



Prospect Park Baseball Association, Inc.

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UMPIRE-HEAD COACHES' PRE-GAME, HOME PLATE MEETING CHECKLIST

Prior to the Home Plate meeting

- 1/ Ask the coaches to make sure the bases are the correct distance. [The home team is required to supply the bases and pitcher's plate.]
- 2/ Tell the coaches when to meet at home plate for the pre-game meeting
- 3/ Call the coaches to the pre-game meeting at the time you set.

At the Home Plate Meeting

Umpire introduces him/herself and coaches, then explains:

Only the Head Coach has the authority to speak to the umpire for any & all reasons.

Head Coaches are responsible for the behavior of their assistants, players and their spectators.

Judgment calls are final and not appealable.

Only positive rooting is allowed. Verbal interference or distraction is not allowed.

After one warning, failure to control improper behavior subjects the Head Coach to removal from the game. The umpire has the authority to end the game should the Head Coach or any of his/her ejected assistants, players or spectators fail to abide by the terms of the ejection.

Coaches must confirm:

- 1/ what division is playing, who is the home team.
- 2/ division specific rules – e.g.
 - number of outfielders (4 Cubs, Bantam & all softball)
 - balls to walk (if bases loaded - 6 Cubs & 5 Mustangs)
 - stealing (+ one warning if leading or stealing is improper, then called out)
 - mercy rule
 - balks, infield fly & dropped 3rd strike rules only- Super Bantam, Grasshopper, Freshmen & Colts
- 3/ umpire does not track the pitching limit rule
- 4/ each team has at least 8 players [if at any time either or both teams have less than eight, they should share players, optional to share if a team has 8].
- 5/ the bases have been set at the proper distances
- 6/ each team has provided the umpire with one game ball
- 7/ at least one team has an AED and someone CPR-trained present - point him/her out. [If there is no AED, a coach or parent should be sent to neighboring field to see if a coach there has an AED and to hang it on the fence so it can be seen.]
- 8/ the lineup cards have been exchanged with all players' full names & jersey numbers
- 9/ after each half inning both scorekeepers will confirm the score with the umpire and each other - the umpire is not the official scorekeeper.
- 10/ All players are registered and the appropriate age and there are no roster issues. [If so, the coaches must resolve them out before the first pitch and it cannot be grounds to cancel the game.]
- 11/ Safety rules:
 - a/ head protection must be worn by all pitchers, players warming up pitchers, and players coaching a base,
 - b/ face protectors must be worn by softball pitchers,
 - c/ male catchers must wear a protective cup
 - d/ no metal spikes on any fields
- 12/ a catcher who is a baserunner with two outs must be replaced by the player who made the last out.

Review specific ground rules for the field such as

overhanging tree,

location of the out of play lines,

if games is on the grass, no stealing, dropped 3rd strike and spectators must set beyond 1st and 3rd base, etc.

Immediately after the last out of the game, the teams must quickly leave the field and their dugout area with their equipment and trash so the next game can start on time.

Please put the mound away if this is the last game of the day on the field and it has a mound.

When leaving the Park or if a team wants to have a post-game team meeting, please go well out of play and away from any team that is warming up.

Confirm the exact time:

the game will start,

when no new inning can be started, and

when the game must stop regardless of the score and which team is at bat (drop dead time). If a player began an at bat, that batter can finish his/her at bat.

Any questions?