



2016 USSSA BASEBALL RULES AND BY-LAWS

KNOX COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

I. ARBITRATION BOARD

The arbitration Board will be made up of Knox County Recreation Superintendent, Athletics Coordinator, and Umpire – In – Chief. This board will settle all disputes arising on eligibility, playing field and umpire rule interpretations. In the case of player eligibility, the final decision will be based on current information on file in the Knox Co. Parks & Recreation Office. All official protests must be submitted in writing to the recreation office before 4:00 P.M. the next business day. All protests must be orally made to the Field Director/Tournament Director at the time the play in question takes place. There will be a \$100.00 (cash only) fee for lodging protest.

II. LEAGUES AND LEAGUE FRANCHISES

League and League Franchises will be determined solely by the Department of Recreation. A league franchise may be withheld or withdrawn at any time by the Department of Recreation.

Sports Commissioners are responsible to ensure coaches have taken the national background check and completed the concussion & sudden cardiac arrest training. Forms must be turned into Knox County Parks and Recreation. Recreation coaches are also responsible to complete the online training: [Concussion & Sudden Cardiac Arrest Training](#). Coaches that have NOT completed both the national background check and the concussion/sudden cardiac arrest training are NOT authorized to coach in a Knox County Youth sports program.

III. SIGNING AND RELEASING OF PLAYERS

- A. The team may have eighteen signed players (includes tournament).
- B. All original players' contracts must be in the Recreation Office by 4:00 P.M. on **April 4, 2016**. Any additional players signed must have a signed contract in the Recreation Office by 4:00 P.M. on the day before a player begins to practice or play with his/her team.
- C. No player will be signed after **May 2, 2016**. All players certified by this date that are not Knox County school students or are enrolled in a private school, or are home schooled, must have a copy of their Birth Certificate on file in the Recreation Office.
- D. For players that want to change their current team, the manager that is holding his previous contract must release them, in writing before he is eligible to play

with another team. The release must accompany his new contract. No player can request a change of team after **May 2, 2016**.

- E. **Week of April 4, 2016** is the approximate start date for **8-UNDER, 10-UNDER, and 12-UNDER** leagues. **April 28, 2016** is the approximate start date for **14-UNDER**.
- F. Any player who starts a fight will be suspended for one (1) year. Any other participant involved will be suspended a minimum of two (2) weeks. Any
- G. Other participant involved will be suspended a minimum of two (2) weeks. Any player, coach or manager ejected from a game will be suspended for two (2) games; second offense, suspended for the season. Any manager found knowingly playing an ineligible player would be suspended for one (1) year.
- H. Any fan who verbally or physically abuses an umpire, field director, scorekeeper, coach, or any other spectator is subject to removal from the park/facility.
- I. **CUT-OFF Birth date for all Baseball players is April 30, 2016. Player's age is determined by how old a player will be on April 30, 2016.**

IV. SCHEDULES

- A. Since games will be started at 6:00 P.M. for **14-UNDER** and **17-UNDER**, there will be a grace period of fifteen (15) minutes for the 1st game only. For 6:00 P.M. **14-UNDER** games, no inning shall start after 7:30 P.M., unless there are extra innings. A minimum of five (5) innings must be played and a winner must be established. If game time limit is extended for the first game, an equal amount of time shall be added to the second game if necessary. All **8-UNDER, 10-UNDER, and 12-UNDER** will be on a one (1) hour time limit. For ages 8, 10, 12 divisions the last game of the night, no inning shall start after 9:30 pm.
- B. All **14-UNDER** games 1 hour 30 minute time limit.
- C. Games will be made up at the discretion of the Field Director.
- D. Umpires will be assigned by Knox County Parks & Recreation Department.
- E. The entry fee for **8-UNDER, 10-UNDER, and 12-UNDER** will be **\$25.00 per player for IN COUNTY RESIDENCE** and **\$50.00 per player for OUT OF COUNTY RESIDENCE**. For **14-UNDER** the entry fee will be **\$28.00 per player, and for OUT OF COUNTY THE FEE IS \$56.00 per player**.

V. EQUIPMENT, FORFEITS, AND FEES

- A. Caps and numbered shirts are required. Softball shirts are acceptable.
- B. Coaches may wear baseball caps.
- C. A team failing to show up for two (2) games will be dropped from the league.
- D. A tournament will be held to determine the Knox County representative in the State Tournament. All teams that participate in the Knox County tournament are expected to be able to represent Knox County at the State Tournament level.
- E. Trophies will be presented to the Knox County Tournament Champion and Runner-Up.

- F. If a player, coach's or manager's name appears before the Arbitration Board twice, he may be suspended. Suspensions and time of suspensions will be left up to the Board.
- G. Illegal substitutions will result in a forfeit.

****Teams playing in Knox County All-Star tournaments can pick-up players from within their community parks recreation baseball program teams. These may be added to your roster you turn in. Any pick-up players will be verified against team rosters and registration forms on file in Parks and Recreation office.**

****All Knox County Youth Baseball tournaments are for "A" or recreation teams ONLY. If you are registered as an "AA" team and play in a Knox County sponsored league, there will be a tournament offered.**

****Half of the teams in your recreation league are eligible for Knox County tournament. Example: If you have 8 teams in your 10-UNDER league then 4 teams are eligible.**

***14-UNDER deadline is Friday, June 3, 2016.**

****There will be a \$30.00 non-refundable fee for any insufficient payment.**

VI. KNOX COUNTY TOURNAMENT DATES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

****May 31, 2016 is the deadline to get into the Knox County 8, 10, & 12-under tournaments. The entry fee is \$100. Make checks payable to Knox County Parks & Recreation.**

USSSA 8-UNDER tournament will start **June 6, 2016**

USSSA 10-UNDER tournament will start **June 6, 2016**

USSSA 12-UNDER tournament will start **June 6, 2016**

***Dates subject to change due to weather**

****In case of inclement weather follow us on Twitter @knoxcountyparks****