



A Parent's guide to
City of Livingston Parks and Rec Department
Beginner Coed Coach Pitch League

WHAT IS BEGINNER COACH PITCH?

The purpose of the Beginner Coach Pitch program is for children to learn baseball fundamentals and have fun. In the beginner program we will be focused on advancing skills and fundamentals of players ages 6 & 7. Players receive pitches from one of their coaches in both baseball and softball instead of an opposing player. If a hit is not made off of a coach pitch they will then have the opportunity to hit off the Tee. The rules are slightly more advanced than Tee Ball as the players increase in skill level. However, Coach Pitch is still a great opportunity to learn the game for a beginner as well. Coach Pitch is also the first division level where skill evaluations take place for the players, it is encouraged that all players registered participate in one of the skill evaluation dates for their age group. All registered players will still be placed on a team if circumstances do not allow a player to participate in skill evaluations however.

LEAGUE BASICS

- Players will learn the basics of the hitting, throwing and fielding.
- Players will learn to be prepared to field the ball, learning what to do if the ball is hit to them.
- Players will learn how to be coached and to be a member of a team.
- Players will learn by practicing drills, throwing around the bases, hitting off the "tee", fielding ground balls and pop-ups.
- Players will learn to hit off a tee as well as coach pitch.
- Players will develop hand-eye coordination and bat swing-techniques without the fear of being hit by a pitched ball.
- Players will develop an awareness of fielding positions.
- Players will develop throwing overhand with proper mechanics, building arm strength and accuracy.

FEES

\$65.00 City of Livingston Residents / \$75.00 Non-residents

*A late fee will be added if player is registered after the last day of registration.

REGISTRATION

Registration is available at the Livingston Civic Center, 229 River Drive or online:

<http://secure.rec1.com/MT/livingston-recreation-department/catalog>

TEAMS

Will be formed to best accommodate requests that are made. Please provide this information in the request section of registration. There will be no more than 10 participants on each team.

COACHES

Parents have graciously volunteered their time to coach. Please ask your coach if you can help in any way. During games, coaches establish the line-up and help the batter. A coach or parent may also be at first and third base when your team is up to bat. Coaches are allowed in the outfield with the players in

order to help players on defense. All coaches go through a mandatory meeting and background check before the first practice.

SUPERVISORS

The Parks & Recreation Department will provide a supervisor during games. Supervisors will be responsible for ensuring the games are running smoothly and safely. Feel free to contact the field supervisor with any questions or concerns that may arise. All field supervisors are Parks & Recreation Department staff members and can answer questions.

PRACTICES

Practices will be running once a week either Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. Teams will practice for one hour. Game days may begin the week of April 22 but will depend on the completion of your coach's background check and is also weather dependent! All practices and Games will be played at Miles Park Baseball Fields.

GAMES

Games begin the week of April 29 and will end the week of June 1, 2024. Games will be played **on Thursdays** at Miles Park Baseball Fields. Coaches will provide the players a game schedule.

GAME CANCELLATIONS

Games will be canceled when there is lightening, thunder and / or heavy rain or snow resulting in unsafe conditions. We will make every attempt to play and will base cancellation decisions on safety rather than comfort, so please dress accordingly. Parks and Recreation Department staff will make cancellation decisions by **3:00 pm daily** and post to our Facebook Page and our Phone Hotline 406-223-2233. Games may still have to be canceled at the field if conditions change at the last minute.

UNIFORMS

The Parks & Recreation Department will provide each player with a ¾ sleeve baseball t-shirt with team name, and sponsor name as well as a Livingston Rec adjustable baseball cap. Athletic shoes are required and rubber cleats are allowed. No metal cleats please. Each player will need to provide his/her own glove. If you need help with this, please talk to your coach or contact the Parks & Recreation Department.

PICTURES

Team and individual pictures will be taken early on in the season. The photographer will provide order form information and will have packets available at time of photos. Pictures will be ready before the end of the season. Purchase of pictures is optional. The photographer will collect the money and distribute the pictures prior to the end of the season. Picture day may not coincide with your regular practice / game days, please plan accordingly.

Rule Overview

- The ball is hit off a coach pitch or off a tee at home plate.
- There are no walks or strikeouts.
- If the batter hits the tee and not the ball, the coach will place the ball back on the tee.
- The coach will use their discretion to decide if the batter hits the ball and should run.
- The game will consist of 3 innings with each player having a turn at bat during their half-inning.
- The batting order will be different each inning so all players have a chance to cross home plate. After the last batter hits, all runners run around the bases.
- All team members play defense.

- Outs from a caught ball, a force out by the defense, or a thrown bat are recognized as an out, but the child may stay on the base and run the bases.
- There is no stealing of bases.
- Players stay on the base until the ball is hit.
- Runners may advance one base on a hit or over-throw.
- Score is NOT KEPT.

SAFETY RULE - When the ball is hit, players must set the bat down and not throw the bat. All players must remain behind the batting line (or cone) until the bat is set down. If a player throws the bat, they will be brought back to pick up the bat and set it by home plate. Players must listen to the coach and try to follow directions.