



BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



PROGRAM (all are co-ed except for softball)	AGES	REGISTRATION FEE	INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION FEE
*Dixie Softball–Angels (girls only)	8-10 (age on July 31 st)	\$50 each	Team Jersey, Socks, Belt, Headband, and Insurance
*Dixie Softball–Ponytails (girls only)	11-12 (age on July 31 st)		
*Dixie Youth Baseball–Minors	8-10 (age on April 30 th)		Team Jersey, Socks, Hat, Belt, and Insurance
*Dixie Youth Baseball– “O”Zone	11-13** (age on April 30 th)		
*Junior Baseball	13-17 (age on April 30 th)		
Youth Baseball–Coaches Pitch	6-8 (age on April 30 th)	\$40 each	Team Shirt, Socks, and Hat Belt (Coaches Pitch Only)
Youth Baseball–T-Ball	5-6 (age on April 30 th)		
Youth Baseball–Wee T-Ball	3-4 (age on April 30 th)		

PROGRAM (all are co-ed except for softball)	DESCRIPTION	# of Games
*Dixie Softball–Angels	Girls fast-pitch competitive softball with a focus on instruction and FUN. Played under Dixie Softball Inc. – player pitches	12 to 15
*Dixie Softball–Ponytails		12 to 15
*Dixie Youth Baseball–Minors	Competitive baseball with an emphasis on FUN and improving players’ skills. Played under Dixie Youth Baseball. – player pitches	12 to 15
*Dixie Youth Baseball– “O”Zone		12 to 15
*Junior Baseball	Competitive baseball; begins in late May for those who want to continue building their skills (season begins once school seasons end).	8 to 10
Youth Baseball–Coaches Pitch	Fundamental baseball with a focus on FUN and skill building. – Coach pitches to player	10 to 12
Youth Baseball–T-Ball	Beginner level with a focus on FUN with an introduction to basic fundamentals. – Coach pitches to player or player hits from a Tee	8 to 10
Youth Baseball–Wee T-Ball	Introduces players to the very basics of baseball. Provides FUN social interaction. – player hits from a Tee	8 to 10



Q. What is the objective of the baseball/softball program?

A. To provide a FUN program focused on improving each players skills and to inspire teamwork and sportsmanship.



Q. Where and when are practices and games held?

A. Every effort will be made to ensure each team has as close to a 50-50 spit between the Prosperity fields and the Newberry fields for practices and games. There may be a few occasions where a practice or two may be held in Little Mountain. Field space/availability is always subject to change. Practices and games are typically either Monday, Wednesday, and/or Saturday OR Tuesday, Thursday, and/or Saturday. Saturday games are typically completed by 2:00 PM and every effort is made to ensure weekday events do not interfere with schedules in relation to school.



Q. How will information be communicated to parents/guardians?

A. Staff and coaches primarily communicate via text messages (or phone call) to expedite getting information to all involved. It is important that you provide a working number and are responsive.



Q. How are teams selected?

A. Younger division teams are randomly selected. An effort is made to ensure each team has an even number within each age bracket. Older division teams (Minors/Angels and Ozone/Ponytails) are selected using a draft format (player evaluation and selection by coaches). A returning player will be placed on the same team as the year prior unless they are moving to a new division or the number of teams changes.



Q. What equipment/items do I need to make sure my child has to participate?

A. The registration fee covers the player's uniform other than pants. Players will be instructed by their coach regarding information about pants. Players must supply their own helmet and glove. Helmet must have a face guard for softball, optional for baseball (recommended). A faceguard (see below) is required for any softball player who will play infield (Angels) or pitch (Angels and Ponytails). Players are welcome to supply their own bat, but rules do apply in each age division and must be followed. Cleats are strongly encouraged (especially in the Minors/Angels and Ozone/Ponytails divisions), but not required. Cleats must be plastic; no metal spikes allowed.



Softball Faceguards



Q. Can my child play at an older age level?

A. Typically this is discouraged as it affects player development; however, if you would like your player to move up, a request must be made directly to the Director of Parks and Recreation for Newberry County (Phone: 803-924-8328 or E-mail: recreation@newberrycounty.net).



Q. What if my child needs to miss a practice/game?

A. Advanced communication when possible is always encouraged. Typically, there is no impact or penalty to missing a practice or game; however, if it becomes habitual it may impact playing time during games. Again, communication is important. Attendance at practices becomes more important to earning playing time in the older divisions.



Q. How are parents/guardians notified of practice/game cancellations?

A. Newberry County Parks & Recreation staff make the determination as to whether practices/games will be cancelled due to weather, field conditions, safety or health related circumstances and will communicate this information to coaches. Cancellations are made as far in advance as possible, but there may be times in which cancellations are not made until a practice/game begins. The goal is to make a determination at least one hour prior to practice/game start time. Once rosters have been set, coaches will communicate the information regarding cancellations to parents/guardians.



Q. The purchase of a bat is not required, but how do I know what bat to purchase if I so choose?

A. A bat can be an expensive purchase. We strongly suggest attending a practice or two and doing some research prior to purchasing a bat. See page 21 of the 2022 DYB Rulebook (<http://youth.dixie.org/>) for information about legal baseball bats.

Approved Bats

1.10-(a) The barrel of all aluminum, metal alloy, composite, multi-piece wood bats or single-piece wood bats shall not exceed 2 5/8" inches in diameter nor exceed 33" inches in length.

1.10-(b)(1) All non-wood bats and multi-piece wood bats must be stamped with the USA Baseball mark signifying that the bat meets the bat performance standard established by USA Baseball. USA Baseball is the national governing body of amateur baseball in the United States.

(2) Solid wood bats made from a single piece of wood do not require the USA Baseball mark but must meet the specifications in Rule 1.10(a).

(3) 2 5/8" bats that are -3 BBCOR certified bats meeting the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR) standard which do not weigh, numerically, more than three ounces less than the length of the bat (e.g., a 33-inch-long bat cannot be less than 30 ounces) may be used in regular season or tournament play.

(4) All bats stamped "BPF 1.15" are not legal for play in all age divisions.

1.10-(c) Tee Ball Bats – Tee Ball bats will be stamped with the USA Baseball Mark and the language "Only for use with approved tee balls".

Note: Any bat stamped for T-Ball cannot be used in games played in the AA, AAA, Majors or "O"Zone divisions due to the manufacturing standards for such bats.