

**QUINCY PARK DISTRICT
PARK LEAGUE BASEBALL RULES**

Age 7 & 8

- A team's at bat will be over after 3 outs or they score 5 runs, whichever comes first. There is a 5 run rule per inning. This includes a team's last at bat. If the team at bat is down by more than 5 runs and the time-limit is up, the team can still finish the at bat if they choose, but the game will be over once there are 3 outs or the team scores 5 runs.
- No new inning will start after 1 hour and 5-minutes, and games will not exceed 6 innings, unless tied after 6 and not having met the hour and 5-minute limit. Games can end in a tie.
- No lead-offs and no stealing.
- Teams can play 10 in the field.
- Teams must have at least 8 players to play an "official game." If a team has less than 8 players, coaches can still agree to play a scrimmage game with the players they have, or can borrow any extra players from the other team.
- This is a machine pitch league. Each batter will receive a maximum of 5 quality pitches or 3 swinging strikes. If a batter fouls off the 5th pitch, they can continue to bat, until they swing and miss or put the ball in play.
- Staff will notify the player and coach when the batter is on his last pitch. A quality pitch is any ball that is from the knees to the shoulders. If a pitch is deemed a "bad pitch" then the umpire working the pitching machine will notify the player and coach that the pitch does not count towards the player's five quality pitches. A "bad pitch" will be up to the discretion of the umpire working the pitching machine.
- Only the umpire controlling the pitching machine can adjust the machine. If a coach believes the machine is not throwing accurately, they can notify the umpire and he/she can decide to adjust if necessary. Umpires may adjust the positioning of the machine, but once the game has started, the speed will not be adjusted.
- The pitching machine will be set up 40 feet from the mound at a speed of 30-35 mph. The bases will be 60 feet. If need be, the speed can be adjusted during the season, but will not be adjusted once a game has started. If a coach has concerns about the speed of the machine, they should notify the Supervisor on duty or Recreation Program Manager.
- No on deck batter allowed anywhere (on or off the field). The leadoff batter in each half-inning will be permitted to warm up outside the dugout, on the field between half innings.

- Batting order will include all players in your line up (bat everybody).
- On defense each player must play at least 3 consecutive outs. We expect each player to play more than that. This is the minimum required. Free substitution on defense.
- **NO SUNFLOWER SEEDS ARE ALLOWED IN THE DUGOUTS OR ON THE FIELD.**
- **NO METAL SPIKES ARE ALLOWED.**
- **Refer to the USA Bat Standards for legal bats.**
- **Teams must wear Park District Assigned shirts.**
- Teams are not required to use a catcher, but catching equipment will be available if a team decides to use one. If a team uses a catcher, they must have a throat guard attached to the mask and wear a protective cup.
- There is not a “must slide” rule. However, runners are required to avoid contact with the defensive player. Any attempt to cause a collision will result in the runner being out and possible ejection from the game.
- Players are only permitted one extra base on an over throw. Once the defensive player throws the ball back to the umpire, the ball is dead and there shall be no advancement by the runners at that point.
- Players cannot bunt off the machine.
- Balls that hit the machine or extension cord are considered “dead balls” and the batter is awarded 1st base. If there are runners on base, they will be awarded one base.
- If a game is called due to rain, Weather, light failure or other acts of Nature and cannot be resumed it is a regulation game if: (3) innings have been played or if the home team is ahead after two and one half (2 1/2) innings. If the game is less than 3 innings it will be re-played at a later date.
- Umpires will have full authority during all games. While you may not agree with every call they make, unless you would like to work some games behind the plate, please show them the respect that they deserve. Remember, this is still a kid’s game and as a coach your responsibility in this league is to teach your players character, respect, and sportsmanship. All issues should be brought to the attention of the Quincy Park District staff.
- If a player or coach is ejected from a game, they must sit out the following game.