

MOUNT SEYMOUR LITTLE LEAGUE

BLASTBALL OVERVIEW

BLASTBALL

Blastball is a fun introduction to the game of baseball for players who are baseball age 4. It is a great way for both players and parents to get involved with the sport of baseball. Blastball focuses on the very basic concepts of the game so the players become familiar with the sport.

GAMES AND GENERAL RULES

General Overview

- A baseball t-shirt and hat are supplied to all players. Base runners and batters must wear batting helmets while up to bat, running the bases.
- The player is responsible for providing a glove, helmet and if they choose, cleats (soccer cleats are acceptable). The games will be played on grass.
- The home team is responsible to set up the equipment and return it to the bin after their game. If a team is at the field and playing after you, that home team will then be responsible for putting the equipment away. One of the two teams for the next game MUST be at the field. Please do not leave the equipment out.
- Each team will ideally have a Coach, Assistant Coach and Manager. Parent participation is encouraged with direction from the Coach.

Starting and Ending the Game

- Games should start within 10 minutes of the scheduled start time.
- The games will consist of 3 innings and there are 2 teams at each diamond. A maximum of 3 innings are to be played to keep the games running on schedule.
- There will be 1 hour allotted for each game before the next game begins.

Game Rules

- Both teams will have an opportunity to hit (offense) and field (defence) once each inning. In each inning all players have a turn at bat.
- All offensive players, whether at bat, waiting to bat or have batted, must wear a helmet.
- Offensive players will hit the ball off the tee and then run to first base. Once they touch first base they will return to their "dugout".
- Once everyone on the offensive team has batted, they will switch with the defensive team.
- There are no outs in Blastball. The defensive players will attempt to either tag the player running to first or throw the ball to one of the coaches/parents standing at first base. Towards the end of the season, based on comfort level, you may choose to have a player stand on first base and catch the ball.
- There will be a "defensive line" 15-20 feet from the plate where the players must remain behind until the ball is hit.
- Defensive players will rotate fielding positions throughout the 3 innings.

Field

Blastball games are all played at Myrtle Park on the field between the Majors diamond and the Seycove diamond.

Coach's Responsibilities

Coaches must focus on maintaining fair play, fun and safety at all times. It is the responsibility of the Coach/Manager to notify parents and players of any events taking place that involve the members of our association such as Photo Day, Opening Ceremonies, Closing Ceremonies and any other league sanctioned events. Participation in these events is requested. Good sportsmanship is required from the coaches as well as the players. Any misconduct of a coach should be reported to the Blastball coordinator.

Base Race after the Game

Perhaps the most fun part of the game is the base race following the game. This is how it works:

- Coaches will have access to additional bases or rubber mats in the equipment bags. They can set them up like a traditional baseball diamond (approximately 30-40 feet apart).
- One team will line up at home plate; the other team will line up at second base. Make sure the players in line are away from the base path.
- The first runner for each team has a ball in her/his hand. They will "run the bases" carrying the ball and they will hand it off to their teammate once they have run all around the bases.
- A coach will from the pitching mound, drop a glove to the ground which will signal the start of the relay. The first runner for each team, with ball in hand, will run the bases counter clockwise (team starting at home plate will go to 1st, 2nd, 3rd then home, team starting from 2nd will go to 3rd, home, 1st then 2nd). Once the first runner has run all the way around the bases, and hands the ball off to her/his teammate, this second player runs the bases with the ball. This continues until all players have run the bases.

Snacks

Traditionally, and perhaps the second most favourite part of the game, is snacks afterwards. One family each week will be responsible for bringing snacks at the end of the game. The team manager can coordinate this step.