

CENTRALIA RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Pinto "Coach Pitch" League Rules

Mission Statement

Centralia Recreation Department Mission Statement:

It is the mission of the Centralia Recreation Department to work in partnership with our community in order to provide instruction in the fundamentals of youth and adult sports. The Centralia Recreation Department's main purpose is to provide both children and adults with an opportunity to play, learn, and have fun in athletics without concern or regard to physical ability, race, religion, or financial situation.

General Rules Applying to All Leagues

Coaches:

1. The coach of each team is responsible for the conduct of his/her team, fans, and players.
2. Coaches must notify all players of upcoming practices and games. Coaches should make every attempt to maintain the participation of all players on the team. If unable to contact a player, or if a player discontinues participation in the program Centralia Recreation Complex Assistant Director should be notified. Any coach who does not encourage the participation of all players will be considered for disciplinary action.
3. It is the coach's responsibility to maintain the equipment and promptly return it in good condition at the end of the season.
4. Coaches will be responsible for making sure dugouts are picked-up and kept trash free. Please make sure that dugouts are kept clean. Coaches who do not insure their dugouts are cleaned could face a city ordinance fine for littering.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE:

The objective of the Centralia Recreation Department's Youth League is to provide instruction in the fundamentals of baseball/softball as well as giving the participants an opportunity to play games. The Centralia Recreation Department would hope that the coaches and parents would please keep in mind that the main objective here is not who wins or loses, but that the boys/girls have the opportunity to play, learn and most of all have fun. Therefore, the Centralia Recreation Department would like to ask you to please refrain from questioning the calls of the officials in an ungentlemanly manner. You must remember that it is a learning experience for the officials as well, so please make it as easy as possible for them. We here at the Centralia Recreation Department will try to help them become as proficient as possible at their job. We want the league to operate as efficiently as possible and again most importantly, to be fun for the participants.

Sec. 5 A team is only allowed to score five (5) runs per inning. Once the team scores its fifth run their turn at bat is over. Each half inning consists of 5 runs scored or 3 outs, whichever comes first.

The home team is listed on the Right on the schedule and shall occupy the Bird base dugout

Sec. 6 If additional players arrive after the start of the game, said players shall immediately be inserted into the lineup after the last originally listed player. No penalty shall be enforced for starting or finishing a game with less than ten (10) players.

Sec. 7 All teams shall play ten players on defense, if available with 4 players playing the outfield by being in the grass area. No moving outfielders onto the infield so that you have a wall of 8 infielders and no outfielders.

Sec. 8 **Metal Cleats are prohibited! Players may not wear metal or screw-in cleats of any kind. Players cannot participate in their bare feet or with open-toed shoes.**

Sec. 9 All batters and runners shall wear a batter's helmet while at bat, on base, or on deck, waiting to bat. If a runner intentionally removes his or her helmet while running around the bases, it will be an automatic out.

Sec. 10 While tagging 1st base runners must tag the orange side while fielders tag the white side.

Sec. 11 Free substitution on defense will be allowed.

Sec. 12 Every player present for the game will be placed in the batting order, but only 10 players will take the field during each inning.

Sec. 13 No shifts on the infield will be allowed, (ex: 2nd baseman playing on the shortstop side of 2nd base etc.) Infielders are to play in their positions as intended. The catcher is to field all balls thrown to home plate.

Rule 3: Regulation Game

A. A regulation game shall consist of 7 innings, or one (1) hour, thirty (30) minutes time limit.

B. Each player shall play a minimum of 2 defensive innings.

- D. A Base runner must return to the base he or she just left if he or she is not more than half way to the next base when the ball is within the pitcher's circle. Please note that the pitcher does not have to have the ball in his or her possession in order for this rule to be enforced. If the pitcher is within the pitcher's circle and the ball is thrown but not caught by the pitcher, the ball is dead and the runners may not advance.
- a. Coach's note: DO NOT automatically send your runners back to the preceding base, let the umpires move the runner back according to his/her judgement and THIS IS THE UMPIRES CALL. DO NOT PROTEST THE UMPIRES DECISION.
- E. The base distance shall be 60 feet
- F. Base runners must attempt to avoid the tag of a fielder who has the ball waiting to tag the runner out. No "**BOWLING OVER**" players. If the umpire rules the contact was flagrant, the runner will be declared OUT

Rule 5: Batting

- a. The batter gets 7 pitches, or 5 strikes whichever comes first. If the batter fouls the seventh pitch, he is not out.
- b. There shall be no walks.
- c. The batter must take a full swing. If he or she bunts or chops the ball, it will be an out. The batter shall not bunt or easily swing to "tap" the ball into fair territory.
- d. A batted ball, which strikes the coach pitcher, shall be declared a dead ball by the umpire, and shall not count as one of the allowed 7 pitches. No runners may advance.
- e. The umpire will assist the catcher behind home plate.
- f. The pitcher must remain in the pitcher's circle behind the coach pitcher until the ball is hit.
- g. The infield fly rule will not be used.
- h. Any batter whom "throws" a bat with reckless abandon shall first be warned by the umpire. After one warning, said player shall be declared out immediately when he or she throws a bat. Any player who throws a bat which

RULE 7: UMPIRES

Sec. 1 The umpires have complete authority of the game.

Only the head coach may discuss disagreements with the umpire. There can be no discussion of ball/strike or safe/out (judgment) call, the resulting penalty could be an ejection from the game.

Sec. 2 *DO NOT ARGUE* judgment calls - discuss rule book calls in a gentlemanly fashion. The umpire is in charge of the game. You must realize the game is for the young people and you are setting an example to be looked up to.

RULE 7: CONDUCT

Sec. 1 All that is dishonorable, unsportsmanlike and ungentlemanly is particularly and expressly condemned. A coach, player, or team guilty of such action shall be removed from the game at the discretion of the umpire. Further action may be taken by the Recreation Director or his appointed representative.

Sec. 2 Smoking or the use of foul or profane language by coaches will **NOT be tolerated during preliminary practice or during the progress of the game. **ABSOLUTELY NO SMOKING** in or around the field and dug outs.**

Sec. 3 CENTRALIA RECREATION DEPARTMENT BOARD POLICY STATES: ANYONE (players, coaches, parents, fans, etc.) striking/threatening an official in any sport or activity sponsored by the Recreation Department will be suspended from play and/or all facilities of the Recreation Department for a minimum period of one year.

Sec. 4 Any fan/player/coach whose conduct is dishonorable, unsportsmanlike or ungentlemanly may be removed from the vicinity of the field of play and/or the spectator area. The fan/player/coach may also be suspended.

Sec. 5 Any player throwing equipment or any object in anger shall be ejected from the game immediately and will be suspended for the equivalent of one game.

Sec. 6 EACH TEAM IS REQUIRED TO SHOW GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AT ALL TIMES

Sec. 7 Each team is required to clean up their area after a game.

Sec. 8 Abide by all other posted rules, regulations and policies.

RULE 10: SUSPENSION

Sec. 1 Any player, manager, or coach who strikes or shoves an umpire shall be automatically suspended and shall be disbarred from the Centralia Recreation Department Youth Baseball League.

Sec. 2 When a manager, coach or player is expelled from a game, they shall be suspended the remainder of said game and at least the next game or play-off game. All coaches who are suspended must speak with the program coordinator before returning to play.

RULE 11: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, DRUGS AND TOBACCO

Sec. 1 *NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES* are allowed on the playing area or in the dugouts. If any player, coach, or manager violates this rule the player(s) team will forfeit that game. **NOTE: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN CITY PARKS.**

RULE 12: CENTRALIA RECREATION DEPARTMENT REFUND POLICY

1. Full refunds are given **ONLY** for fully cancelled leagues or activities.
2. Refunds are granted up to the start of a program only with a written medical excuse stating the specific reason the person is unable to participate.
3. **NO REFUNDS** are granted after teams are formed w/o medical excuse.
4. There will be **NO** partial or pro-rated refunds granted.
5. **NO REFUNDS** granted for registrations of \$10 or less.
6. **All refunds must go through the City of Centralia process. There are no cash refunds. All refunds are by city check and mailed to the address on the registration form.**

ROOT FOR YOUR TEAM AS HARD AS YOU WISH BUT CONDUCT YOURSELF UNDER THE HIGHEST PRINCIPLES OF SPORTSMANSHIP

***GOOD COACHES COACH,
AND
LET UMPIRES UMPIRE***