

# ftbendbaseball.com

## Fort Bend Baseball League Summer League Information

### **Registration**

Each high school baseball coordinator/coach will be responsible for their respective team/s. Registration dates will generally be the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays in May. Meet at Fuddruckers at Fountains Mall on Hwy 59 between 11:00 am to 1:00 pm to turn in fees and paperwork. Game baseballs and line up pads will be issued at this time. Coaches should contact [info@ftbendbaseball.com](mailto:info@ftbendbaseball.com) and reserve their team spots as soon as possible.

Paperwork - Teams must submit their team/player registration forms, and 100% of all registration fees before the start of the season. Failure to submit fees on time will result in teams not allowed to participate in the Fort Bend Baseball League. *All of the following forms are located on the League website under the Forms tab.*

- 1) **Team Registration Form**– Coaches *complete this form and submit online asap,*
- 2) **Volunteer Form** – All Coaches & Volunteers who work with team must complete form & turn in w/ team registration paperwork,
- 3) **Roster** – Coach complete and turn in with team paperwork during registration.
- 4) **Player Contract Form** – Parents/players complete this form, print, and give to your coach before trying out or practice. *Note, this is no longer an online form.*
- 5) **Medical Release** – Parents complete & give to your Coach. Coaches, turn in copies of this form with team registration paperwork.

League/Division, Games, Dates, Cost

League Divisions:

Sweetwater - Varsity/18U Level

Oyster Creek - JV/16U Level

Lake Olympia – Freshman Level

Each Division plays 12 game schedule. League generally starts first Monday in June and ends no later than the last Saturday in July. Team Registration fee- (See website).

## **FORT BEND BASEBALL LEAGUE**

### **By-laws, Policies and Rules**

1. The parent company is TC Baseball Inc. DBA Fort Bend Baseball League. The league purpose is to organize and promote a high school summer baseball league in Southwest Houston and surrounding areas. This summer league shall be known as the "Fort Bend Baseball League." This league is not sanctioned or affiliated with any local or national organizations.
2. The schools of the league are Fort Bend ISD- Austin, Bush, Clements, Dulles, Elkins, Hightower, Kempner, Marshall, Ridge Point, Travis and Willowridge High Schools. The Fort Bend ISD high school baseball coaches will oversee the By-laws, policies and rules of the Association. League Director shall organize registration beginning May 1<sup>st</sup> each year and call notice of any meeting to conduct business, policy, etc. as may be required.

The By-laws herein set forth can be amended by a 2/3rds vote of the high school baseball coaches representing the schools in the Association. Other business may be conducted by a majority vote of those schools present at a regular or called meeting provided that 2/3rds of the schools in the league must be represented at such meeting to constitute a quorum. In the event a 20-6A / 23-5A school representative is absent to vote, a designated assigned representative shall qualify to vote on behalf of said school. Each school represented shall have one vote.

3. The league shall be organized and coordinated by a Board of officers being a League Director, Advisory League Director and Head Umpire and current 20-6A/ 23-5A varsity baseball coaches. Each year, the League Director and Advisory League Director shall call the regular annual meeting of the 20 6A / 23-5A Fort Bend ISD baseball coaches by no later than January 25 of each year and such additional meetings shall be held as necessary to conduct the business of the league.
4. The "Fort Bend Baseball League" shall consist of three Divisions as determined by the Fort Bend ISD baseball coaches. These are **Sweetwater Division 18U**, **Oyster Creek Division JV-16U** and the **Lake Olympia Division- Freshman**. The Fort Bend ISD baseball coaches may decide to allow other schools who are not members of the league to enter teams into the league. The League Director may split the Sweetwater Division, Oyster Creek Division or the Lone Star Division into separate conferences if it is deemed appropriate for competition or for scheduling purposes.
5. The **Sweetwater Division** is open to high school Varsity and Junior Varsity teams and may also be referred to as 18U Division. The **Oyster Creek Division** is open to Junior Varsity level teams and maybe referred to as 16U Division. The **Lake Olympia Division** is organized with the purpose of promoting incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade freshman level teams only.
6. There will be a maximum of twenty (20) players and three (3) coaches allowed on the baseball field for each team. Players in non-uniform will not be allowed to participate. Each manager and coach must wear an affiliated hat or shirt of their respective high

school team. No coach will be allowed inside the playing area while games are in progress unless properly attired.

7. **Behavior - Coaches** should refrain from unruly behavior and harassment of umpires and other officials before, during or after any game. When documented coach is ejected, he will NOT be allowed to participate in the immediate following scheduled game. Any coach ejected two (2) times from a game in one season will be suspended pending review by the Board. After review he may be reinstated under probation or dismissed. League appointed TASO umpires will report any and all game ejection issues immediately to the League Director for review. **Players** should refrain from unruly behavior and harassment of umpires and other officials. A player may be removed from a game without a warning for throwing his helmet and/or bat or use of vulgarity. When documented player is ejected, he will NOT be allowed to participate in the immediate following scheduled game. If a second (2nd) offense occurs, the player will be removed from the league and pending review by the Board. After review, player may be reinstated under probation or he may be permanently suspended from the league. League appointed TASO umpires will report any and all game ejection issues immediately to the League Director.
8. ***Coaches are expected to supervise their players and fans during and after the game, including monitoring their activities until after they leave the sports complex.***
9. Tryouts- It is recommended that each school hold tryouts to determine players to be selected for each summer league team. It is up to the head baseball coach and/or the off season baseball coordinator's discretion that tryouts are conducted on separate dates to allow interested players an ample opportunity to tryout. The high school baseball coach/off season baseball coordinator will determine where, when and how tryouts are conducted for their teams. The League will post tryout dates and times (when notified) on the league website.
10. Leagues & Divisions- Each school will be responsible for maintaining their rosters for the Sweetwater Division, Oyster Creek Division, and Lake Olympia Division with the following exceptions.
  - a. Each team shall consist of a minimum of 9 players and up to a maximum of 20 players from each respective high school.
  - b. In the Lake Olympia Division, teams may **only** be comprised of incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade freshman players. In order for a player register with a team, he must be attending at least the 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the school Semester following summer league play for that high school. In limited cases, 8<sup>th</sup> grade players may be allowed to participate on teams as long as 9<sup>th</sup> grade players are not cut from tryouts.
11. National Federal of High School rules will be followed in all league play and concerning eligibility. ***Players must have high school eligibility remaining to participate in league play.***

12. The following items, policies and rules will also be an official part of this league in order that a high standard of play may be maintained:
- a) Two (2) official umpires for each game.
  - b) An official home team scorekeeper for each game. Each team shall be responsible for keeping their own scorebook. If a question should arise as to scorekeeping, ie. player batting out of order and the teams cannot agree, then the umpire shall make a ruling based on the *Home* team scorebook.
  - c) Field maintenance by both teams before each game *as may be required*.
  - d) Clean-up of dug outs and stadium area by both teams after all games.
  - e) Each high school coach or off season baseball coordinator is responsible for turning off the lights and securing all the premises at their home field at the conclusion of each game.
  - f) Daily starting times shall be 6:00PM unless noted otherwise on the schedule. The 2<sup>nd</sup> game of the night shall begin 15 minutes or less after the early game has been completed. No infield practice before any game due to time limits.
  - g) There will be 15 minutes only between games.
  - h) **League "Speed-Up" rules will be enforced.** (See 18)
  - i) There will be 10-run rule after 5 innings for all games.
  - j) The time limit for games unless otherwise noted shall be 1 hr 50 minutes for all Divisions. No new inning shall start after 1 hr 50 min. If game continues to 2 hr, Drop Dead rule will be enforced (regardless of balls, strikes, runners on base or outs) by the Umpire declaring "Ball Game" and the game is over. Score shall then revert back to score at the end of previous inning. If tied at the end of regulation, game is a tie and shall count as 1/2 win and 1/2 loss in standings.
13. Rain-out Service- The league uses a service called "Rained Out". This email service sends out messages to subscriber when fields are too wet or games cancelled. Go to website home page and click on button to sign up. **Save a wasted trip and sign up for this free service** . "Rained Out" updated throughout the day beginning at 10am based on information communicated to league by each field spotter.
14. Rained out Games- Canceled games will be scheduled for make-ups as they occur or on other week nights. The make-up schedule will be set by the League Director. Teams will forfeit if they are unable to play games when scheduled for make-up. Any & all scheduled double headers that are rained out will be made up as such, nine inning make up games will NOT be allowed. Rainout and make-up games will be updated and posted to each league division schedule. Go to <http://ftbendbaseball.com>
15. Paperwork- All teams must submit their team/player registration forms, and 100% of all registration fees before the start of the season. 1) **Team Registration Form** (online), 2) **Player Contract Form** – Parents- complete form, print form and give to your coach. 3) **Volunteer Form** – All Coaches & Volunteers who work with team. 4) **Medical Release** – Parents- complete form, print form and give to your coach. 5) **Roster** – Coach complete and turn in with team paperwork during registration.
16. A Division winner will be determined either by win/loss record or by winning percentage (if teams have not played the same number of games). If there are two conferences established for a Division, League Director may call for a 1 game playoff to determine that Division

League Champion. League may host a Champions Day event to determine League Championship winners.

17. **League game results - Each team coordinator/manager of the winning team shall be responsible to email game results no later than 24 hours following the conclusion of each game to [score@ftbendbaseball.com](mailto:score@ftbendbaseball.com)**

**18. Speed Up Rules:**

a. There is a one hour and 50-minute time limit for all Division games. A new inning cannot begin after an hour and fifty minutes. Once a new inning has begun, you will complete play up to a 2 hour "Drop Dead" time called by the umpire.

b. There will be one minute allowed between innings (after the 1st inning). Umpire will announce a 45 second warning will be given and then one minute will be called. After five seconds, the ball must be pitched. The umpire will call a ball if the pitcher is not ready and a strike if the batter is not ready.

c. After an out is made, the ball **MUST** be thrown directly back to the pitcher.

d. With two outs a courtesy runner for the pitcher and catcher is **mandatory**. The courtesy runner shall be a player from the bench who is not in the batting line-up; otherwise a player not currently batting. There is the option of using a courtesy runner for the pitcher and catcher at **any** time.

e. Time limit will be extended if the catcher is batting.

f. Infield practice may take place **only** if it does not impede the person getting the fields ready before the games. Before the 6:00 games on weekdays Home team may use field from 5:30PM to 5:45PM and Visitors team from 5:45PM to 6:00PM.

g. A new pitcher is allowed 8 practice pitches.

18. Coaches Dress: Team coaches must wear a Team shirt & Team hat. No other person/s who are not part of the coaching staff may be on the field of play at any time.

19. Player Dress: Players must wear the full uniform to be allowed to play (This includes hat, shirt, pants (belt if needed) and leggings).

20. Team Responsibilities- Each team must clean out their dugout at the conclusion of their game. Dugouts should be cleared as rapidly as possible. No pre-game practice on the field. No warm-up throwing except in outfield areas. When in batting cages, batters must wear helmet at all times. Only registered team coaches and players may throw in batting cages.

21. League insurance requires that background checks be performed on all managers and coaches involved with the teams. Managers/coaches must complete application form and submit to league along with copy of driver's license before organizing teams. The league will notify any volunteers whose background check does not meet league character standards.

**ftbendbaseball.com**

Fort Bend Baseball League is a 501-C3 nonprofit organization

*Last Updated 4/5/2020*