



# Minors

## **COORDINATOR**

If you have any questions about this division, please send an email to the League Administrator, [admin@jerichobaseball.com](mailto:admin@jerichobaseball.com).

## **ABOUT THIS DIVISION**

Minors is for kids who are baseball age 7-9 who were born between September 1, 2011 – August 31, 2014. It is for the 7-year-old that is ready to move up from Mini-minors and the 9-year-old that is new to the game.

8 & 9-year-old players are allowed to try out for Majors. Please refer to the Majors Division for more information regarding assessments.

Minors is a semi-competitive development program, building on the fundamental baseball skills. Training begins to focus on the details of positional play and defensive strategies. Fun, physical activity, confidence building and the value of teamwork continue to be a priority.

There are 10 - 12 players per team. Players are permitted to request one-three friends. The Division Coordinator will do their best to accommodate the request but are not guaranteed. Friend requests are made at the time of registration.

## **PLAYER COMMITMENT**

1 practice (1 hr and 30 min) and 1 game (2 hr) per week. Practice days/times are set by team coaches and division co-ordinators during the week. Most games will be on Saturday late mornings / early afternoon and occasional Sunday. There will also be an optional skills training program offered on Sunday.

## **PARENT COMMITMENT**

Each team relies on parent volunteer coaches and team manager. Post-Training / Game field maintenance is also required by parent volunteers. COVID-19 protocols will be communicated prior to start of season.

## **PRACTICE / GAME STRUCTURE**

Practice plans focused on fun and skill development. After warm-up, recommend dividing team into small groups and rotate through 2 – 3 stations in order to ensure each child is active and being exposed to different skills. Although this level is still pitching

machine, encourage coaches to start introducing pitching / catching drills during practice.

Subject to COVID-19 protocols, games are set up using a pitching machine and subject to local Jericho rules (<https://www.jerichobaseball.com/coaches>). There are several changes to the rules from Mini-Minor:

- the batting tee is no longer provided so players can "strike out". Note: this rule is frequently waived for the first few weeks of the season until the players get accustomed to the higher pitching speed.
- We no longer bat through the order each inning. An inning ends when 3 outs are recorded by the defense or max runs are scored by the offense.
- We introduce score keeping at this level. At beginning of season no standing are maintained. At the end of the regular season, a playoff format will be communicated.

The fielding team places a kid at all positions, including a catcher in gear and player next to the coach at the pitching machine pitcher.

At end of game a running relay competition is encouraged with one team starting at 2<sup>nd</sup> Base and other at home plate.

## **MINORS FIELD LOCATIONS AND EQUIPMENT**

All games will be played at Trimble SW or Carnarvon East.

Each team will be given an equipment bag with catcher gear, practice / game balls, bats, and wiffle balls that must be returned at end of season. Additional Minors gear is located in the green bin, located at the south end of the batting cage @ Carnarvon Park or diamond at Trimble SW. There are pitching machines (blue flame), balls, bases and bats. Level 5 balls continue to be used to reduce the risk of injury to the players.

## **REQUIRED EQUIPMENT**

Glove, helmet, baseball pants, cleats and athletic cup are required. Bats are recommended. League will provide community bats.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

<https://www.littleleague.org/university/coaches/>