

I. GENERAL FIELD RULES

1. For the first game of the day, warm-up can take place in the outfield grass – inside (but not on) the foul lines. Warm-up, for the second game of the day, must take place in the grassy area east of the ball fields. **Under no circumstance should warm-up take place around the dugouts, the spectator areas or the concession stand area.**
2. For prompt starting of scheduled games, each team will have a maximum of 5 minutes for infield; either or both coaches can waive their infield time. If a team waives their infield, the remaining team is still only allowed his 5 minutes. No one is allowed on the infield until it is your infield time. Infield should begin at least 15 minutes before your scheduled game start time. Infield shall not delay the start time of your game.
3. The home plate umpire, league representatives, city employees or park official because of darkness, weather or field conditions, etc. may cancel the game(s) at any time they deem necessary. Upon official game cancellation that field is not to be used.
4. In case of rain or other weather conditions, a decision will be made on cancellation of games by at least 4 p.m. Coaches should call the rainout number at their scheduled playing site for a recorded message on cancellations.

Cancelled games will only be recorded on the message.

**** If there is not a message for the day in question – games are being played. ****

IMPORTANT: In order to insure that all involved can reach the phone message, only the coaches will be given the rain-out number. It will then be the responsibility of each coach to notify his or her team members of game status.

*** COACHES WILL NOT GIVE PLAYERS THE RAINOUT NUMBER FOR ANY FIELD ***

5. Coaches should contact the Park & Recreation Director regarding rescheduling of rained out games; the Director will maintain a master schedule, and games may be rescheduled according to field availability.
6. ‘Chicken Scratching’ is not allowed on any field. (nervously scratching/pawing the grass)
7. Soft-toss is not allowed on any fence.

BASE / PITCHING RUBBER MOVING

If you have the second or third game of the evening / day you will probably have to move the bases and install / remove the pitching rubber.

With various ages being played on each field, at some point during the season you may have to change the bases and set / remove the pitching rubber. The plugs, that you remove from the location that the bases need to be moved to, need to be placed in the ground anchors from where you pulled the bases. Please make sure that you replace each base with a ‘plug’.

The rubbers at ‘the top of the hill’ (F #1 @ 60’6”; F # 2 at 48’; and 40’ at Field #3) should never be removed. You will only have to remove the lower rubber OR add the lower rubber.

The tools needed – dig-out tool (for bases), a hammer (for installing rubber), the pitching rubber and a tape measure will be in a bucket at the concession stand. Ask the concession lady for the field bucket. Please return the tools and bucket each night, so that it will be available for the following evening.

II. FIELD USAGE FORM, VOLUNTEER DISCLOSURE FORMS AND PROOF OF INSURANCE

1. The head coach/manager/team representative must come to the Park & Recreation office on or before April 1st and fill out a *Field Usage Form*. One-half of your *Field Usage Fee* must be paid at that time.
**** This Fee is not refundable. ****
2. All coaching staff members must complete a *Volunteer Disclosure Form*. This form needs to be returned to the Park & Recreation Office by April 1st of the current year. See COACH'S RULES - rule # 1. The Head Coach must also provide by April 1st a signed copy of the *Field Rules*.
3. All teams using Hamilton Sports Complex as its home field must provide proof of the team's medical insurance. This form needs to be returned to the Park & Recreation Office by April 1st of the current year.

III. COACH'S RULES

1. Those volunteering to be a coach may be denied coaching status by the outcome of this *Volunteer Disclosure Form* (background check). If deemed necessary by the Park Director & the Park Board, a coaching candidate may be classified 'ineligible'. Once deemed 'ineligible' that person will not be a head coach or an assistant coach, nor will they be allowed in the dugout or on the field during practices or during games. It is our intent to keep all participants in our league and even those participants whose team rents our field free from any person who has been convicted of a crime of violence or a crime against a person.
2. Coaches are required to abide by all applicable rules – particularly with the rules designed to encourage fair play and those designed to protect the safety of players. Any coach who knowingly ignores or circumvents such rules may be suspended from coaching or banned from the fields.
3. The coaches should promptly report all significant injuries, which occur on the Carter Lake field(s) to the Park Director.
4. Conduct yourself in a professional manner to the umpires, other coaches and their players, your team members, their parents and your spectators.
5. No smoking on the field or in the dugout. Please inform your team parents & spectators that smoking is only allowed in the parking lot or along the street fence lines. Smoking is not allowed in or around the spectator areas, nor is it allowed in the restrooms.
6. No consumption of alcoholic beverages on the field, in the dugout or on City property by the coaching staff, players and parents.
7. Never leave your team members unattended. One member of the coaching staff should always be with the team.
8. After practices and games (whether those games are at 'home' or 'away'), all trash must be removed from your dugout and disposed of properly.
9. The pitching machine will only be operated by the coaching staff and only after they have been instructed of its proper use. NEVER let the players operate the pitching machine. Only one coach (who's operating the machine) and the player (who is batting) are allowed in the batting cage when the machine is actually 'throwing' balls. The batter is required to wear a batting helmet – a face guard is recommended on that helmet.
10. Do not allow any one to abuse equipment or facilities at 'home' or 'away'.

11. Team first-aid kits should be carried at all times.
12. Have as much fun as possible – but remember, these are kids on the field, and all we can expect from them is 100% of their ability!

IV. RULES OF CONDUCT TO UMPIRES

1. The coach is the only member of a team who may question, as a gentleman, an umpire's decision. Any player, parent or team spectator disputing an umpire's call may be ejected from the game, may have to leave the ballpark, or could be banned from the fields for a minimum of two games if written up by the umpire or reported to the Park & Recreation Director.
2. Any coach, player, team parent or spectator making derogatory remarks towards an umpire, the opposing team, or one of his team members, or using profane, vulgar or uncalled-for language should be ejected from the game, from the ballpark, or could be banned from the fields for a minimum of two games.
3. Derogatory, profane or uncalled for remarks coming from a team's bench will not be tolerated. If this occurs, the umpire may eject the coach &/or one or more players. The players from the bench will be chosen by the umpire. These chosen players must leave the ballpark and shall be banned from the fields for a minimum of two games, if written up by the umpire or reported to the Park & Recreation Director. Coaches when asked by the umpire for the names of certain players shall give them to the umpire immediately or face suspension themselves.
4. Any coach, player, team parent or team spectator directing derogatory, profane or uncalled for remarks toward an umpire after a game shall be banned from the fields, if reported by the umpire.
5. Any coach, player, team parent or team spectator ejected from a game, if written up by the umpire for the second time during the season, shall be banned from the fields for one year.
6. Any coach who does not (in the umpire's opinion) control his team, his parents or his spectators before, during or after a game shall be banned from the fields for a minimum of six games.
7. Any coach, player team parent or team spectator ejected from the game and refuses to leave the ballpark shall be banned from the fields for a minimum of four games and the game in progress will be forfeited.
8. Threatening action towards an umpire by a coach, player, team parent or team spectator shall carry a minimum banishment of two years. The game will be forfeited and all members of the team placed on probation for one year, if the team's action or inaction warrants.
9. Any coach, player, team parent or team spectator bumping, pushing or laying a hand on an umpire shall be banned from the fields for a minimum of five years. The game in progress will be forfeited and the team placed on probation, if the team's action or inaction warrants. Team members suspended or placed on probation are restricted to those present on the date of the incident.
10. Any coach, player, team parent or team spectator physically attacking an umpire shall be banned from the fields for life, the game forfeited and the team placed on probation for one year.

V. CODE FOR PARENTS, SPECTATORS, MEMBERS & REPRESENTATIVES OF A TEAM, ETC.

Anyone reported in writing to the Park & Recreation Department for making derogatory, profane, vulgar or unsportsmanlike remarks, or who makes threatening actions to another person or fighting, whether it is a team, a coach, a parent, a spectator or a representative of the team, etc. shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Any disciplinary action taken by the Park & Recreation Department may be appealed in writing to the Grievance Committee.

I have read the *General Field Rules* and I will abide by all rules, regulations and guidelines pertain to my renting of fields at Hamilton's sports Complex

Printed Name of Team Representative or Head Coach

Signature of Team Representative or Head Coach

Date

Team Name