

Quartz Hill Fall Ball Information and Game Operating Instructions 2022

Fall ball is an instructional season, all participants should remember this is designed to be a fun and positive learning experience for players, parents and fans, alike. Everyone involved should encourage all players at all times. There will be no disputes for calls made by the coaches. Scores will NOT be kept during fall ball games and NO winner will be declared.

Registration: Players may sign up individually or by team. A registration and medical release form must be turned in along with \$125 per player. (\$25.00 is refundable with completion of 1 snack bar shift)

Player Placement and Team Sign-ups: Players signed up individually will be placed on a team through an auto draft process. Coaches may bring full teams, if no jersey is needed, a discount will be provided.

Age Divisions

Baseball

Tee Ball/Coach Pitch will be combined if necessary: Ages 4-6

Farm will be ages 6, 7 & 8

Minor will be ages 8, 9 & 10

Major will be ages 10, 11 & 12

Softball

Minor will be ages 6-10

Major will be ages 9-12

The minor and major divisions may be combined depending on registrations. The combined division will be played using minor softball rules and can be ages 6-12.

Games The season is planned to begin after Labor Day and will end prior to Thanksgiving, approximately 10 games. Games will be played primarily on Sundays with the possibility of weeknight games as well. In the event games are canceled due to weather, we will make every effort to reschedule, however, it is at the Board of Directors discretion. Any make up games will be scheduled on a weeknight.

Sunday Maintenance will be assigned to each team. Schedules will be established at the Manager/Coaches meeting. It is the Managers responsibility to ensure that it is adequately covered with a minimum of 4-6 parents. Failure to fulfill this responsibility will result in being scheduled for another date and the manager could be suspended.

Batting: A continuous batting order WILL be used for ALL divisions.

Base Running: Farm-Major divisions must stay in contact with the base until the ball has reached the "hitting zone" (the point at which the ball may be struck by the batter). A player who leaves the

base before the ball crosses the plate will be sent back to the base they started from (called out in Softball). Little League Rulebook will govern.

Substitutions & Rotation of Players: Managers are highly encouraged to rotate players, so no player plays more than 2 innings at any one position. Managers are highly encouraged to let each player experience at least one inning in the infield. Substitutes will rotate each defensive inning so that no player sits more than one inning in a row. All players should sit out one inning before a player sits out a second.

Fielding: Teams will have 10 to 13 players. Teams will field 9 regular baseball position (with the exception of Tee Ball/Coach Pitch who will field all players).

Pitching: Pitching distances will follow regular season rules. Managers are encouraged to use a new pitcher each inning. However, in no case will a pitcher pitch more than 2 innings per game or the max number of pitches for their age.

Pitch Limits

League Age 7 & 8 - 50 pitches

League Age 9 & 10 - 75 pitches

League Age 11 & 12 - 85 pitches

Little League rest requirements will be followed. Coaches are responsible for keeping pitch counts. Coaches may pitch during a game depending on the need/skill of the player. Coaches are encouraged to work with players so that as the season progresses, they are comfortable with facing overhand pitching

Scoring: Official scorebooks are NOT to be maintained. Informal scores of each game and league standings will not be kept or tracked. Coaches may only maintain private scorebooks that are intended to assist in the improvement of the players. Please do NOT distribute statistics, standing or game scores. A maximum of 5 runs per inning will be allowed in the Farm & Minor divisions. A maximum of 7 runs per inning will be allowed in the Major division.

Game Time Limits: All games MUST start on time. TBall/Coach Pitch games will be 3 innings or 1 hour, whichever comes first, and all players bat once EVERY inning. Farm-Major games shall be no longer than 6 innings. No new inning shall start after 1 hour and 30 minutes. Drop dead time at 1 hour and 50 minutes. After the end of a game - please clear out the dugout BEFORE you have a team meeting so other teams can take over the dugouts and fields.

Coaching: *Base Coach* - Adult base coaches may be used to provide base running instruction. A player wearing a helmet, may act as a base coach or may assist the adult coach. *Defensive Coach* - Managers/coaches will be allowed on the field to provide instruction. They are considered a part of the playing field. Coaches are NOT permitted to touch a live ball but may instruct players. No more than two defensive coaches will be allowed on the playing field at one time - not including the umpire. An adult coach from the offensive team, may assist players as a batting coach in the foul area of the playing field during the game. No more than one offensive coach may be on the field at

one time assisting players - not including the umpire or base coaches.

Umpires: Official umpires will NOT be used during fall ball. Rulings on the field are made by the managers/coaches and/or a volunteer parent. Volunteer parents must have an approved volunteer form on file with QHLL. We do encourage parents to umpire games for experience. Questionable judgment calls can be discussed between both managers and umpire, but not balls and strikes.

Uniforms & Equipment: Each player will be provided with a team shirt & hat. The league will provide equipment (catchers gear, batting helmets, etc) for each team based on need, umpire equipment for each game, and one-dozen balls. Report any damaged or missing equipment to a board member as soon as you are aware of any deficiencies. Please do NOT allow players to use broken or damaged equipment.

Safety: There will be a first aid kit in the snack bar stocked with first aid supplies. Players MAY NOT hold a bat inside the dugout during the game OR while waiting to bat. All offensive players out of the dugout and on the field of play must wear a helmet. The helmet must be worn until the player is behind the fence and back in the dugout. Managers and coaches must strictly enforce safety rules.

Home Team Responsibilities: Field set up, including painting the batter's box & base lines, and dragging the field as needed. They will occupy the third base dugout. Clean up trash in the dugout at the end of the game.

Visiting Team Responsibilities: Field breakdown, put all equipment away, repair holes on the pitching mound, repair batter's box, and place tarps back (if playing the last game of the day). They will occupy the first base dugout. Clean up trash in the dugout at the end of the game.

Tee Ball/Coach Pitch: Games will be 3 innings or 1 hour, whichever comes first. Coach pitching is encouraged based on skill level and age; coaches should use their discretion. Max number of coach pitches is 5, and after that, the tee should be used. All players will bat each inning.

Farm Baseball: Pitching rubber will be 46 feet from the back of home plate. No new inning after 1 hour and 30 minutes. Drop dead at 1 hour and 50 minutes. Home plate will be closed. No player can advance home on a passed ball or attempt to get the ball to the pitcher. Max of 5 runs per inning. Half inning ends when the third out is made, 5 runs are scored, or all players have batted. No drop third strike. Only one base should be taken on an overthrow.

Minor Baseball: Pitching rubber will be 46 feet from the back of home plate. No new inning after 1 hour and 30 minutes. Drop dead at 1 hour and 50 minutes. Home plate will be open. Half inning ends when the third out is made, 5 runs are scored, or all players have batted. No drop third strike.

Major Baseball Pitching rubber will be 46 feet from the back of home plate. No new inning after 1

hour and 30 minutes. Drop dead at 1 hour and 50 minutes. Home plate will be open. Half inning ends when the third out is made, 7 runs are scored, or all players have batted. Dropped third strike is in effect.

Practices: Required to have a minimum of 1 practice per week. QHLL will try to provide school fields use. City and county parks are acceptable practice locations as well. Other practice locations need to be provided to the league for insurance purposes. As soon as you have identified your practice location, day & time - please notify your player agent or coaching coordinator.

Pool Play: Pool play is allowed as long as no more than 4 players are needed and replacement players are currently on the official roster of another QHLL 2022 Fall Ball team within the same division. If a pool player cannot be found, the opposing team may loan player or players on defense as necessary to prevent forfeits. Loaned players must not pitch or catch.

Game Cancellations: If a game needs to be rescheduled managers must submit the request in writing to the UIC. There are NO guarantees that games will be rescheduled, however each request will be considered on a case by case basis. The request MUST include: the date and time of the game, both team names & the reason for the reschedule.

Player Behavior: Unsportsmanlike behavior will NOT be tolerated (hitting, grabbing, pushing, swearing, or any other behavior that disrupts the games). Bat throwing will NOT be tolerated. Any poor behavior may be subject to suspension at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Manager & Coach Behavior Unsportsmanlike behavior will NOT be tolerated. Managers are responsible for the actions of their fans. Please keep your fans under control. If there is an issue that you need assistance with, please involve a board member.

For league information or questions please contact the appropriate Board Member. Contact information can be found at www.qhll.org by clicking "Board of Directors".