

Second Grade Spring Baseball

The goal of the second-grade baseball program is to gradually introduce kids to playing an actual game. The beginning of the season should have more coach involvement during the game and progress towards players being independent of coach involvement during games. Coaches should try to keep the game moving along and keep players engaged/focused throughout. Coaches may be on the field to help/instruct players on what to do (e.g., asking players in advance where the ball should be thrown keeps the kids engaged).

Early season expectations

- Coaches will stand on the mound with pitchers to help provide instruction, and after 4 balls coaches will take over and pitch to the batter. If a player strikes out a batter, they are out and their turn at bat will be over.
- Players should not strike out when coaches pitch to them, however as the season progresses, they should start to play by the rules and players who attempt to swing will be called out after three swinging strikes.

End of season expectations (last two or three weeks of season)

- Players will pitch without the help of a coach pitching. Coaches can still be in the field to coach.
- Games will follow the “Friendship Summer League” rules, where it will be a true game with a 5 run inning rule or once through the entire lineup (whichever comes first). [Link to Friendship League Rules.](#)
- *End of season expectation* - Four balls is a walk, 3 strikes is an out, catcher does not need to catch a 3rd strike.

Medfield – 2nd Grade Spring Baseball Rules

1. 9 players in the field at a time, however teams may ‘borrow’ players from an opponent as an extra outfielder or two.
2. Regulation baseball will be used.
3. No player should sit on the bench for more than one inning consecutively. During the season, all players should play approximately the same number of innings in the field.
4. Players may be freely rotated in and out defensively by inning. (A player starting an inning in the field shall not be removed during the inning unless an injury occurs or by request of parent.)
5. Sessions will be split between skills and games, approximately 45 minutes each. It is suggested that for the skills component, the two teams on the field create ‘stations’ to rotate players through.
6. Weeknight games will start with a 30 minute practice/warmup, followed by a two or three inning game. Weeknights should end approximately 90 minutes after start time.
7. All players bat in continuous order, regardless of their status in the field. All players must bat each inning. Bases are cleared after three outs (see notes above for End of Season on adjusting this to a ‘real game’.)
8. Stealing is not permitted, advancing on pass balls are not permitted.

9. A runner may advance on an overthrow on a play **in the field** (only 1 base). This rule is not to be abused by coaches (e.g., sending kids on dropped balls at first, etc.). Coaches will keep each other in check.
10. No bunting, no infield fly rule, and no balks.
11. A player may only pitch 6 outs per game or 2 innings. A pitcher may not return to the pitching position in a game once he has been removed from the pitching position.
12. Batters are encouraged to swing. Coach/Umpires strike zones may vary, but should generally adhere to over the plate between the shoulders and the high ankles.
13. There are no standings/playoffs. Each 'game' will end with the team race around the bases.
14. A player hit by a pitch while at bat will be allowed to continue the at bat if they so choose (coaches discretion). End of season expectation is that they take their base.
15. Visitors bat first and take the dugout on the 3rd base side.
16. Pitchers can pitch from 40' away (6' in front of the rubber).
17. Players should be instructed not to throw bats or helmets at any time.
18. There is NO on deck batters. Players should NOT have a bat in their hand unless they are at bat (even if they are in the on deck batting area, they can NOT have a bat). This is a Little League rule and is enforced for safety reasons.
19. Batting helmets with cages must be worn at bat, players waiting to bat, and on the bases.
20. Teams will supply a ball each for the game. Coaches will be the umpires calling balls and strikes. An additional coach should stand behind the catcher to throw the ball back to speed up the game.
21. 1st and 3rd base coaches should only be coached by adults. No kids may act as base coaches.
22. All catchers are required to wear a plastic cup/athletic supporter.
23. All catchers must wear equipment including a face mask in practice, games, or warm ups.

Last Approved: Spring 2023