



2010

Sanford Baseball By Laws

Sanford S.P.O.R.T.S

Supportive Parents of Recreation Team Sports

CITY OF SANFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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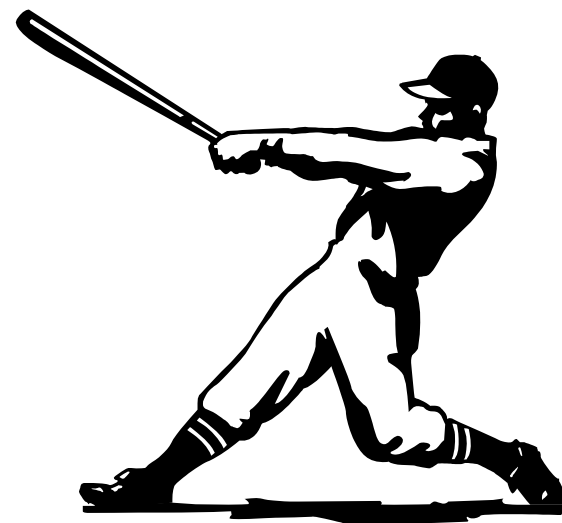
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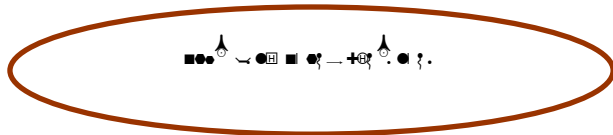
Herbert "Whitey" Eckstein
Youth Sports Complex
at Chase Park

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players are eligible for the all-stars and place them on a ballot.

- D. Each head coach will be asked to nominate players for their league's all-star team and the League President will certify that the players are eligible for the all-stars and place them on a ballot.
- E. Each team will have one vote. The Sanford Recreation Department Supervisor most familiar with the players in the leagues will also have a vote, which will be used to break any ties.



Gary Taylor	President
John Polk	Vice President
Frank Frana	Treasurer
Greg Soto	Secretary

Board Members

Bill Sutton	John Benevolent
James Gardner	



I. Organization Name

A) The name of this organization shall be Sanford S.P.O.R.T.S [Supportive Parents of Recreation Team Sports]. B) The organization may operate under the names Sanford Babe Ruth Baseball and Sanford Youth Baseball Association.

II. Membership

A) Membership is open to all parents, coaches and supporters of the youth baseball program of the City of Sanford Recreation Department.

Dues

B) The Board of Directors will establish dues.



III. Meetings

- A. The President will call meetings of the Board of Directors.
- B. The President will call a meeting within one week of being requested to call a meeting by two or more members of Board of Directors.
- C. Under the current make up of seven board members, a quorum of four is required for a meeting. Prior to the election of two additional directors each year, the quorum shall be three
- D. An annual meeting will be held in September for the purpose of electing five members of the Board of Directors.
- E. Any member as of June 30 of that year is eligible to vote in election.
- F. Quorum for the annual meeting is 10 eligible members.

IV. Board of Directors

The organization shall have five directors elected to one-year terms at the annual meeting. The Board will elect two additional directors, trying as much as possible to see that all age groups are represented on the board. The directors will elect a president, vice president, and secretary and treasurer.

reduced to eight players by an ejection, that spot will be an automatic out.

XIII. Tie-Breaker

- A. The player who made the final out of the previous inning is placed on second base to start the extra inning.
- B. Only one tie-breaker will be used in regular season games. In playoff games, tie-breakers will continue until there is a winner.

XIV. Play-Offs

All post-season playoff games will be played under local rules from the regular season.

XIII. All-Star Selections

- A. The Sanford Recreation Department shall be responsible for selecting all-star coaches. All-Star coaches must have completed Babe Ruth Baseball coaches' certification at least two weeks prior to the first game.
- B. The head all-star coach of any league has the option of having no less than 12, and no more than 15, players on the team.
- C. Each head coach will be asked to nominate players for their league's all-star team and the League President will certify that the

4. Every player should play two innings on defense and get one at bat in every game. Any player who does not must play the first three innings of the next game.
5. Teams will bat 10 players. However, if one team has less than 10 players, use of an EH by the other team is optional.
6. All male players must wear a protective cup.
7. A starter who is removed from the batting order may re-enter the game one time. A substitute who is removed may not re-enter the game.
8. Use of a runner for the catcher is optional. This is at the head coach's discretion and the courtesy runner must be a player not in the lineup. If there are no players on the bench, it must be the person who made the last out. If it is the first inning and there has not been an out, the courtesy runner will be the last player in the batting order.
9. If an injury occurs and all substitutes have been used, a player will be allowed to re-enter the game.
10. A game may start or continue with as few as eight players. The 9th spot, if vacant, is an automatic out. If a team is reduced to eight players by injury that spot in the order is skipped. If a team is

V. Coaches

All managers, coaches must undergo the approval process of the City of Sanford, including background checks. Any coach who has not been approved by the city, or any parent who is asked to help with a team, can only do so if an approved manager and/or coach is also present.

- A. A team may not hold a sanctioned practice if there is not a manager and/or coach present who have been approved by the City of Sanford.
- B. Officials of the Recreation Department of the City of Sanford will investigate any complaints against managers and/or coaches and will take disciplinary action, up to and including removal, based on the outcome of that investigation.
- C. The board may submit a recommendation concerning appointment, discipline or dismissal of any coach or manager, but the Director of the Recreation Department will have the final say.

VI. Players

- A. Except as noted in this bylaw, player eligibility in any league of Sanford Babe Ruth Baseball will comply with those of Babe Ruth Baseball and Babe Ruth Baseball Cal Ripken Division.

1. A parent or guardian may petition the board to allow a player to play down in a league for which they have exceeded the age limit by one year. A player petitioning to play down should attend tryouts in both leagues.
- B. Petition should be submitted prior to the first player draft for either league.
- C. Parent/guardian must give a detailed justification for the exemption and may be asked to attend a board meeting at which the exemption will be discussed.
- D. Under our current makeup of seven board members, at least five must vote in favor to allow an exemption.
- E. Once an exemption is granted, there are no restrictions on that player's participation in local league play. They may play every position, including pitcher.
- F. A player playing down is not eligible for the league's all-star team.
- G. If in the first three weeks of the season, it is obvious that a player is too skilled to be playing down, the board may rescind its decision. Under the current makeup of seven board members, at least five must vote to rescind the decision.
- H. A parent or guardian may petition the board to allow a player to play up in a league for

12. The balk rule will not be enforced during the first round of games of the season. No runner may be put on a play that would have been called a balk.
 13. During the next round of games, one balk warning per pitcher will be given before enforcement. No runner may be put out on a play that would have been called a balk.
 14. After the second round of games, no balk warnings will be given.
 15. Every player should play two innings in the field and get one at bat in every game that goes at least five innings. Any player, who does not, must start the next game and play the first three innings in the field.
- F. Junior Ages 13-15
1. Games are seven innings with a time limit of 2 hours, 15 minutes.
 2. If a game is tied at the completion of seven innings or once the time limit has expired, the approved tie-breaker will be used in an attempt to break the tie.
 3. The 10-run rule will be invoked when one team has a 10-run rule after four innings or 3 ½ innings if the home team is winning. The slaughter rule will be invoked when a team is leading by 15 runs after three full innings.

7. Courtesy runners are allowed if a runner is injured on base or if a batter is hit by a pitch. This is at the head coach's discretion and the courtesy runner should be a player not in the lineup. If there are no players on the bench, it must be the person who made the last out. If it is the first inning and there has not been an out, the courtesy runner will be the last player in the batting order.
8. Use of a runner for the catcher is optional. This is at the head coach's discretion and the courtesy runner must be a player not in the lineup. If there are no players on the bench, it must be the person who made the last out. If it is the first inning and there has not been an out, the courtesy runner will be the last player in the batting order.
9. Any pitcher who is removed from the mound may return one time, even if they were removed on the coach's second trip to the mound.
10. A pitcher who hits three batters in the same inning must be removed, but can return to the mound in a later inning. Such pitcher who returns shall be removed immediately if he hits a fourth batter.
11. Head-first sliding is allowed although coaches should discourage head-first sliding at home plate.

which they have not yet reached the minimum age by one year.

- I. Petition should be submitted prior to the first player draft for either league.
- J. Parent/guardian should submit justification for the exemption, including a statement from his previous coach(es) when possible.
- K. Under current makeup of seven board members, at least five must vote in favor to allow an exemption.
- L. Once an exemption is granted, it will not be reversed for the current playing year.

VII. Teams

Players selected for a team in the Rookie, Minor, Major or Junior leagues will remain on that team during their eligibility in that league. If the manager of the team is not returning, a new manager will inherit the team's returning players.



- A. Parent or Guardian, at the time of registration, may request that a player should submit a short note explaining the request. No move will be approved if it has been determined that a coach has recruited that player away from a team.
- B. A coach may petition the board to drop a player from his roster for cause, with board approval, that player will go through player placement.
- C. A manager moving up to the next league may lock players from his old team who are moving up to the same league. He will also take over the returning players on the league he takes over. A manager may be locked.

VIII. Player Placement

Unless they have submitted a reason, such as illness or school obligation, players who do not attend player placement can not be picked in draft ahead of any players who attended player placement. Their assignment to teams will be by lot. Understanding this will take a year or two to implement; the board will make every effort to equalize the makeup by league age of each team in any league.



pitcher who returns shall be removed immediately if he hits a 4th batter.

- E. Major Ages 11-12
 1. The league be under the 50/70 rules.
 2. Games will be six innings with a time limit of 2 hours. If a game is tied at the completion of six innings or once the time limit has expired, the approved tie-breaker will be used in an attempt to break the tie.
 3. The 10-run rule will be invoked when one team has a 10-run lead after four innings or 3 ½ innings if the home team is winning. The slaughter rule will be invoked when a team is leading by 15 runs after three full innings.
 4. A team may start play with 8 players but the 9th batter will be an automatic out. A 9th player can be added to the lineup at the point he arrives at the game. Play can not continue with less than 8 players.
 5. A starter or substitute who is removed from the batting order may re-enter the game one time in the same position in the batting order.
 6. Each team will be permitted nine players in the field and has the option of using a 10th batter, designated as the Extra Hitter (EH).

and the courtesy runner must be the person who made the last out. If it is the first inning and there has not been an out, the courtesy runner will be the last player in the batting order.

12. If a player becomes sick or injured, his place in the batting order will be skipped without penalty. Once the player is removed from the lineup, he may not return.
13. If a player is ejected from the game, his spot in the lineup will become an out.
14. Head-first sliding is allowed although coaches should discourage head-first sliding at home plate.
15. Runners must attempt to slide or otherwise avoid a fielder. The penalty is an out and the player may be ejected if the umpire deems the violation is flagrant. If a runner has to slide or take action to avoid a fielder who is standing in front of a base without the ball, the umpire shall award the base to the runner on obstruction.
16. Any pitcher who is removed from the mound may return one time, even if they were removed on the coach's second trip to the mound.
17. A pitcher who hits 3 batters in the same inning must be removed, but may return to the mound in a later inning. Such

- A. Prior to the draft, managers will be told any limitation on the number of players of a particular age group that they can draft. The president of our organization, or his representative, will oversee each league's draft. In the event that the President is a coach or manager in the league, the vice president, or his representative, will oversee the draft in that league.
- B. Teams will draw their draft order by lot. Order of draft will reverse each round.
- C. Each team will draft in the first round if they have at least one vacancy. After that, teams will draft in future rounds according to the number of vacancies they have on their roster.
- D. Trades will be allowed at the conclusion of the draft.
- E. Players will be assigned to tee-ball teams.

IX. Rules

Except as noted in the Local Rules section of the bylaws, all leagues of this organization will play under the rules found in the Babe Ruth Baseball Rulebook.

- A. When considering time limits, the next inning begins the instant the previous inning ends.

- B. Forfeit time is 15 minutes after the scheduled starting time.

X. Protests

- A. The President shall appoint a protest committee for each league in which protests are allowed. The committee will consist of at least three, and no more than five members of which at least one shall be a Board Member. A Board Member shall not serve on the protest committee of a league in which he coaches or manages.
- B. Protests must be filed in accordance with the Baseball Rules and then presented in writing to the Board President within 48 hours (not including Sundays).
- C. Exceptions to the on-field notification of a protest include protests involving illegal pitchers, illegal players and game ending plays. They must be presented to the Board President in writing within 48 hours from the end of the game (not including Sundays).
- D. Protests may be submitted to the City of Sanford Recreation Department within the limit to be forwarded to the Board President.
- E. The decision of the Protest Committee is final. If a protest involving a rule interpretation is upheld, the game will be

charge at the field to determine if there is time to play another inning. Otherwise, the tie will be played off at another date if at all possible.

- 6. If it becomes apparent that the game will not last five innings because of the time limit, the umpire shall declare a wide open inning if there is less than 20 minutes left in the time limit when an inning starts. That will be the final inning unless a tie exists. Any additional innings needed to decide the tie game will be wide open.
- 7. Teams will bat all players on the roster.
- 8. Teams will play 10 players in the field and the extra player must be used in the outfield.
- 9. Every player should play two innings in the field and get one at bat in every game that lasts at least 5 innings. Any player, who does not, must start the next game and play the first three innings in the field. In shorter games, every player must play one inning in the field.
- 10. Defensive changes, except for the pitcher, do not need to be reported to the scorekeeper.
- 11. A courtesy runner is allowed, if needed, anytime a batter is hit by a pitch or a runner is injured while on the bases. This is at the head coach's discretion

be awarded that base. If the fielder does not present the ball, it remains live, runners may advance and fielders may attempt to put them out.

16. All players on the roster shall be in batting order.
17. Teams may play up to 10 players on defense, with the extra player stationed in the outfield.
18. One defensive coach is allowed on the field and must be stationed in the outfield.
19. Every player must play at least 2 innings on defense.

D. Minor Ages 9-10

1. Time limit is 2 hours.
2. A regulation game is 2 hours. In the event of a tie, the approved tie-breaker will be used for 1 inning in an attempt to break the tie.
3. A team may start or continue play with as few as 8 players.
4. Once a lineup is turned in, late players must be added to the bottom of the batting order.
5. There is a run limit of 5 runs per inning, except for the 5th inning when unlimited scoring is allowed. If a 6th inning is needed, it will also be a wide open inning. If a tie still exists, it will be up to the Recreation Department Official in

replayed from the point of the protest unless the Protest Committee determines the play had no bearing on the outcome of the game. If a protest involving illegal pitcher or illegal player is upheld, the Protest Committee shall order the game forfeited to the protesting team.

XI. Schedules

The City of Sanford will be responsible for preparing league schedules and practices.

XII. Local Rules

A. All Leagues:

Except as noted here, all games are governed by the Babe Ruth Baseball Rule Book.

1. Home team occupies the first base dugout.
2. Forfeit time is 15 minutes after the scheduled starting time.
3. League age is determined by the player's age as of April 30th of that year.

B. Tee Ball Ages 4-6

1. Time limit is 1 hour, 15 minutes.
2. Games will last 3 to 4 innings.
3. The entire roster bats each inning.

4. Every player on the roster plays in the field. There is no catcher and players should rotate positions
5. A Team can start or continue play with as few as 6 players.
6. Up to 3 coaches or parents will be made to form one or more all-girls teams for the purpose of developing a girl's softball program. No girl will be required to play on an all girl team if their parents object.

C. Rookie Ages 7-8

1. Games can last no more than 6 innings with no time limit.
2. Home team will keep score.
3. Games can end in a tie.
4. Any point after 4 innings the losing head coach can decide to end the game early.
5. A team may start play or continue play with as few as 7 players.
6. Bunting, steals and advancing on passed balls are prohibited.
7. The infield fly rule is not enforced.
8. Players may advance only on base on an overthrow into foul territory. The ball is live and the runner may be thrown out. A runner who does not attempt to advance is not awarded a base unless the ball leaves the playing field.

9. Each half inning will last until 3 outs which are recorded or 5 runs scored.
10. The umpire shall operate the pitching machine. Protest and appeals are not allowed.
11. Any ball that hits the pitching machine shall be declared a dead ball and the batter shall be awarded a hit. Every runner advances one base.
12. Each team must have a catcher in gear and coaches are encouraged to station the catcher behind the batter.
13. A coach or parent for the offensive team will be stationed behind home plate to assist batters and help with ball retrieval.
14. Each batter will get 5 pitches or 3 swings. Foul balls and foul tips will count as strikes. If the batter fouls the 5th pitch, he will get 1 additional pitch, but if that pitch is fouled, the batter will be out. Players hit by a ball from the pitching machine are not awarded first base. Errant pitches shall be declared "No pitch" by the umpire.
15. After a ball is hit, and the batter has reached or passes first base, the fielder must present the ball by holding it in the air and showing it to the umpire, while on the infield (clay or grass), then the umpire can declare dead ball. Runners who are halfway or more to a base will