

THE CITY OF HORN LAKE OFFICIAL BASEBALL TOURNAMENT RULES AND GUIDELINES

*EXCEPTIONS: Any district, state, regional or World Series play will be governed by the sanctioning hosts' rulebook.

*****Entry into a tournament implies that you are aware of and can play during the specified dates and times that tournament games will be held. Please do not enter an event you can't commit to. CANCELLATIONS are not subject to refund within 14 days of an event. ***TEAMS ARE STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR ENTRY FEES IF THE ABOVE APPLIES*****

TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEES:

Online registration is not a guaranteed entry. To guarantee an entry payment must be received in advance. You may mail your payment to: City of Horn Lake Parks Department, 7460 Hwy 301 N, Horn Lake, MS 38637.

TEAM CHECK-IN:

Teams are required to check-in at least one(1) hour prior to first game. At check-in coaches must be prepared to present proof of team insurance. **A copy of insurance certificate must be presented prior to team's participation in any City of Horn Lake tournament.**

Coaches also are prepared to present your sanction # if participating in a USSSA event, and a copy of your teams roster.

Each team will receive three coaches' passes at check-in. **Coaches who lose, forget, or misplace their passes will be required to pay a non-refundable gate admission. Individuals who miss use or abuse these passes shall forfeit their pass for the rest of the tournament.**

It is the responsibility of the head coach to have the proof of age for each of his players in his possession at all times during the tournament. Proofs of age documents are the player's birth certificate or legally accepted proof of age. This must be able to be furnished in the event of one of the player's age being questioned.

TEAM REFUNDS:

Full refund if no games have been played. Two-third refund if one game is completed. One-third refund if two games have been completed. No refunds if three games have been completed.

GATE ADMISSIONS:

All City of Horn Lake tournaments will have an admission charge for persons 6 and older, excluding players and 3 coaches per team, children 5 and younger are free. Gate fees may vary depending on the event, i.e. state tournaments or World Series, etc.

There is absolutely no refund or rain checks on gate admissions at any time.

PETS:

No pets are allowed inside the baseball facility.

Tobacco:

Use of tobacco products are prohibited on all fields and in the dugouts during the games. Smoking is allowed outside the baseball facility in designated smoking areas.

FOOD/BEVERAGES/COOLERS:

No outside food or drinks are allowed to be brought into the ball fields. **ABSOLUTELY NO ALCHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED. NO EXCEPTIONS. ZERO TOLERANCE.** The city of Horn Lake provides water coolers with ice in each dugout, no cups are provided, so please ensure you have cups for your team. One team cooler will be allowed in, but no individual coolers.

PRE-GAME WARMUPS:

All team warm-ups are to be done in designated areas, or in the outfields of a ball field. No pregame warm-ups on any of the mounds or plate areas on the fields. No soft toss with real or plastic balls is allowed into any of the permanent fencing in the complex.

LINE-UP CARDS:

Each coach must prepare a minimum of 3 written copies of their line-up, including first name, last name, and jersey number, including all substitutes. Line-ups must be provided to the plate umpire and the opposing coach. A game shall not start until this is done. Teams are responsible for providing their own line-up cards.

GAME BALLS:

Game balls are not provided by the City of Horn Lake. Teams are responsible for furnishing their own game balls.

TOURNAMENT FORMAT CHANGES:

The City of Horn Lake reserves the right to alter, change, or abbreviate tournament formats, when necessary, to complete a tournament.

HOME TEAM:

This will be determined by a coin toss in all pool play games. seeded rounds, home team are determined by the higher seeded team, except the championship game, which once again will be determined by a coin toss. Home team is the official score book and must record the start time of each game. Exception: score keepers will be provided at all state, district, regional, or World Series events.

AWARDS:

Awards will vary per event. However, individual awards will be presented to all players of the top two finishing teams in each division. Team awards will vary.

GAME TIME LIMITS:

AGE DIVISION	TIME LIMIT	GAME LENGTH
5-8	1 HOUR 15 MINUTES	6 INNINGS
9 – 10	1 HOUR 35 MINUTES	6 INNINGS
11 – 12	1 HOUR 40 MINUTES	6 INNINGS
13 – 14	1 HOUR 45 MINUTES	7 INNINGS
15 – 16	2 HOURS	7 INNINGS
17 -18	2 HOURS 15 MINUTES	7 INNINGS

- THE CITY OF HORN LAKE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MODIFY GAME TIMES AS NEEDED

PITCHING LIMITS:

All tournament pitching limits will be governed by the respective tournament rule book. I.e.: USSSA, Dizzy Dean.

RUN / MERCY RULES:

AGE DIVISION	WINNER OF GAME DECLARED IF ANY TEAM IS:	MAXIMUM RUNS PER INNING
6 -8	15 runs after 4 innings or 8 after 5 innings	7 runs per inning
9	15 runs after 3 innings or 8 after 4 innings	6 runs for 1 st 3 innings only
10 – 12	15 runs after 3 innings or 8 after 4 innings	n/a
13 – 18	15 runs after 3 innings or 12 after 4 innings	n/a
	or 8 after 4 innings	

INDIVIDUAL GAME TIE BREAKERS:

If at the end of regulation innings the score is tied and extra innings are needed to determine a winner, the following format will be used in all age divisions except 6, 7, 8 year old coach pitch divisions.

1. Each team will have the opportunity to bat with no outs.
 2. The bases will be “loaded” with the 3 batters in front of the proper batter in the line up being placed on 1st, 2nd, and 3rd base respectively as if they had been walked.
 3. Each team will bat until 3 outs are recorded. At the end of the completed extra inning, the team with the most runs will be declared the winner. If the game is still tied the extra innings with the prior criteria will continue until a winner has been declared.
 4. All substitution and courtesy runner rules remain in force. For teams using a continuous line up, the courtesy runner would be the fourth batter in the lineup prior the proper batter until an out is recorded in that inning.
 5. For the purpose of the divisional pool play tie breakers and the order of finish, all runs scored and all runs allowed will not be recorded for the extra innings played.
- EXCEPTIONS: District, state, regional, World Series individual game tie breakers will be governed by the sanctioning host tournament guidelines / rules.

DIVISIONAL / POOL PLAY TIE BREAKERS:

At the end of divisional pool play, teams may be tied going into the final championship rounds with the same overall win / loss record. The following tiebreakers will determine which team advances and in what order of finish.

1. Head to head competition (only if 2 teams have the same overall record, if 3 or more go to fewest runs allowed in all games played).
 2. Fewest runs allowed in all games played.
 3. Run differential (runs scored minus runs allowed).
 4. USSSA ranking points (applicable only in USSSA sanctioned events).
 5. Coin toss
- EXCEPTIONS: District, state, regional, World Series individual game tie breakers will be governed by the sanctioning host tournament guidelines / rules.

In the event of a forfeit in divisional / pool play, the non-forfeiting teams will be credited with a 1 run differential victory. The runs allowed in the forfeited game will be the average of runs allowed by the non-forfeiting team in all games played. Example: Team A gets a forfeit win from Team B. Team A has allowed 10 runs in their other 2 games. Therefore, the average runs allowed by Team A would be 5 runs. The credited score for their forfeit win against Team B would be 6-5.

ANY TEAM THAT FORFEITS A POOL GAME DUE TO UNSPORTSMANSHIP CONDUCT OF COACHES OR FANS FOR THAT TEAM, OR THE CONCEDED OF A POOL PLAY GAME TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF RUNS ALLOWED WILL RESULT IN THAT TEAM NOT BEING ELIGIBLE TO ADVANCE TO THE CHAMPIONSHIP ROUNDS.

SPORTSMANSHIP:

Good Sportsmanship is a vital part of youth sports and is something that we should all be striving to teach our youth. For the most part, coaches and fans act appropriately at Latimer Lakes Park. However, whenever there is pressure and the temperature rises, unfortunately tempers rise as well.

Coaches and Umpires alike *are expected* to keep their tempers in check and set the proper example for our young people at all times. Just as a good attitude makes an impression upon players and fans, so can a bad one.

The tournament director has the option to remove a coach or a player for a game(s) or the entire tournament for unsportsmanlike conduct.

This is youth baseball; bad sportsmanship will not be tolerated at Latimer Lakes Park events. The game is not for the glorification of the umpires, coaches or parents. Simply stated, "It is for the kids". Let's work together and do our very best to make this a reality.

The Umpire in Chief, and/or, the tournament director, will handle any rule misinterpretations (no judgment calls will be addressed) immediately and finally. Protest may be allowed in some tournament events. Check with Tournament Director for protest guidelines prior to each tournament. Coaches will be responsible for their own fans behavior. Razzing, heckling, chanting or making disparaging remarks towards opponents, in any manner, is prohibited.

Any inappropriate conduct immediately after the game can result in a game ejection for the coach in his next game. Inappropriate conduct by fans can also result in a coach ejection. The coach is responsible for the actions of his fans. The umpire in chief, and/or the tournament director, will be available to talk to the head coach only (no parents or assistant coaches) about a rule interpretation before, during or immediately after any game.

