

STATESBORO-BULLOCH COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**ROOKIE LEAGUE RULES
(INSTRUCTIONAL LEAGUE)**

The Statesboro-Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Department offers the Rookie League as an instructional level league for boys and girls ages six (who have played T-Ball previously) and age seven (who have not played in the Rookie League). *****This is an instructional league and is designed to teach the fundamentals of baseball/softball in a non-competitive environment.** This handout contains only those rules specific to the Rookie league.

These rules are divided into the following sections: Eligibility, Game/Field Provisions, Equipment, Conduct, Coaches Responsibilities, Participation and Game Rules.

Section A- ELIGIBILITY

1. The age of the participant August 31st will determine which age division he/she will participate in.
2. Age Classification for Rookie is 7 & under prior to May 1st. (This league is designed for 2nd year T-batters and 1st year 7 year olds.)
3. A participant is only allowed to participate in only one age division

Section B - GAME/FIELD PROVISIONS

1. A regulation game shall consist of:
 - (a) Rookie League - five (5) innings or one (1) hour time limit.
 - (b) No score is kept in the Rookie League.
2. Base distance is sixty feet (60').
3. Pitching Distance:
Rookie League – The coach will deliver the pitch from a distance best suited for each player.

Section C - EQUIPMENT

1. All players should be in full uniform issued by the Statesboro-Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Department. It includes a cap, team shirt, socks and gray pants.
*If a player does not have a part of his full uniform, they will still be allowed to participate in the game.
2. Shoes are mandatory. Steel spikes are not allowed. Cleats optional.
3. No jewelry may be worn. Braces must be wrapped with an ace bandage so that no metal parts are exposed.

Section D - CONDUCT

1. There will be no hollering or harassing the players on the opposing team by parents, spectators, managers, players, or coaches. The person(s) violating this rule shall be suspended from the following game. (This is determined by the judgment of the officials and/or the recreation field supervisor).
2. Any player, coach, or spectator acting in an unsportsmanlike manner, or in any way that could prove

detrimental to the league players, umpires, staff, or spectators will be subject to disciplinary action by the Recreation Department.

3. **No use of any tobacco products is allowed on the premises of any Statesboro – Bulloch County Parks & Recreation Department Facility.**

Section E - COACHES RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Only certified coaches may assist on the field during games. All persons entering the dugout shall be players or certified coaches.
2. Coaches must notify the Recreation Department office in the event of an injury to any player, whether the accident occurs during practice or during a game. If a player does not play for disciplinary reasons, it is the responsibility of the coach to notify the Athletic Supervisor first, the field supervisor second, then the opposing coach and the umpire at the game.
3. Unless contacted by the Recreation Department, all teams must show up at the field for games. If halted by inclement weather, teams must stay until a staff person releases them.
4. **There will be no intentionally hitting balls against any facility fencing.**
5. Use good game management on baserunning. Do not run just to run.

Section F – PARTICIPATION

1. All players will play defense (there may be two (2) pitchers if no catcher is used, and four (4) players in the infield). Outfielders must be positioned behind the painted outfield line.
2. All players bat each inning (coaches are encouraged to change the batting order each game to avoid having the same players in the lead off and last batting position).

Section G - GAME RULES

1. All batters and base runners must wear the helmet with the facemask attached unless in the dugout. If the helmet is removed, the player is out. If the helmet falls off, there is no penalty, but a smaller helmet will be required before the next pitch.
2. Each batter will have six (6) pitches to put the ball into play. The batting team's coach will deliver each pitch. If a player is unable to put the ball into play after six (6) pitches then the player will hit from a tee.
3. An inning is complete after all players have batted (coaches are encouraged to change the order each inning to avoid the same players batting first and last the entire game).
4. If an out is made the runner will return to the dugout.
5. **There will be no head first sliding.**
6. There will be no base stealing in these leagues. All runners must remain in contact with the base until the ball is hit.
7. No bunting will be allowed. If a player bunts, in the judgement of the umpire, the player will be brought back to the plate and all players on base will return to the base they occupied prior to the pitch being thrown.