the round in which they were drafted.

The Department of Leisure Services will hold the waiting list confidential.

### **REPLACEMENT OF PLAYERS**

If a team loses a player during the first half of the season

through illness, injury, change of address or other justifiable reason, the manager may request another player through the player agent/ Vice President to replace the one lost. The playing ability of the player shall not be considered a justifiable reason for request of replacement. Managers should inform their Leisure Services if they need a player.

Such replacement must be of such league age as to comply with the minimum and maximum league age requirement of Little League.

When replacement is requested, the reason for the replacement must be presented in writing to the Player Agent by the team manager.

The replacement player will come from the waiting list and shall be assigned by the player agent.

No team may obtain a replacement player after half of the regular season games have been played unless their roster falls below the minimum number of players required to start a game under these rules.

Once assigned the player is eligible to play in all subsequent games.

## **SUBSTITUTIONS**

Every player on the roster in a Major, Junior, and Senior division must play a minimum of 6 defensive outs and one at bat. No starting players shall be removed for a substitute unless this mandatory minimum requirement has been met, except in the event of injury or ejection.

If a Major, Junior or Senior league game is not played to completion (innings) all players who did not meet minimum participation must start the next game and meet minimum playing requirements for that game and fulfill previous game playing minimums.

If a Major, Junior or Senior league game is played to completion (innings) all players who did not meet minimum participation must start in the next game and meet minimum playing requirements plus any required outs and/or at bats not completed in the prior game.

In the T-Ball, Farm and Minor Divisions the following substitution rule shall apply: all players not starting the game at fielding positions, shall be inserted at fielding positions in the 2nd inning or 45 minutes whichever comes first. No player may

remain on the bench for two (2) consecutive defensive innings, unless due to injury, ejection, or disciplinary action.  
**PENALTY FOR SUBSTITUTION VIOLATIONS IN ALL DIVISIONS**

1st offense - Suspension from the next game

2nd offense - Suspension for the season

**NOTE:** IF VIOLATION IS DETERMINED TO HAVE BEEN INTENTIONAL MORE SEVERE PENALTIES MAY BE ASSESSED.

The umpire is the official time keeper. When substitutions are made, it is the manager's responsibility to notify the other manager, coach or scorekeeper.

After substitutions have been made, and in the event of injury or ejection for disciplinary purposes to a player, a substituted player may re-enter the game to replace the injured or ejected player, provided all other eligible players have previously entered the game at that point. The opposing manager will select the replacement player. Player ejected from the game is not eligible for reentry.

Players arriving after the start of the game in T-Ball, Farm and Minor divisions shall be placed in the game defensively at the beginning of the next innings and shall bat last in the batting order.

## **EQUIPMENT**

All teams chartered for Little League will comply with Little League Regulations.

Players in all divisions must wear headgear or similar head protectors while taking their turn at bat, running bases, coaching bases and on deck (Junior and Senior Division only). All players in the Instructional T-Ball division and T-Ball divisions taking the defensive position of pitcher must wear headgear.

Players intentionally removing or discarding helmets while running the bases will automatically be called out and the ball declared dead.

Shoes with metal spikes or cleats are prohibited except in Junior and Senior League play. Slips on shoes are prohibited. All other participants must wear molded cleats or shoes that are tied or held on with velcro fasteners.

Catchers or players warming up a pitcher will wear head-gear with throat protectors which gives protection to the top of the head and throat. Male catchers will also wear an athletic supporter and cup. The umpire will check before and during each game for compliance.

T-Ball participants may not use a bat over 29" in length. Conventional baseball uniforms will be furnished by the league and shall be worn by all players in official games. Any exceptions to this uniform rule will require approval of the City Representative and/or Division Commissioner. No individual child's name will be permitted to be applied to any uniform.

**PENALTY:** Individual will not be allowed to participate in the game.

Any player or parent may request the use of the optional face shield during players turn at bat only (Minor and Major). No altered or painted equipment may be used in any game or practice. City issued equipment shall be returned at the end of the season.

**PITCHING/BASE DISTANCE**

<u>Division Distance</u>	<u>Pitching Distance</u>	<u>Base</u>
T-Ball .....	N/A .....	.50'
Farm .....	.40' .....	.60'
Minor League .....	.46' .....	.60'
Little League .....	.46' .....	.60'
Junior League .....	.60'6" .....	.90'
Senior League .....	.60'6" .....	.90'

**PLAYING RULES**

All teams chartered for Little League will play under rules established by Little League, Inc. With the exception of those variations contained herein.

All eligible players on the team will be in the batting line-up for the entire game. This applies to T-Ball, Farm and Minor

Divisions.

There will be no coaching by anyone who backs up the catcher in T-Ball and Farm.

In the T-Ball, Farm, and Minor Divisions, the following will apply:

If a batter cannot complete his turn at bat due to sickness or injury, the next batter will complete his turn.

If a base runner cannot continue due to sickness or injury, the last previous recorded out will complete the base runners duties.

There shall be no player permitted in the on deck position in any division except Junior and Senior. In addition there shall be no head first sliding in advancing to a base except in Junior and Senior Divisions. A player may dive back to base he has already attained in any division.

## **LENGTH OF GAMES**

Other than the time limits, all chartered Little League teams will comply with Little League regulations. T-Ball will be four innings.

### ***TIME LIMITS:***

No new inning will begin after 1 1/2 hours except for Junior which will be 2 hours. In the T-Ball Division no new inning will start after 1 1/4 hours.

Once an inning has begun, it must be completed. If there is a tie, one inning will be played as a tie breaker in all divisions with the exception of Tee Ball. If there is no winner at this point, it becomes a suspended game that may be resumed to be played at a later date, if necessary.

If there is no game scheduled to follow and the time limit has expired, tie games will be continued until a winner is determined. All curfews shall supersede this rule.

Game time limits will start from the beginning of play.

### **IF DURING THE PROCESS OF A REGULAR SEASON MAJOR, JUNIOR AND SENIOR LEAGUE GAME:**

The home team after at least 4 1/2 innings have been played is leading by twelve (12) or more runs, or

The visiting team, after at least 5 innings have been played is leading by twelve (12) or more runs at the end of any complete inning, then the umpire shall terminate the game in favor of the leading team.

If during the process of a regular season T-Ball game and a team is ahead by 12 or more runs and the losing team has batted 3 times, the umpire shall terminate the game. This rule is applied in the Farm division if the home team has batted 4 times.

Teams not able to field a minimum number of players at the officially scheduled starting time will forfeit, except for T-Ball division. This division has a 10 minute grace period which will be subtracted from game time.

Postponed games will be played on the date and time set by the President and Division Commissioner.

**FARM DIVISION**-No new inning shall start after 9:00 p.m.

**MINOR & MAJOR DIVISIONS**-No new inning shall start after 10:00 p.m. **JUNIOR & SENIOR DIVISIONS**-No new inning shall start after 10:30 p.m.

Eight run rule- There shall be an eight run rule limit per inning at which time the teams shall change sides except:

1. T-Ball - The fourth inning
2. Farm, Minor, Major - The sixth inning
3. Junior and Senior - The seventh inning
4. All divisions -
  - a. Any extra inning

### **INTERRUPTED GAMES**

If a game is interrupted due to reasons other than time limit, it will be considered a complete game under the following circumstances:

1. T-Ball: If three innings have been completed or 2 1/2 innings have been completed and the home team is ahead.
2. Farm, Minor, Major: If 4 innings have been completed or 3 1/2 completed with the home team ahead.
3. Junior: If 5 innings have been completed or 4 1/2 completed with the home team ahead.

A game called during the course of an incomplete inning which is otherwise a complete game under this rule shall revert back to the final score at the end of the last completed inning.

The visiting team, after at least 5 innings have been played is leading by twelve (12) or more runs at the end of any complete inning, then the umpire shall terminate the game in favor of the leading team.

If during the process of a regular season T-Ball game and a team is ahead by 12 or more runs and the losing team has batted 3 times, the umpire shall terminate the game. This rule is applied in the Farm division if the home team has batted 4 times.

Teams not able to field a minimum number of players at the officially scheduled starting time will forfeit, except for T-Ball division. This division has a 10 minute grace period which will be subtracted from game time.

Postponed games will be played on the date and time set by the President and Division Commissioner.

**FARM DIVISION**-No new inning shall start after 9:00 p.m.

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2. Farm, Minor, Major: If 4 innings have been completed or 3 1/2 completed with the home team ahead.
3. Junior: If 5 innings have been completed or 4 1/2 completed with the home team ahead.

A game called during the course of an incomplete inning which is otherwise a complete game under this rule shall revert back to the final score at the end of the last completed inning.

If a game is called before it has become a regulation game, but after one (1) or more innings have been played, it shall be resumed exactly where it left off. NOTE: All records, including pitching, shall be counted.

## **RESCHEDULING POLICY**

All games will be played as per schedule. Games will only be rescheduled under the following conditions:

1. In case of inclement weather, the decision to play scheduled games will be determined by the Leisure Services Department prior to the game; or the umpire at game time, or thereafter.
2. Unsafe field conditions as determined by the Department of Leisure Services.
3. School and Religious Functions may constitute reason for re-scheduling games. Only if attendance at either of these two functions affects a teams ability to start and end a game with the required number of players.
4. If the above situation should occur, coaches must notify Leisure Services in writing of re-scheduling request. The request must be made at least 72 hours in advance to the Athletic Supervisor. This 72 hours does not include weekends, holidays or other non-business hours. Time of notification should be no later than 5:00 p.m. on a regular business day.
5. Once a game has been approved for re-scheduling, the Athletic Supervisor along with the coaches involved will set the reschedule date, time and field. A coach has 24 hours to verify with parents. This process can only be repeated once if the original re-schedule date is not convenient with either team. The game must be played within 72 hours of the second request for re-schedule. This policy is exclusive of games that have been canceled due to inclement weather.
6. Head coaches who are unable to attend a particular game must inform assistant coaches to take over the team for that game. If either the head coach or assistant coach cannot attend, it is the responsibility of the head coach to contact a parent to take over the team. If a team does not receive any adult supervision, the game will

result in a forfeit. No game will be rescheduled due to coaches being absent.

## **DIVISION TITLES & TOURNAMENT PLAY**

In the Major and Junior Divisions the playing season will be divided into 2 halves, with a first half winner and a second half winner. All playoff games to determine winners of the first and second half shall be played within seven (7) days of the end of the half. Games will be scheduled by the Department of Leisure Services and the rescheduling policies contained herein shall apply.

In all baseball divisions, every team will participate in a post season single elimination tournament. First, second, and third place teams at the conclusion of regular season play will receive trophies at the annual awards ceremony. Tournament champions will also receive some type of recognition.

In the event of a tie for 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place, the following tie breaker system will be in effect:

Step 1: Head to head competition.

Step 2: Fewest number of runs yielded in the head to head competition.

Step 3: Fewest number of runs allowed for the entire season.

Note: Once a tie is broken, any subsequent ties will refer back to step 1 to break that tie.

The Vice President or his/her representative will settle all protests in tournament play at the time of protest.

All run rules, slaughter rules, and time limits will apply for tournament games except the championship game.

In the case of inclement weather during the game, the umpire may call it. Such game will be rescheduled as quickly as possible, subject only to field availability.

## **ADDITIONAL RULES PERTAINING TO T-BALL**

### **FIELD LAYOUT**

1. When lining the fields, a line shall be drawn 12 feet in front of each base directly in front of the bases, from foul line. All fielders must stay on or behind this line until the ball is hit.
2. Pitcher must remain in the designated area until the ball

is hit. When drawing the pitchers box, the back shall be closed 12 feet from the front line.

3. All balls hit foul from the base lines are foul as in regulation baseball.
  - a. An additional foul line is drawn fifteen (15) feet completely around home plate. Any ball hit past this point and within the normal foul line, whether on the ground or in the air, constitutes a fair ball. A hit ball failing to cross this line is foul.
4. Home run and ground rule double line is drawn one hundred (100) feet from home plate. All defensive players must be within this line.
  - a. Home Run: Any ball hit completely past the 100' line on the fly, regardless if touched by a fielder or not.
  - b. Ground rule double: Any ball hit past the 100' line on the ground, regardless if touched by a fielder or not. The batter and all base runners advance two bases.
  - c. If during play a ball is thrown beyond the 100' line, the ball is declared out of play and treated as regulation baseball rule.
5. No defensive player shall from any position deliberately roll the ball underhanded to another defensive player to achieve an out.

**PENALTY:** The runner will be declared safe.

## PLAYERS

1. Ten players in the line-up. There shall be no catcher. There must be five (5) players positioned in the outfield. All outfielders must be a minimum of ten (10) feet behind each base and/or base path.

**PENALTY:** Warning from the umpire to the manager. A second warning in any one game will result in the ejection of the manager from the game.

## LENGTH OF GAMES

1. A complete game shall consist of four innings unless the home team is winning after three and half innings. Time limit on games is 1 1/4 hours.
2. In case of bad weather causing game termination three full or two and a half innings, if the home team is winning, shall constitute a complete game. If not, the entire game will be rescheduled.

## GAME REGULATIONS

1. Ball must be hit from the batting tee.
  - a. Batter must be in the batters box with both feet approximately parallel to closest edge of home plate.
  - b. Any batter, throwing a bat unintentionally may automatically be called out after one warning.
2. Foul Balls.
  - a. When batter is lining up, bat to ball contact is allowed with no penalty unless the ball leaves the tee, in which case, it will be considered a foul ball.
3. Strike Out: As in regular baseball, a batter may strike out when he has any combination of two foul balls or two misses and he misses the ball on the third swing.
4. Hits are as in regulation baseball.
5. Batting coach shall remain outside the 15' circle while the ball is in play.
6. The tee must be set at approximately waist level for each individual batter.

**Penalty:** The ball will be declared dead if the batter reaches safely and a strike will be added to the count. If a defensive out is recorded, the play will stand. The second offense will result in the batter declared immediately out and the ball dead. Continued violations may result in the manager being ejected and /or suspended.

7. Running Bases.
  - a. No stealing bases.
  - b. No lead-off from bases until the ball is hit. If the runner leaves early, the umpire will call the runner out. If the ball is hit, the ball is dead. No pitch is declared.
  - c. Batter/runner may advance no more than one additional base at his own risk on any overthrow into foul territory. When a defensive player retrieves a ball thrown into foul territory and attempts to make a play on any runner, this ball will be considered back in play.
  - d. Play is stopped when any defensive player tags any base while in possession of the ball. The ball is considered dead. Runners may advance only if previously committed to do so prior to a defensive player tagging a base at their own risk.
8. Play is resumed if a fielder attempts to make a play on a

runner.

9. The plate umpire or the batting coach will remove the tee when a runner is advancing to home plate if possible.
10. The ball will be put back into play when the next batter hits the ball.
11. The umpire will decide when the ball is dead. The infield-fly rule will not be used.
  - a. The base runner will not be declared out if hit by a batted ball while in contact with a base. However, the ball will be declared dead.
  - b. The dead-ball appeal will be made by the manager or coach when the ball is declared dead. No play is necessary.

### **ADDITIONAL RULES PERTAINING TO FARM DIVISION**

An injury resistant baseball will be used for this division. The manager, coach or designated person will serve as the designated pitcher. They cannot field the position.

1. Each batter will receive seven pitches, four by an opposing team player, then three by a designated pitcher. If batter has not hit the ball fairly, or struck out on any three pitches at the conclusion of the allotted seven pitches, batter will be declared out. There will be strike out on three pitches from opposing player. Batter can also strike out by seinging and missing the ball on strike three when designated pitcher is pitching.
2. A defensive player shall stand within 5 feet of the pitching rubber, but cannot be in front of the pitching rubber.
3. D.P. is permitted to vocally coach the batter before each pitch. D.P. cannot coach base runners at any time to avoid any delay of game.
4. D.P. must make all reasonable attempts to prevent their interference in a play or with a hit ball. The D.P. will go into foul territory if possible or squat down.
5. If D.P. is hit with batted ball, ball is declared dead, no pitch will count towards batter and batter will bat again.
6. D.P. may be changed once during an inning unless injured.
7. There will be no walks.

8. The defensive catcher will supply a reasonable target for D.P.
9. Bunting is allowed.
10. Batter/runner may advance no more than one additional base at his own risk on any overthrow into foul territory. When a defensive player retrieves a ball thrown into foul territory and attempts to make a play on any runner, this ball will be considered back in play and runners can advance additional bases.

There will be a 10 man defensive team consisting of the standard infield and four outfielders. No defensive man (other than the catcher) can stand in front of the pitcher prior to the pitch of the ball. All outfielders will be positioned a minimum of ten feet behind each base and/or base path.

**PENALTY:** Warning by the umpire to the Manager. A second warning in any one game will result in the ejection of the manager from the game.

12 run slaughter rule applies after the losing team has batted four times.

The umpire shall call time to cease play.

The base runner cannot leave the base before the ball is hit. If the runner leaves early, he shall be called out, and no pitch will be declared.

The base runner will not be declared out if hit by a batted ball while in contact with a base. However, the ball will be declared dead.

The manager or coach will make the dead-ball appeal when the ball is declared dead. No play necessary.

The infield-fly rule will not be used.

## **ADDITIONAL RULES PERTAINING TO MINOR LEAGUES**

Adult coaches are allowed to coach first and third.

There shall be no balks in the minor division.

No runner may score from third base to home unless:

1. Forced by a hit ball
2. Advanced by hit ball
3. There is pick-off play by a player at any base. The pick-off play must include a thrown ball by the pitcher.

**NOTE:** A wild throw to the pitcher from the catcher or an

error by the pitcher receiving a throw by the catcher does NOT allow a runner to advance from third base. It is solely the judgement of the umpire to determine if the catcher's intent was to throw to the pitcher or another player. A fourth outfielder (10 players on the field) will be used. All outfielders must be positioned a minimum of 15 feet behind a base and/or base line at the time pitch is thrown.

## **ALL STAR TEAMS**

All star teams participating in District 10 play will be selected by the winning coach in each division with the approval of the League President and the Department of Leisure Services.

## **UMPIRES**

Umpires shall have complete authority over the game, players, coaches and spectators. They may expel any player, coach, or spectator for indecent language, unsportsmanlike conduct, or any infraction of rules. Refusal of expelled player, coach, or spectator to leave the playing area within 2 minutes will constitute a forfeit. Note: League administrators and City Athletic Department personnel WILL NOT interpret any rule from the time a game begins, until the time it ends. They may, however, enforce any and all rules regarding conduct of coaches, players and parents contained herein.

Officials will wear distinctive uniform and carry the City rulebook.

Umpires will be responsible for inspecting playing field surface irregularities and sideline hazards. Umpires will also check player's equipment and uniforms to determine if they are acceptable.

Umpires are instructed to discuss matter in question ONLY with the Head Coach, NOT an assistant or a League Administrator (only if requested by the umpire).

One umpire will be allowed to officiate T-Ball and Farm games. In T-Ball division, parents may umpire games under certain circumstances. Both coaches must agree.

Coaches shall not demand the removal or the scheduling of a particular umpire.

Umpires shall not have the authority to wave or supercede any Little League or Sunrise safety rule without written consent of the Department of Leisure Services.

Umpires are responsible to advise both coaches when a protest has been lodged. All protests must be immediately noted on the game sheet and signed by the game official(s) and coaches of both teams.

## **FACILITY USAGE**

1. No soft toss, pepper games, or hitting balls against fences.
2. Teams are to stay off infields when field maintenance staff is preparing ball fields.
3. Remove all litter from dugouts and dispose of properly at the conclusion of games or practices.
4. Field maintenance to be performed by authorized city staff only.
5. Field lights will be turned off at 9:45 p.m. except during league games.
6. Do not block emergency access areas, maintenance drive, or park in posted zones.
7. Facility attendants may close fields to practice or games due to weather or safety factors. Whenever possible, field maintenance staff or facility attendants will make determinations on field conditions at least one and one-half hours prior to scheduled game times or practice times. Call the Sports Hot Line (572-2255) for status on fields.
8. Fields are closed when park or ball field gates are locked. Do not enter fields when gates are locked. Contact the facility attendant for field status.
9. During spring break, permits for field use will not be issued. Fields will be available on a day-to-day basis.
10. Failure to comply with requests of facility attendants or field maintenance staff may result in loss of field privileges.

## **INSURANCE**

As part of your registration, the City of Sunrise provides a secondary medical insurance plan for all youth sport participants. In event of injury, participant's parent or guardian should notify their coach first, in order to fill out the proper paperwork. If the coach is not available, please contact the

Leisure Services office. If medical attention is needed, all participants must first file with their primary insurance carrier. This plan is secondary in nature only.

## **PRACTICES**

Practice schedules will be set by the Leisure Services Department and shall be strictly adhered to.

There shall be no more than three (3) mandatory practices per week prior to the season. There shall be no more than one (1) mandatory practice per week during the season.

## **GENERAL**

No players, Coach, League Administrator, Spectator, Parent, Manager, or Umpire shall be permitted to use tobacco products while participating in any game or practice on or off the field.

All managers and coaches will receive a copy of the Sunrise League Rules.

Players are not guaranteed a request for a manager or coach when signing up their child.

Names may not be printed on the back of player's shirts.

Prior to the start of the season, all managers, coaches, commissioners, and chief umpires must meet in a general meeting of questions and answers pertaining to the overall baseball program.

Persons under the influence of alcohol/drugs, or the use of alcohol/drugs in any form ,by players or adults, is not permitted during games or practices.

All coaches are required to become NYSCA certified by the end of the 2008 baseball season.

Names of the Division Commissioners, President, Vice-President, and Baseball Advisory Committee will be given to all managers and coaches.

Home team dugout is first base side.

One manager and two coaches will be recognized by the City of Sunrise Department of Leisure Services.

One manager, two coaches and one team parent are

allowed to occupy dugout or field. During the game only base coaches in all divisions and one on deck batter in Junior, and Senior divisions are allowed outside dugouts.

All coaches must wear City issued coaches shirts during all games.

In T-Ball, Farm, and Minor Division chatter is to be limited to players only. Chatter is strictly prohibited by parents or coaches who attempt to distract opposing players in any way.

No heckling of any player, coaches, umpires, manager shall be permitted in any division.

All youth athletic volunteers that have cleared their criminal background checks are required to wear a photo identification badge when working with the children enrolled in a City of Sunrise youth athletic program.

Volunteers not displaying the identification badge will not be permitted to remain on the field/court with the children. City staff will be strictly enforcing this rule. Head coaches are asked to assist in this process by informing volunteers of the procedures necessary to work with children in youth athletic programs.

Teams without a coach with a City-issued ID card on game days can result in forfeiture of a game. Games forfeited due to this rule cannot be protested.

There will be no parent vs. players or coaches vs. coaches games played without the prior approval of the Athletic Supervisor.

Divisions with six (6) or more teams will be awarded placement trophies for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers. Divisions with five (5) or fewer teams will be awarded placement trophies for 1st and 2nd place finishers only. All other teams will be awarded participation trophies only.

All teams must adhere to the baseball picture schedule. NO exceptions allowed.

In case of inclement weather, coaches (only) may contact the sports information line approximately 1 1/2 hours prior to game time - 572-BALL (572-2255).

All rules contained herein are subject to interpretation and/or change, upon the recommendation of the Baseball Advisory Committee and with the approval of the Department of Leisure Services.

Coaches will observe and enforce the lightening prediction system policies. The system will emit 1 15-second horn blast to warn of a potential lightening strike. Participants and patrons must leave the field and either find shelter in a building or wait in their vehicles until the all-clear signal (3 short horn blasts) is heard.

### **INSTRUCTIONAL T-BALL COMMISSIONER**

Larry Sofield - (954) 588-1932

### **6-YEAR T-BALL COMMISSIONER**

Mike Cuminale - (305) 216-7922

### **7-YEAR T-BALL COMMISSIONER**

John Kuhn - (954) 394-6181

### **FARM COMMISSIONER**

Mark Perry - (954) 748-8196

### **MINOR COMMISSIONERS**

AMERICAN- Andre Barraco - (954) 732-8014

NATIONAL- Jeff Springer- (954) 747-6968

### **MAJOR COMMISSIONER**

Patrick Vadala- (954) 747-9707

### **JUNIOR COMMISSIONER**

Mike Muehlenfeld - (954) 845-8919

### **SENIOR COMMISSIONER**

Mike Muehlenfeld- (954) 845-8919

### **BASEBALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ATHLETIC SUPERVISOR /  
SUNRISE LITTLE LEAGUE PRESIDENT**  
Scott Meier

**RECREATION LEADER /  
SUNRISE LITTLE LEAGUE VICE PRESIDENT**  
Lauren Gauna

My signature below indicates that I have read and understand the 2008 Baseball Rules and as a Sunrise Youth Sports Coach, I will teach them to my players and orientated when necessary the parents of my team.

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Signature of Coach and/or Manager