

HSA BASEBALL 4-5 LEAGUE RULES

Field Dimensions

The diamond will have fifty (50) foot base lines. Second base will be 70 feet 9 inches from home plate.

The pitchers mound will be thirty-five (35) feet from home plate. It will be a circle six (6) feet in diameter.

There will be a fair ball line ten (10) feet from home.

A six (6) foot diameter on-deck circle will be provided for each team.

All players must remain seated in the dugout when they are not playing.

Equipment

Each player must furnish their own glove.

Team shirts and hats must be worn by players while on the field.

NOCSA approved batting helmets must be worn by the batter, on deck batter, all base runners, and youth coaches.

Shoes with metals spikes or cleats are not permitted. Shoes with molded cleats are permissible.

Only "Tee-Ball" bats may be used. All bats must be marked for tee ball use. If the bat does not have the tee ball markings then it will not be able to be used in a game.

A regulation size "Soft" T-Ball will be used during games. Six games balls will be supplied by the home team.

All bases will be provided and set up by the home team.

All equipment must be returned to the Hillandale equipment shed after the last season game.

Games

Games will start on time with no inning starting after 45 minutes of game time as elapsed.

Game format will be as follows:

- One hour time limit.
- Every player hits each inning and each player will score.
- A team's turn at bat will end once all players have batted.
- Players cannot sit out for more than one inning at a time.

Games results will not be kept. The object of the game is not to win or lose, but to have fun learning how to play the game and developing the player's skills. Winning should not be emphasized, but learning and improving a child's skill level will make them successful.

The home team will always occupy the dugout on the 3rd base side of the field.

Positions

A team on the field will consist of nine (9) players. First baseman, second baseman, shortstop, third baseman, pitcher and four (4) outfielders (left, left center, right center, right).

A player may not play the same position for more than two (2) innings in a game.

An infielder may not take a position more than three (3) steps inside the baseline. All outfielders must play outside the outfield position line. Once the batter makes contact with the ball, then all fielders can advance.

Fielders must play in their designated position until the ball is hit. Overloading fielders to one side of the field is not allowed.

Batting

A batter is out if he/she throws the bat a second time. The first thrown bat will be accompanied by a warning.

The batter will receive 5 pitches from the pitching coach. If the ball is not in play after the 5th pitch, the batter will be allowed to hit off the tee.

Batters will bat until a fair ball is batted. There will be no strikeouts.

When batting off the tee, a ball hit short of the ten (10) foot fair ball line is considered a foul ball. Once a batted ball crosses the ten (10) foot line it is considered "fair" regardless of how much contact is made with the batting tee

Bunting or intentional “easy swings” are not allowed. The play will be repeated.

Only one player may warm up at a time, and they must be in the on deck circle and have on a batting helmet on. All other players are to be in the dugout area for safety reasons.

Base Running

All bases must be held until the ball is batted. There will be no lead-offs or base stealing.

Base runners will only advance one base.

All base runners will run into home base when the last batter hits the ball.

Coaching

The batting team is allowed an adult batting coach, pitching coach, 1st base coach, 3rd base coach and an on-deck coach.

The fielding team is allowed three (3) field coaches. The batting coach will be responsible for removing a tee and bat when there is a play at home plate. For safety reasons please make sure that the batting coach is a responsible individual (preferably an adult) and not for example, a 10 year old sibling.

The head coach is responsible for maintaining order on the sideline and keeping equipment and players seated behind the bench lines in the dugout. A coach or parent must be assigned to the dugout to maintain order.

Batting helmets and bats should be kept by the on-deck circle away from the dugout.

All coaching must be positive and instructional, not vulgar, critical or demeaning. Coaches who are abusive to players must be reported to the Baseball Commissioner and the Hillandale Sports Association Office. Continued abusive behavior will not be tolerated.

Coaches, please stay cool. Do not embarrass yourself or HSA by creating a scene on the field. Set a good example of sportsmanship in all game situations.

Any coaches who will not adhere to the HSA rules, policies and philosophy should plan on being a spectator.

Coaches are not permitted to smoke or chew tobacco products during games or

practices.

Umpire

There will be no umpires provided for the games.

The batting coach will serve as the umpire for making determining if the ball has crossed the 10 foot line.