



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF SPRINGFIELD**

2024 Baseball General Information

Season:

- 8 Game Season (Some make up days may be scheduled for Fridays or doubleheaders)
- Non-competitive; medal awarded to every player
- Games begin the week of June 17th, 2024
- **Note Change! Due to low registrations in 8u, we evenly combined them with 4-7u. Coaches will “Coach Pitch” to those select players.**

Game Scheduling:

- 7u Tee-ball & 8u Coach Pitch will play Monday Evenings
 - Tee ball may be played on Chili Pepper North or Chili Pepper South fields
- 10u Coach Pitch and 13u Player Pitch will play Tuesday/Thursday Evenings
 - 10u Coach Pitch may play on Dr Pepper or Sertoma fields
 - 13u Player Pitch will play on Sertoma field
- Games will start at 5:30 or later (Expect double-headers)

All schedules will be posted at: bgclubspringfieldsports.org/sites/bgclubspringfieldsports/schedules

Game Days:

- Gates open at 5p.
- Admission fee is \$2 for everyone 12 and older.
 - No outside grills or selling food on property. No pets.
- Concessions open 5p - 8p (subject to crowd/ game adjustments)
- Utilize the North parking lot

All games will have a 1-hour time limit max.

Weather Cancellations:

- Email and text will be sent out to coaches.
- Parents emailed from Sports Communication Line.
 - Join our text alerts!
- Coaches expected to pass along information to parents and other coaches.
- Make-up games will be updated on the game schedule.
- Heat index of 100 degrees or more. (practice included)
- Lightning Policy

Practices: (Coordinated by Coaches)

- Baseball Fields are available for rental.
 - Cost is \$20 per hour

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- Use a public field or park or reserve space here at the club.
- Can also call or email the Director of Sports - 417-862-9249 to reserve.

Equipment: Contact us if you need anything throughout the season!

- Limited team sets are available for use.
- Limit shared equipment whenever possible.
- Extra gear available for coaches and players.
- Please return all gear borrowed from BGCS the day of your last game.
- Baseball Cleats/ Gloves are recommended purchases!

Goals and Expectations:

- This is a fundamental, semi-competitive, recreational league and games are meant to be fun.
- Use difficult moments as teaching points!
- Coaches should put a player's progress, sportsmanship, and skill development above winning.
- Pace of Play (more at-bats)

Rosters:

- Still time to add more players (Coaches must approve)
- We will lose kids throughout the season
- Get to 12+ if possible (in 7U tee-ball, 8U coach pitch, they allowed four outfielders so 10 played at a time...normally 9 play at a time on the defense)



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Sportsmanship Expectation

Coaches & Game Attendees will behave in a way that is mature, appropriate, supportive of all players, and exhibits good sportsmanship.

- Coaches/players/ parents/ game attendees will refrain from cursing, shouting, or yelling aggressively at any other player, coach, umpire, BGCS staff, or players' families.
- Coaches and players will line up at end of game to congratulate other team
- Coaches and players will thank the umpire at the conclusion of each game.
- Pets are not allowed.

Teams who forfeit a game without a 24-hour notice will receive one warning. If a team fails to notify the Director of Sports of a forfeit at least 24 hours in advance more than once, that team may be removed from the league, players will be moved to other teams or a parent will be asked to coach the remainder of the season.

Boys & Girls Clubs will not tolerate any cursing, unsportsmanlike conduct, pets, alcoholic beverages, excessive trash littering, tobacco, or smoking on the premises at any time. This is strictly enforced. Boys & Girls Clubs of Springfield reserves the right to remove coaches, spectators, and players from games for inappropriate behavior. **Players, fans, and coaches will receive one warning regarding behavior that does not adhere to our sportsmanship expectations and may then be asked to leave premises if unsportsman-like behavior continues.**

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Tee-ball Rules

***This Summer 2024 season tee-ball rules will combine with 8u due to combining both divisions. (see bolded print from tee-ball rules and 8u coaches pitch rules)**

- **Every player on a team will play the field and bat every inning with fair and equal hitting time allotted.**
- No player can play closer than 45 feet to the batter.
- **Limit of 6 infielders at a time, 4 outfielders**
- Coaches will help expedite game play to ensure everyone has as many chances to hit as possible.
- No score or “outs” will be kept during the game.
- If a player is “out” he/she will continue to run the bases.
- Batter will only advance one base at a time, unless the ball is hit to the outfield. When the ball is hit into the outfield, the batter may run the bases until the ball is returned to the infield dirt. The runner must stop at the base he/she is at. If he/she is $\frac{3}{4}$ through advancing to the next base already, he/she may continue to the next base.
- The base path for ages 7 and under will be 50ft.
- There will be no catchers in this league.
- Players must wear batting helmets while on deck, batting and running the bases.
- The umpire will be the only person putting a ball on a tee. Players cannot swing until the umpire calls “play ball.”
- Coaches will assist their players on offense by directing them around the base path.
- T-ball games will be 3 innings long or a 1 hour time limit.
- No new innings will begin after 40 minutes of game time has passed.
- BGCS Sports will provide gatorade coolers and cups for each game.



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Coach Pitch Rules

***All rules below applies to 10u only for this 2024 Summer League**

- *Coach Pitch games shall consist of 5 innings or one hour. No new inning will start after 45 minutes of game play.*
- *Coach Pitch leagues will allow 10 fielders and will use 3 outs, 6 runs, or 10 batters per inning. The inning is over when the ball is returned to the pitching circle on the 10th batter.*
- *Players will receive up to 5 pitches (strike attempts) and 3 coach mulligans for a poor pitch per game.*
- **Base stealing and leading off are not permitted.**
- **Players cannot advance on passed balls and overthrows back to the pitcher.**
- **Coaches will hold 3 balls to start each at bat. Catchers will not chase passed balls, the umpire will throw the 3 balls back to the coach if he/she runs out of balls or a new at bat is started.**
- *Players can advance one base on an overthrow to a base.*
- *Up to three coaches are allowed in the dugouts and no one will be allowed to stand behind the dugout.*
- **Bunting is not permitted in Coach Pitch.**
- *There will be a circle in the middle of the field for the coach to pitch from, this is designed so the kids have an area to throw the ball, and therefore the coach must stay in the circle. The coach may move out of the circle if it is needed for the player to hit the ball.*
- **A tee may be used for Coach Pitch 8 & Under only - if a batter is not successful after 5 swings, they may have two attempts to hit off a tee.**
- **Coaches who are pitching must stay in the circle at all times and must move to the point in the circle closest to the player who is attempting to throw you the ball.**
- *This is an instructional, recreational league and scores will not be shared online. However, we will be keeping score during the games.*
- **There will be lines placed approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way down the base paths. If the runner is past the line when the ball is dead the runner may advance to the next base, and if the player is not yet at the line the runner must return to the previous base, this will be determined by the umpire.**
- *Catchers must wear protective gear. Catcher's gear is available in team sets.*
- *BGCS Sports will provide gatorade coolers and cups for each game.*

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Player Pitch Rules

- Due to shorter distance between bases, leading off will not be permitted.
- Runners can advance on passed balls but cannot score on a passed ball unless the rule below is in effect
- Players cannot steal home while the catcher is throwing the ball back to the pitcher but may steal home if the catcher doesn't catch the ball thrown by the pitcher.
 - Same rules apply for stealing bases.
- The play will be considered "dead" if the pitcher has the ball and is touching the mound. If the base runner is between bases, the play will stop when that runner either retreats back to the previous base.
- Base runners will be called out if there is contact at a base and the runner did not slide.
- **The Infield Fly Rule will apply to Player Pitch leagues only.**
- In Player Pitch, coaches can only make two visits to the mound per inning. On the second visit to the mound, the coach must remove the pitcher.
- Player Pitch will be 5 innings or one hour and with no new inning beginning after 50 minutes of game play; games will have 3 outs, 7 runs, or a **maximum of 9 batters** per inning. There will be no extra innings during the regular season.
- **Bunting will be allowed in Player Pitch leagues only.**
- If a team has less than 8 players, they will be able to "borrow" players needed from the other team to field 8 players or play with a minimum of 6.
- Rubber cleats are recommended but steel cleats are not allowed.
- Up to three coaches are allowed in the dugouts and no one will be allowed to stand behind the dugout.
- BGCS Sports will provide gatorade coolers and cups for each game.



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Coach Resources

Quick Contacts:

- Text Director of Sports - 417-616-5332
- At gate entrance - we'll have a list of coaches to enter at no charge
 - Medical Emergencies:
- Ice packs, injuries, dehydration etc. - Call or text Director of Sports - 417-616-5332 (we will be onsite to help)
- Remember weather cancellation policies!

Perks!

- Coach is allowed a **1 free drink/ snack** for each coached game from concessions
- Blank Pre-printed rosters available to pick up at concessions before game-time.

Team Awards

- Please select one player to receive - Most improved Player Award
 - Please select one player to receive - Sportsmanship Award
- *Trophies will be given the week of August 12th

Practice Plans

- Find a public location or contact the Director of Sports to reserve a field.
 - Prepare to be successful by having a plan for each practice
- Youtube.com: [get.mojo.sport/youtub](https://www.youtube.com/get.mojo.sport/youtub) (10u^) - Download MOJO for free!
 - Youtube.com: Little League - [Tee Ball Drills](#)
- Youtube.com: T-Ball Academy Steve Stanford - [Baserunning](#) & [Hitting Drill](#)

Reminders

- Encourage teammates supporting each others
- Remind self/ parents/ players: no one is being recruited today.
Competition is healthy and learning new skills/ growth is the goal.
- Proper & Direct communication is KEY!

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THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR TIME & COMMITMENT!

Baseball All-Star Appreciation Game!

COACHES/STAFF VS. PLAYERS

Friday, August 16th at 6p! - Sertoma Field

- **Coaches of 13u Teams will select 3 players to play!**
- **Please communicate your choice with their parents by August 2nd.**
 - (Coached by Honorary Coaches)**
 - ★ **Includes appropriate walk up music**
 - **Includes a BGCS ALL-STAR jersey!**
 - **Tasty Treat provided to Coaches**
 - **Players Pitch Rules!**