

# 2009

## K.Y.S.A. Parent / Player Handbook

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### THE MOST COMMON QUESTIONS Which Section?

Do I need to show my child's birth certificate at Registration? **Pg 11**; Why won't they fill my coffee mug at the concession stand? **Pg 5**; How can I manage or coach my own child? **Pg 13**; How do I get my two children on the same team? **Pg 13**; What time are games? **Pg 14**; Where can I park? **Pg 7**; Who do I ask/tell if I have a question/concern? **Pg. 4**; When are the red and yellow flag decisions made? **Pg 15**; Where can I make suggestions for improvements to K.Y.S.A.? **pg 5**.

**February 7, 2009**

# **Welcome to *Keizer Youth Sports Association!***

Welcome to a new season of *K.Y.S.A.* This handbook is provided to pass information about *K.Y.S.A.* to a new generation of players, parents, managers, coaches, umpires, and board members. We are glad you have joined *K.Y.S.A.*!

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Keizer Youth Sports Association, one of the largest youth sports programs in the area, is a nonprofit organization administered solely by volunteers. The success of our program depends entirely on the generosity of parents and community members who are willing to share their time, talents, knowledge, patience, and love of the game. Our board members, managers, coaches, umpires, plus many others, are all volunteers and sacrifice enormous amounts of their time. We welcome and encourage your participation. If you would like to volunteer, please call a board member for more information.

Keizer Youth Sports Association is not operated by the City of Keizer. Keizer Youth Sports Association has signed a Park Management Agreement with the City of Keizer to operate and maintain the facility.

*K.Y.S.A.* is its own corporation. Those people entrusted to run it, the annually elected Board of Directors, are all volunteers. *K.Y.S.A.* Regulations prohibit any board member from receiving any form of monetary compensation for their services as board members.

As stated in *K.Y.S.A.* constitution, the mission of *K.Y.S.A.* is to provide a wholesome environment for youth to participate in baseball and softball activities, and to develop in our youth, a sense of good sportsmanship through a competitive spirit. We strive to provide opportunities for personal growth and development of youth athletes, while also reinforcing positive influences, self-confidence, self-esteem, and to implant firmly in the children of the community, the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and respect for authority so they may be well adjusted, stronger, happier children, and grow to be good, decent, healthy, and trustworthy citizens. *K.Y.S.A.* strives to provide a fun and safe environment for children to come together in friendly competition to play fair and always do their best.

**1. CONTACT INFORMATION:** Any questions about the information in this handbook or any other aspects of *K.Y.S.A.* can be addressed by contacting members of the Board of Directors. (See section #6 - Problem Solving.) Written correspondence can be sent to: Keizer Youth Sports Association  
P.O. Box 20033 Keizer, OR 97307

Many resources for Keizer Youth Sports Association patrons are available via the Internet. General information is available, game schedules and rainouts can be tracked, and various *K.Y.S.A.* documents can be printed.  
<http://www.keizeryouthsports.org>

**2. LEAGUE AGE & PROGRAMS:** All decisions regarding age in *K.Y.S.A.* are based on a player's League Age (LA).

A ***Baseball*** player's LA is his or her age prior to August 1 of that season. In simpler terms, it is his or her age on July 31. For example, a player who turns 13 on July 31 is LA 13, but a player who turns 13 one day later on August 1 is LA 12. For 2009 only, T-ball baseball players age date is April 1 (LA is age as of 3/31).

For ***Softball***, the date to determine the league age is 12/31 prior to the current season. In simpler terms, what ever the Softball player's age is on 12/31 is her LA for the upcoming season.

The *K.Y.S.A.* Baseball and Softball programs are for players League Age 5 - 18. Division Ages are the same for both Baseball and Softball

**3. LEAGUE BOUNDARIES:** Keizer Youth Sports Association territory is considered to be the Keizer community. The boundaries can change from year to year. The current boundaries are defined in the *K.Y.S.A.* Constitution.

**4. ANNUAL MEETING:** The Annual Meeting of the members of Keizer Youth Sports Association is held each year for the purpose of electing the Board of Directors, receiving reports, reviewing the Constitution, appointing committees, and for the transaction of such business as may properly come before the members. A quorum of one-fifth of the members is required. The voting membership consists of all current board members and coaches and any other interested people who have applied and been approved to be members and have paid membership dues.

**5. BOARD MEETINGS:** The Keizer Youth Sports Association Board of Directors meets regularly to govern the day-to-day operations of the League. All board meetings, except Executive Committee meetings, are open to the public. Only members of the Board of Directors may make motions and vote. The scheduled dates of all board meetings will be listed on our website. Anyone interested in becoming a board member or learning more about *K.Y.S.A.*, are encouraged to attend the meetings.

**6. PROBLEM SOLVING:** When you are dealing with over eight hundred players and their families, there are bound to be some questions or concerns. As a league, we want to resolve these issues in a manner that leaves all parties involved feeling like winners. We must remember that certain people are better informed and better able to help. It is very important to follow the "Chain of Command" in dealing with problems. *Please start all inquiries here in this Handbook.* Answers to many common questions are provided here. If you are unable to find what you are looking for, feel free to ask your manager and coach. If you feel the concern or question has not been resolved by going to them, the appropriate persons to contact are as listed below. *Please don't automatically call the President for every question.* The entire Board is at your disposal. Calling the appropriate board member will most likely result in a faster solution.

***Keizer Youth Sports Association CANNOT take action against anyone or otherwise deviate from normal decision making procedures based on verbal complaints only.***

If you feel that a problem is serious and want a specific action taken, you must put it in writing. You must write a letter to the Board detailing the specifics of the problem, and what course of action you would like taken. Please include your full name, address, and signature at the bottom of the letter. If the issue involves a player, please include as much of the following information as possible: the player's full legal name, date of birth, division and team, address if different, and relationship to you. You may give the letter in a sealed envelope to any board member, or mail to the League's mail box. Mailing information is listed in section #1 - Contact Information. Keizer Youth Sports Association is committed to addressing any concern or problem that may arise. However, the Board cannot act without timely, signed, written documentation.

**7. SPONSORS:** *K.Y.S.A.* solicits sponsorships for each team. Team sponsors help reduce the per-team cost of running our program. Almost any business, organization, group, or individual can sponsor a team. Sponsorship moneys go to the League as a whole and not to an individual team directly. In addition to team sponsorships, billboard, and project sponsorships are also available.

1 **Team Sponsorship:** All team sponsors will receive a sponsor plaque. Sponsor assignments to specific teams are granted on a first come-first served basis.

2 **Billboard Sponsorship:** Billboards are placed along the fences as advertisement on one of the fields.

3 **Project Sponsorship:** Many options are available for individuals, businesses, or organizations interested in helping sponsor a project. Sponsorships can be made several different ways. A cash donation may be made towards the project, or product or materials may be donated to the project. A more common option is for a supplier to donate profit to the project by selling product or materials at cost. Contact the Sponsorship Director if you have questions or suggestions.

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**8. CONCESSION STAND:** The *K.Y.S.A.* concession stand is inspected and certified with a restaurant license. The concession stand is staffed by you! Please patronize our concession stand often. Remember that every dollar of profit goes directly to the support of *K.Y.S.A.* If you are planning a team party, you can have it at the 2009 Parent Handbook continued....

Keizer Youth Sports Complex on any day that the concession stand will be open, and they can provide food and drinks for the party. Please inquire a few days before hand at the concession stand.

All teams are required to provide volunteers for at least two shifts each season. Two teams will be assigned to staff each shift. Each team needs to provide four people for each shift. Weekday shifts are from 5:00 PM until closing. Saturday shifts are approximately from 8:45 AM to 12:30 PM, 1:00 PM to 4:00PM and 4:30PM to closing. Shift times and duration are subject to change as needed. If your team is scheduled to provide workers in the stand, please be prompt, late workers mean late opening. Please do not split shifts. Each worker is given a \$3.50 food credit for working a shift, which must be used that day.

If your teams concession duty is cancelled due to rainout, please be aware that it may be rescheduled.

Please do not enter the concession stand unless you are working in it. Health codes prohibit children under 14 working in the concession stand. The bringing of outside containers into the Concession stand is prohibited. This means that we cannot fill or refill containers such as coffee mugs, water bottles, thermoses, or used Pepsi or coffee cups. The consumption of food or beverages (except water) inside concession stand is prohibited. Workers using their food credits must take their food and drink outside to eat.

**9. LITTER:** Please help keep the Keizer Youth Sports Complex clean. Containers for garbage are conveniently located throughout the park. Please take your garbage to another container if one is full. Spectators are encouraged to pick up after themselves, and teams are required to clean out their dugout. Use of tobacco products in Keizer Youth Sports Complex, or any other location of *K.Y.S.A.* activities, is prohibited during *K.Y.S.A.* events. Smoking is allowed in the parking lots only. Please dispose of used cigarettes in your car's ashtray. The concession stand has expanded its litter pickup program. It will offer a small size popcorn, SnoKone, or an Airhead to anyone who fills a five-gallon bucket with garbage (from the ground, not from other garbage cans!) and empties it in the dumpsters.

**10. DIRECTOR ON DUTY:** During all games at Keizer Youth Sports Complex, a board member will be on site to supervise the operations and to respond to all emergencies. This person is known as the Director on Duty (DOD), and can be contacted by asking at the concession stand. The DOD has authority to eject spectators from the park and should be called in the event of medical emergencies, altercations, or any dispute except for interpreting umpires rulings.

**11. PARK MAINTENANCE:** K.Y.S.A. is responsible for maintaining the Keizer Youth Sports Complex, even though it is a city park. All team managers, coaches, parents, and players are encouraged to volunteer their time in field reconditioning on preseason work days and at other times as needed. *Prior to Opening Day, the Keizer Youth Sports Complex will be closed to all practices until the fields' director given authorization that the fields are ready for play.* Good field maintenance insures added safety for players. This work consists mainly of infield mowing (where required), weeding and edging, litter pickup, and garbage dumping.

***SPECIAL NOTE ON FIELD LINING:*** DO NOT PUT CHALK IN GRASS AREAS. The foul lines will be painted on a weekly basis. If for some reason the lines have not been repainted, please mention it, and they will be PAINTED as soon as possible. DO NOT PUT CHALK IN GRASS AREAS. The marking material does not easily wash away; excessive amounts will kill the grass.

***SPECIAL NOTE ON RAKING:*** Raking is one of the most important elements of field maintenance. There IS a right way and a wrong way to rake. Correct raking will keep the field in top condition, and can actually prevent a rainout the following day when only showering and not heavily raining. Incorrect raking will make a field worse than not raking it in the first place. The purpose of raking is to level the dirt, not simply erase foot prints. Large valleys and mounds develop around bases from sliding. This dirt needs to be redistributed. Many times on yellow flag days, the fields that are not playable are the ones that were not raked properly the night before and have large mud holes by the bases.

**REMEMBER:** Level the dirt, do not merely erase foot prints; and rake the base paths parallel to the baseline, not across it

**12. SCORE BOOTHS & SCORE BOARDS:** Seven of the fields have score booths. Scorekeepers from both teams are welcome and encouraged to use the booths. The six fields used by the Major, Junior, and Senior divisions are equipped with electronic scoreboards. Controllers are available at the concession stand. Users must submit a valid driver's license in exchange for the controller. If there is more than one game per field per day and operators change between games, the controller must be returned, and then issued to the new operator. Controllers are assigned by field, and may not be exchanged with other fields. If a controller for a field is missing or damaged, then the scoreboard for that field cannot be used. The use of the score board controllers or the public address system by children under 16 is discouraged unless there is parental supervision. Controllers must be returned to the concession stand before it closes. The controller for the Junior/Senior Baseball field may be stored in the equipment box at that field. Scoreboards are used as a convenience to spectators and are unofficial. *Only the umpire has the official count.*

**13. SECURITY:** The Keizer Youth Sports Complex is leased from the City of Keizer by Keizer Youth Sports Association. As part of the lease agreement, *K.Y.S.A.* is responsible for maintaining security. Violators of City Park Regulations, *K.Y.S.A.* Regulations, may be ejected from the park by League officials. Anyone ejected from a game by an umpire is automatically ejected from the park.

Persons ejected from the park must completely and immediately leave the park property, including the parking lots. An ejection remains in effect for the remainder of the day at the Keizer Youth Sports Complex and any other site of Keizer Youth Sports Association

activities. Persons refusing to leave after being ejected may be arrested for trespassing. Serious incidents may result in the individual being issued a trespass notice and banned from **ALL** sites of Keizer Youth Sports Association Activities. Trespass notices shall remain in effect for the remainder of the season, or until otherwise rescinded. Persons returning while a trespass notice is still active may be arrested.

**14. PARKING & VEHICLE SAFETY:** At the park, use caution while driving and parking your vehicle. Take extra care to see that the driveways are clear before backing up.

***DO NOT PARK IN OR EVEN PARTIALLY BLOCK FIRE LANES OR DRIVEWAYS.*** If your vehicle is only partially blocking the driveway, you still can receive a ticket or be towed.. If an emergency occurs, an ambulance will need access to the field. The fire lanes must be clear. Do not park in reserved areas such as handicapped or other specially marked parking spaces. You may receive a ticket, be towed away, or both.

The south parking lot has two gates: one for entrance only (north), and one for exit only (south). This design makes for improved traffic flow, as well as safety. Do not exit through the entrance gate.

The parking lot west of the fieldhouse is for Manager/Coach and Disabled parking. Repeat violators may have their vehicles towed. The purpose of the parking area is to allow convenient parking for the person who brings the team equipment. It is not meant to be a perk for the manager or coach who does not want to park in the regular parking lots. The area should not be used when your team is not playing unless you are hauling equipment. Parents should not drive down to drop off or pick up children. Persons with disabled permits are also allowed to park in this lot. Persons with difficulties who might need to drive down to a field to watch a game should make prior contact with a board member.

The Keizer Church of Christ has again generously allowed the League the use of their parking lot as overflow parking. They request that K.Y.S.A. patrons not park there on **Wednesdays and Sundays**, or any other days of church activities. Barricades will be put out as notice. If this becomes a problem, they do have the authority to tow your vehicle as it is private property. Please dispose of your garbage in the League's garbage containers and not on the ground in their lot.

The safety of your vehicle is your responsibility. ***Keizer Youth Sports Association, the City of Keizer, and the Keizer Church of Christ are not responsible if your car is hit by a ball or bat while parked in a parking lot or on the street side. Keizer Youth Sports Association, the City of Keizer, and the Keizer Church of Christ are not responsible for any damages to your vehicle due to accident, theft, fire, or vandalism***

**15. PARK SAFETY & RULES:** While the league makes every attempt to ensure the safety of those involved with the program, the safety of all cannot be guaranteed without the cooperation of parents. A child's safety begins and ends with the parents. Parents should take the lead in stressing to their children the importance of following the rules established by the managers and coaches and to obey the rules of the park.

As both a city park and a place where *K.Y.S.A.* games are played, the Keizer Youth Sports Complex falls under several sets of rules and regulations. Signs listing these rules and regulations are posted at every major park entrance. All children under 16 years of age are

subject to Oregon's bike helmet law (ORS 814.485). Make sure children bring and USE their helmets on the way to the park. Also, children should be reminded that ***Park Regulations prohibit bicycles inside the park beyond bike racks.***

Since the Keizer Youth Sports Complex is a city park, the general public is allowed to use the park for personal use without prior arrangements when it does ***not*** conflict with ***K.Y.S.A.*** activities or rules (such as red flag days). As with all city parks, organized events such as church activities, company softball games, and games or practices for any non- ***K.Y.S.A.*** events require a park reservation by contacting ***K.Y.S.A.*** and payment of reservation fees. Approval of such reservations is dependent upon ***K.Y.S.A.*** schedules.

### CITY OF KEIZER PARK REGULATIONS

Parks open at sunrise and close at sunset except where illuminated by designated sports field lighting. Organized events require a park reservation.

#### PROHIBITED:

- 1 Possession of alcoholic beverages
- 2 Possession of firearms or bows and arrows
- 3 Unauthorized dumping
- 4 Open fires
- 5 Walking or riding horses
- 6 Vandalism
- 7 Hitting golf balls
- 8 Parking or driving vehicles outside designated areas
- 9 Riding or pushing bicycles outside bike rack area
- 10 Keizer Youth Sports Association and Keizer Youth Sports Complex rules:
  - A-Use of tobacco products during League events prohibited.
  - B- Keizer Youth Sports Complex and/or specific diamonds are closed when red and yellow flags are posted on the flagpole according to the Inclement Weather Policy.
  - C- Home run derby-type activities, unless sponsored and administered by the League, are prohibited on ALL fields while K.Y.S.A. activities are occurring on ANY field.

**D. - NO DOGS or OTHER PETS are ALLOWED AT *K.Y.S.A.* activities**

**16. PLAYER SAFETY:** Keizer Youth Sports Association seeks to provide the safest environment possible for those who participate in ***K.Y.S.A.*** Every attempt is made to ensure that the equipment and facilities are safe for participants, volunteers, and spectators. Managers and coaches are encouraged to run safe game techniques. Umpires strive to provide players with the opportunity to participate in a safe contest by enforcing the rules of the game. ***AT Keizer Youth Sports Complex, SAFETY IS OUR GREATEST CONCERN.***

--Parents of players who wear glasses are encouraged to provide safety glasses. Batting helmets with face guards are available upon request.

--Players must have properly fitting shoes and gloves. All players in A.A.A. - Senior divisions are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to have shoes with plastic cleats, although



metal cleats are allowed in the Senior division. Cleats are also recommended for Tee Ball and AA divisions. However, regular shoes are acceptable at these levels. Shoes with metal spikes or cleats are not permitted for players in T-ball through Majors.

--All male players must, at AAA level and higher must wear athletic supporters. Random checks for compliance may be performed at any time. Boys without athletic supporters will not be allowed to play. Male catchers must wear the metal, fiber, or plastic type cup.

--All catchers must wear chest protectors with neck collar, throat guard, shin guards, and catcher's helmet, all of which must meet strict specifications and standards. All catchers must wear a mask with a dangling type throat protector, and catcher's helmet during practice, pitcher warm-up, and games. Skull caps are not permitted.

--Use of helmet by the batter, all base runners, and youth base coaches is mandatory.

--Players must not wear watches, rings, pins, jewelry, or other metallic items except that jewelry that alerts medical personnel to a specific condition is permissible. Placing tape over pierced earrings is not allowed.

No player in any Baseball division shall, during the regular season, throw more than maximum number pitches per day. However, once a pitcher reaches the limit, he is allowed to finish with the batter he is facing. Only official game pitches shall count towards the pitch count. The pitch count shall be recorded in the game's official score book. The score keeper shall notify the umpire when the pitch count reaches 85 at the Senior level (95 max for 13-15 yr olds), 75 for eleven and 12 year olds (85 max for 11-12 yr olds), and 65 for 10 & under (75 max for 10 & under). Become involved in the skill development of your child to ensure that the child can play safely at the appropriate skill level. Attend practices to observe how your child behaves. Encourage your child to respect the managers, coaches, umpires, equipment, and facilities and to take pride in their league. Parents should ensure that their child has the appropriate practice clothing as dictated by the weather. Be sure to report all unsafe practices and conditions to the Safety Director or any other board member. Parents, it is your responsibility to ensure that your child arrives at practices or games safely. When you transport your child, be sure there is a responsible adult present before you leave the site. If you cannot stay for the practice or game, arrive early to pick up your child before practice or the game is over, or make car pooling arrangements. Remember, managers and coaches are volunteers, not baby-sitters. When attending activities with children, *make sure you know where they are at all times. Their safety is your responsibility.*

**17. INJURIES:** The possibility exists for a ball or bat to leave the playing field. All visitors to the park are warned by signs at all main entrances to ***BE AWARE OF FLYING OBJECTS***, and that ***Keizer Youth Sports Association AND THE CITY OF KEIZER ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR INJURIES RESULTING FROM OBJECTS LEAVING THE PLAYING FIELD.***

If you or your child is injured at the Keizer Youth Sports Complex, or any other site of *K.Y.S.A.* activity, please notify the Safety Director as soon as possible. Any injury that requires a game or practice to be stopped, and is such that the player is unable to leave the field without assistance, must be reported using an Accident Report Form. Your manager should have an accident form, and extras are available at the concession stand. All player injuries during games must be noted in the team score book immediately after the occurrence. All Accident Reports should be turned in to the concession stand within

twenty-four hours. Some injuries may also require that insurance forms be completed. ***Any player who has to visit a doctor because of an injury is not allowed to participate in future games or practices until released by his/her doctor. Written authorization from the child's physician is required. Parental authorization IS NOT sufficient.***

**18. INSURANCE:** The *K.Y.S.A.* program is designed to afford protection to participants at the most economical cost to the local league. It can be used to supplement other insurance carried under a family policy or insurance provided through the participant or family's employer(s). If there is no other coverage, *K.Y.S.A.* insurance -- which is purchased by the league, not the parent -- takes over. It provides benefits, after a \$100 deductible per claim, for all covered injury treatment costs up to the maximum stated benefits.

No player (new or returning) shall be allowed to be evaluated, practice, or play during any season until a Registration Form is properly completed and signed by a parent or guardian, as the form contains medical releases and legal waivers.

**19. REGISTRATION & BIRTH CERTIFICATES:** The *K.Y.S.A.* season begins with registration. At registration, players choose in which program they want to participate. Any registration after the final registration time will incur a \$25 late fee. Players who register after the last evaluation for their division are not guaranteed placement to a team.

At the time of registration, all players need to present a state certified birth certificate in accordance to *K.Y.S.A.* Regulations. Hospital birth announcements and congratulatory certificates CANNOT be accepted. The certificate MUST be issued by the government. Children will not be allowed to play if they have not been certified. Acceptable documents are listed below. For information about ordering a birth certificate, call 503-731-4108 Monday thru Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, or visit <http://www.vitalchek.com/>. ***All documents must be originals or certified copies only.***

- 1 State Vital Statistics Birth Certificate (not "Card")
- 2 US Passport
- 3 DD Form 1173 (US Military)
- 4 US Military Hospital Certificate
- 5 Form FS 240 (US Consular Service)
- 6 Naturalization Form N-585 (US Department of Justice)

**20. PARTICIPATION FEES:** Three primary sources of income support Keizer Youth Sports Association: sponsor support, concession revenues, and participation fees. The participation fees will be determined each year by the Board of Directors in accordance with *K.Y.S.A.* regulations. An additional fee may be charged if paid umpires are used. A family maximum of three times the normal fees will not be exceeded. A \$25 service charge will be assessed on returned checks. *K.Y.S.A.* mandates that all players will be allowed to play regardless of disability, race, creed, color, national origin, gender, or religious preference. Financial situations also will not limit a child's ability to play at Keizer Youth Sports Association. Confidential scholarships are available. Please see the *K.Y.S.A.* President during registration. Parents who are unable to pay a participation fee are asked to contribute volunteer time to the League. Participation Fees for players are separate from membership dues for regular members.

**21. REFUNDS:** When a player quits a team, it usually places stress on that team. Fewer eligible players can sometimes lead to game forfeitures. Even more difficult to overcome, is the lost sense of team unity caused when existing players leave and replaced by new players. Any player who quits *K.Y.S.A.* after the team assignments for any unapproved reason will forfeit any participation fee paid. Approved reasons are limited to injuries or medical problems, family emergencies, and moving out of *K.Y.S.A.* Boundaries. Unapproved reasons specifically include, but are not limited to, dissatisfaction with team placement, perceived lack of playing positions or time, and commitments to other non-*K.Y.S.A.* sports activities.

**22. MANAGER AND COACH APPLICATIONS:** Managers and coaches are appointed annually and must apply each season. . Adherence to the Adult Code of Conduct and Managers and Coaches Responsibilities & Code of Conduct weighs heavily in the approval process. All applicants are required to undergo a criminal background check. Keizer Youth Sports Association reserves the right to check the background of any volunteer at any time. Early manager and coach applications help facilitate an effective and well-balanced program for all of the players involved in *K.Y.S.A.* Application on or before the last Registration date is critical as approvals of applications need to be made in a timely manner.

**23. UMPIRES:** All Tee Ball through Major team managers should develop an umpire list from their team parents. The League does not officially supply umpires for these divisions. As a result, managers and coaches themselves are sometimes required to officiate. The more people available, the fewer times any one person has to umpire. *Umpire training and certification is available at no cost (to you) for anyone interested! Inquire during registration; the class begins in February. A program is also available for umpires to earn their own gear at no cost by agreeing to umpire games for Keizer Youth Sports Association. Please contact the Umpire in Chief for more information.*

All managers and coaches should encourage volunteers and pass along names of any individuals interested in umpiring to the Umpire in Chief. Many trained umpires volunteer their services. They will officiate when they can, with the remainder of times filled by Major managers and coaches. More umpires are always needed. Parents or spectators may be called upon to umpire if the need arises. A game will be canceled if there is no umpire. Protective equipment will be supplied by the League for volunteers.

**24. TEAM MEETINGS:** Team meetings for *Tee Ball, A.A., A.A.A., and Major* teams are normally held the week after teams are announced. The purpose of these meetings is for the players, parents, and coaches to get acquainted and to share information. It is extremely important for at least one parent of each child to attend. Managers and coaches will be covering a lot of information. They will be explaining what to expect in the upcoming season, discussing their rules and expectations, handing out practice, game, and concession schedules; and going over the season schedule.

**25. UNIFORMS:** Players in the Tee Ball, A.A., and A.A.A. divisions will be issued caps and T-shirts. Players may keep the cap and shirt at the end of the season. Players in the Major Division will be issued replica caps and jerseys. Players may keep the caps, but must return the jerseys. Pants, socks, and shoes are the parent's responsibility. All uniforms will be handed out in late-March to early-April.

**26. EVALUATIONS:** Evaluations are opportunities for managers and coaches to see and evaluate players' experience and abilities before drafting them. All 8 through 14 year old players wanting to play AAA, Majors or Senior baseball who are not returning to a Majors team, must participate in at least one of the evaluations for their division to be eligible for that division's draft (9 year old players wanting to play Majors baseball must attend all evaluations).

Eligibility for a division's draft does not guarantee placement into that division. Players League Age 9 must participate in at least one of the evaluations to be eligible for the A.A.A. draft. Players LA 9 ineligible for the A.A.A. draft (or not drafted) will be placed on A.A. teams.

Players league age 8-12 must participate in at least one of the evaluations to be eligible for the AAA draft. Players league age 8-10 not drafted to AAA teams will be placed on AA teams. Players that are league age 9 must participate in 100% of the Majors evaluations to be eligible for the Majors draft. Players league age 10-12 must participate in at least one of the Majors evaluations to be eligible for the Major draft.

Players that are league age 13 or 14 (may be LA 15 if still in 8<sup>th</sup> grade) must participate in at least one of the evaluations to be eligible for the Senior draft. Players that do not participate in the evaluations cannot be drafted onto a team. They will be assigned to a team by the player agent or can be eligible for a manager's exception picks.

**27. PLAYER DRAFT & OPTIONS:** During the player draft, Major and A.A.A. managers and coaches will select their teams based on their evaluations of players at tryouts. *Players or their parents may not attend the draft.* During the actual drafting procedures, all *K.Y.S.A.* Regulations regarding team selection will be strictly followed.

**Sibling Options** (for two players eligible to play in the same division). If two or more siblings are in the draft, they are eligible to be treated as a brother/sister option. This option allows the siblings to be placed on the same team. The second sibling must be drafted during the round immediately following the selection of the first sibling.

1 **Brother/Sister option:** If one of the two siblings is returning to a team, the other sibling may be optioned onto that team. This type of Brother/Sister Option must be drafted on or before the third round.

2 For siblings who are brother and sister, the sister must be optioned onto the brother's team since boys are not eligible for the Girls Softball program.

**28. OPENING DAY:** Opening Day ceremonies are traditionally scheduled for the first Saturday in April.

**29. PICTURES:** Individual pictures are an optional expense, but please show up for the team photo even if you choose not to purchase the pictures. Pictures for Tee Ball through Major divisions are normally taken at Whiteaker Middle School or Dayspring Church. Managers and coaches will distribute picture packets and have the time and place for pictures to be taken. Parents, please have your child with cap and a clean uniform at the site no later than fifteen minutes prior to your scheduled time. Having players there early helps prevent delays. ***Remember, if you are scheduled to have your pictures taken at 9:30, and you walk through the door at 9:30, you are already late.*** The staff at Whiteaker has asked that players not wear cleats into the building

**30. PRACTICES:** Teams may begin practicing once equipment has been assigned. However mandatory practices may not begin until the Monday following Spring Break. Location of team practices is left up to the discretion of the team manager. Fields for practices are available at all Keizer area schools. All city parks other than the Keizer Youth Sports Complex may also be used; however they can not be reserved for K.Y.S.A. activities. Times will be scheduled for teams to practice at Claggett Middle School and Keizer Youth Sport Complex. Preseason, regular season, and Junior Baseball practice schedules for the Keizer Youth Sports Complex will be issued.

The actual number of practices per week is left up to the discretion of the team manager.

**Parents are responsible for transportation to and from practices. Managers and coaches are strongly discouraged from transporting team members. K.Y.S.A. insurance DOES NOT cover transportation of players by team manager or coach.**

**31. GAMES:** Most regular season games will be played at the Keizer Youth Sports Complex. Junior Baseball of Oregon, A.S.A. games may be at McNary High School or other leagues' sites for inter-leaguings teams. Game schedules for Tee Ball through Major teams will normally be distributed on, or soon after Team Meeting night. Every season, there is some confusion about how late the Keizer Youth Sports Association season runs. ***The K.Y.S.A. season does not automatically end when school releases for the summer.*** This misunderstanding creates conflicts with vacations. To help avoid this problem, players in the Tee Ball through AAA divisions should ***plan*** on playing until the last week of June. Players in the Junior Baseball of Oregon and A.S.A. Programs should ***plan*** on playing through the third week of July. It is possible that a team's schedule will end earlier than these dates. However, until the game schedules are released, players and parents should use these dates as reasonable expectations of how late players may play.

**32. RAINOUTS & CANCELED GAMES:** Sometimes, games may be delayed or canceled due to rain according to the Inclement Weather Policy (Section 33). Please remember that decisions are not official until 4:00 PM. ***Any color of flag (including red) may be changed at any time prior to 4:00 PM!*** Canceled games will be rescheduled by the Scheduling Director through the Division Director at the earliest possible time. Games that are canceled for valid reasons, such as school functions (not dances) will be rescheduled through the same procedure as rainouts.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** For safety, please do not drop off children at the park and leave them alone and unattended on days of poor weather. If games are canceled after a child is dropped off alone, no one else from that team may ever show up at the park. Make sure a manager or coach is present before leaving a child at the park.

**33. INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY:** Upon inspection of the Keizer Youth Sports Complex by the Fields or Safety Director; a decision shall be made, no earlier than 4:00 PM weekdays (1 hour prior to game start on weekends), regarding the playing of games for that day.

If all fields are playable, the US flag shall be raised on the flagpole.

If only some fields are unplayable, or if the decision regarding playability should be delayed until game time, a yellow flag shall be raised on the flagpole. If some fields are in playable condition, and some are not, a map indicating the closed fields shall be posted at the field house. No games or practices shall be held on the closed fields. If all fields are unplayable, a red flag shall be raised on the flagpole. The red flag indicates that all K.Y.S.A *K.Y.S.A.* activities have been suspended for remainder of the day. No *K.Y.S.A.* sponsored game or practice shall be held anywhere, including but not limited to the Keizer Youth Sports Complex, public parks, public school grounds, and private property. THE ONLY EXCEPTION is dry covered areas and indoor facilities may be used for practices only.

Any color of flag except red may be changed at any time prior to 4:00 PM (weekdays).

Between 4:00 PM and game time, a red flag will not be changed, but a yellow flag can be "upgraded" to red. Once games have started and the umpires have control of the games, there will be no flag changes. The umpire in charge of each game shall determine if it should continue.

### 34. General Rules:

#### A.A.A. & A.A. BASEBALL-

See individual division information sheet for pitching rules and regulations.

**Five Run Rule.** When implemented, a half-inning (one team's at bat) shall end after the defense makes three outs, or after the offense has scored five runs. This rule may be implemented one of three ways.

1. **ALL.** All half-innings shall end according to the five run rule.
2. **ALL EXCEPT LAST.** Each half-inning except the two in the last inning of a complete game shall end according to the five run rule. The two half-innings of the last inning shall allow an unlimited number of runs and end only after the defense makes three outs.
3. **NO.** The division has elected not to implement the rule. A half-inning ends only after the defense makes three outs.

**Three-or-Five Rule.** When implemented, a half-inning (one team's at bat) shall end after the defense makes three outs, or when the sum of defensive outs and offensive runs totals five. When determining the sum, defensive force outs shall be counted before offensive runs. The three-or-five rule may be implemented one of three ways.

- 1 **ALL.** All half-innings shall end according to the three-or-five rule.
- 2 **ALL EXCEPT LAST.** Each half-inning except the two in the last inning of a complete game shall end according to the three-or-five rule. The two half-innings of the last inning shall end only after the defense makes three outs.
- 3 **NO.** The division has elected not to implement the rule. A half-inning ends only after the defense makes three outs.

**No new innings.** This specifies after what time no new innings are allowed to start. Designation as the start of an inning is at the 3<sup>rd</sup> out or 5<sup>th</sup> run of the previous inning just completed. This rule may be implemented one of three ways.

- 1 **[Specified Time].** No new inning may start after [specified time].
- 2 **[Relative Time].** No new inning may start [relative time] before/after [specified event].  
Examples: 2 hours after game start time; 45 minutes prior to the next game's start time.
- 3 **NO.** The division has elected not to implement a special rule governing when new innings are allowed to start.

**Base Stealing Rule.** This rule specifies which bases may be stolen under certain conditions. This rule may be implemented one of two ways.

- 1 **[Specified rules].** The specified bases may be stolen only under the specified conditions.
- 2 **NO.** The division has elected not to implement a special rule governing when bases may be stolen. Stealing of bases is allowed according to *K.Y.S.A.* Regulations and Playing Rules.

**Overthrow Rule.** This rule specifies which, and how many, bases are awarded on an overthrow under certain conditions. This rule may be implemented one of two ways.

- 1 **[Specified rules].** The specified bases will be awarded on an overthrow under the specified conditions.
- 2 **NO.** The division has elected not to implement a special rule governing bases awarded on overthrows. Bases are awarded on overthrows according to *K.Y.S.A.* regulations and Playing Rules.

## MAJOR BASEBALL-

See individual division information sheet for pitching rules and regulations.

- High School rules are generally followed for the Major division including lead-off and base stealing.
- Games are six innings with no new inning to start after 1 hour-50 minutes.
- Use of a 12 run rule is implemented
- All players to play minimum of six defensive outs; bat entire roster
- No player can be intentionally walked more than one time per game.

**35. DUGOUTS:** According to *K.Y.S.A.* rules, all players and substitutes shall sit on their team's bench or in the dugout unless participating in the game or preparing to enter the game. In addition, no one except eligible players, the manager, and not more than two coaches shall occupy the bench or dugout. Please help us by reminding your player of these rules.

**36. EQUIPMENT:** Team equipment will be provided soon after the Team Meetings in mid to late March. Keizer Youth Sports Association provides helmets, bats, catchers gear, and balls. Parents will provide their child with an appropriately sized baseball or softball glove. Parents are further encouraged to provide their child with their own personal helmet so as to prevent the spread of lice.

**37. ZERO TOLERANCE:**

- a) Keizer Youth Sports Association will not tolerate any form of harassment or discrimination of persons, or limit participation in its activities, on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, national origin, gender, sexual preference, or religious preference.
- b) Keizer Youth Sports Association will not tolerate any form of assault or harassment, verbal or physical, of umpires. On July 19, 1999, Governor John Kitzhaber signed Senate Bill 482 (SB 482B), creating additional penalties to those already allowed by Assault and/or Harassment if a "sports official" is "intentionally subjected to offensive physical contact while serving or within a brief period of time thereafter. The term "offensive physical contact" has been interpreted to include striking, slapping, shoving, kicking, grabbing, and similar acts that are an interference with the umpire contacted, regardless of whether they produce any pain or discomfort." *No questionable call is worth a trip to court!*
- c) Keizer Youth Sports Association will not tolerate the use of drugs within the park, including tobacco and alcohol.
- d) Keizer Youth Sports Association will not tolerate unsportsmanlike conduct.
- e) Keizer Youth Sports Association will not tolerate the use or threat of violence. The possession of firearms is prohibited by City Park Regulations. The possession of simulated weapons (toy guns, etc.) is strictly prohibited.
- f) Violators will be subject to immediate expulsion from the Complex. The circumstances of the incident may warrant further action. For more information, please see Section #13, Security.



### **38. PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT:**

#### *AS A PLAYER, I...*

- 1 ...will be an example of good sportsmanship.
- 2 ...will participate fully in practices.
- 3 ...will be on time to all games and practices.
- 4 ...will bring appropriate equipment to games and practices.
- 5 ...will show by example that I respect the judgment and the position of authority of the umpire.
- 6 ...will respect the direction and instructions of my team manager, coaches, and umpires.
- 7 ...will play on any team I am placed.
- 8 ...will play in any position I am instructed to play.
- 9 ...will arrange for transportation to and from games and practices. I understand that Managers and coaches are discouraged from transporting team members as Little League insurance does not cover transportation of players by team manager or coach.
- 10 ...will notify my manager and coach at least twenty-four hours in advance if I know I will be absent from a game or practice.
- 11 ...understand that foul language is prohibited.
- 12 ...understand that if I quit after the draft/team assignments for an unapproved reason, I will forfeit any participation fee paid.
- 13 ...understand that if I am drafted up to the next division and I decline to move up, restrictions and/or penalties may be imposed.
- 14 ...understand that players, of the participating teams shall not address, or mingle with spectators, nor sit in the stands during a game in which they are engaged.