



MHPB

MUSTANG DIVISION



OUTLINE OF PLAY – 2008

A. MUSTANG DIVISION PHILOSOPHY

1. MUSTANG DIVISION PLAY IS FOR 9 AND 10 YEAR OLD PLAYERS. MUSTANG CONTINUES THE FUNDAMENTAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAYER WITH AN AGE APPROPRIATE SIZED FIELD, AGE APPROPRIATE RULE RESTRICTION AND THE INTRODUCTION OF COMPETITIVE PLAY. COACHING EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON LEARNING THE GAME AND FUNDAMENTAL DEVELOPMENT. PLAY SHOULD BE FUN FOR ALL SKILL LEVELS.
2. PITCHING IS PLAYER ONLY WITH AN EMPHASIS ON THROWING STRIKES. IN THE SECOND PART OF THE SEASON MORE ADVANCED RULES APPLY SUCH AS BALKS, DROPPED THIRD STRIKE & ADVACING HOME ON PASSED BALLS AND WILD PITCHES.

B. DIVISION STRUCTURE

1. 10, 12, 14 OR 16 TEAM DIVISION
 - a. 2 LEAGUES – AMERICAN / NATIONAL
 - b. 5, 6, 7 OR 8 TEAMS IN EACH LEAGUE
2. MAXIMUM OF 12 PLAYERS ON EACH TEAM
3. GAMES ARE COMPETITIVE WITH SCORING RECORDED (MANAGERS ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN SCOREBOOK). SEASON RECORD WILL DETERMINE SEEDING FOR POST-SEASON TOURNAMENT. INTER-LEAGUE GAMES DO NOT COUNT IN TEAM RECORD WHEN DETERMING POST-SEASON SEEDING.

C. RULES

1. RULE HIERARCHY:
 - a. 1ST: 2008 MHPB MUSTANG OUTLINE OF PLAY (THIS DOCUMENT)
 - b. 2ND: 2008 MHPB RULE BOOK (ORANGE BOOK)
 - c. 3RD: 2007 PONY RULE BOOK
 - d. 4TH: 2008 MLB RULE BOOK (SPORTING NEWS EDITION)
2. GAMES WILL BE SIX (6) INNINGS
 - a. FOR INNINGS 1 THROUGH 5 THE HALF-INNING ENDS UPON THE FIRST OF THE FOLLOWING TO OCCUR:
 - i) FIVE (5) RUNS SCORED (EXCLUDING 6TH AND EXTRA INNINGS), OR
 - ii) THREE (3) OUTS RECORDED.
 - b. IN THE 6TH INNING, AND ANY EXTRA INNINGS, EACH HALF ENDS WITH THREE OUTS
3. PLAYER PITCH, ALL INNINGS
 - a. DURING THE REGULAR SEASON ALL MHPB & PONY PITCHING RULES APPLY WITH MHPB RULES TAKING PRECEDENCE. (PITCHERS: 65 PITCHES / GAME, 3 INNINGS / GAME MAXIMUM)
 - b. PITCHERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO THROW ANY STYLE OF BREAKING PITCH

4. **RULE MODIFICATIONS**
 - a. **FULL SEASON AND PLAYOFFS**
 - i) NO INFIELD FLY RULE
 - ii) A 15' (FIFTEEN FOOT) LINE FROM THIRD TOWARDS HOME WILL BE PLACED TO PROTECT RUNNERS FROM 3RD GETTING TOO CLOSE TO THE BATTER IN THE BATTERS BOX AND POTENTIAL BATTED BALL. A RUNNER MAY NOT PASS THE 15' LINE UNTIL THE BALL CROSSES HOME PLATE. IF IN THE UMPIRES JUDGEMENT HE DETERMINES THE RUNNER TO HAVE CROSSED THE 15' LINE PRIOR TO THE BALL CROSSING HOME THE RUNNER WILL BE CALLED OUT.
 - iii) NO RUNNER WILL ADVANCE FROM 3RD BASE ON A BALK
 - b. **FIRST HALF OF SEASON (OR AT DR'S DISCRETION)**
 - i) RUNNERS MAY NOT ADVANCE HOME ON A PASS BALL OR WILD PITCH
 - ii) BATTER MAY NOT ADVANCE ON A DROPPED 3RD STRIKE
 - iii) NO PENALTIES RESULTING FROM BALKS
 - c. **SECOND HALF OF SEASON AND PLAYOFFS (OR AT DR'S DISCRETION)**
 - i) RUNNERS MAY ADVANCE HOME ON A PASS BALL OR WILD PITCH
 - ii) DROP THIRD STRIKE RULE WILL BE ENFORCED
 - iii) BALKS WILL BE CALLED BY UMPIRES
 - (1) 1ST INFRACTION (PER PITCHER): WARNING WITH TEACHING
 - (2) 2ND AND SUBSEQUENT INFRACTION(S) (PER PITCHER): RUNNER ADVANCES EXCEPT FROM 3RD TO HOME
5. **PLAY TIME:**
 - a. **MINIMUM PLAY TIME: THREE (3) INNINGS PER GAME**
 - b. **ALL PLAYERS WILL PLAY A MINIMUM OF FOUR (4) COMPLETE GAMES.**
6. **FREE DEFENSIVE SUBSTITUTIONS.**
7. **ALL PLAYERS PRESENT AT GAME TIME SHALL BE IN THE BATTING LINEUP**
 - a. **PLAYERS ARRIVING AFTER FIRST PITCH WILL BE ADDED TO THE END OF THE ORDER.**

D. MANAGERS AND COACHES

1. **MANAGERS AND COACHES WILL BE RECOMMENDED BY THE DIVISION REPRESENTATIVES, FROM THE POOL OF APPLICANTS, TO THE MHPB BOARD FOR APPROVAL.**
2. **ALL MANAGERS AND COACHES WILL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION.**
3. **EMPHASIS FOR MANAGER AND COACH SELECTION WILL BE ON:**
 - a. **ADHERENCE TO TENETS OF PONY BASEBALL AND POSITIVE COACHING ALLIANCE**
 - b. **ON FIELD BEHAVIOR**
 - c. **POSITIVE INTERACTION WITH PLAYERS**
 - d. **PREVIOUS HISTORY OF COMPLETION OF ALL MANAGER / COACH TRAINING REQUIREMENTS**

E. PLAYER EVALUATION

1. ALL PLAYERS, INCLUDING MANAGER AND COACH'S CHILDREN, WILL PARTICIPATE IN PLAYER EVALUATIONS.
2. EACH PLAYER WILL DEMONSTRATE HIS / HER ABILITY TO: FIELD FLY BALLS AND GROUND BALLS IN THE OUTFIELD AND THROW TO 2ND BASE, FIELD GROUND BALLS IN THE INFIELD AND THROW TO 1ST BASE, PITCH, HIT AND RUN THE BASES.
3. ALL MANAGERS AND COACHES WILL ATTEND AND ASSIST IN PLAYER EVALUATIONS.
4. UNKNOWN PLAYERS NOT ATTENDING EVALUATIONS WILL BECOME HAT PICKS AT DRAFT TIME.

F. DRAFT

1. PLAYER DRAFT WILL BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH MHPB RULES.
2. BALANCING OF TEAMS WILL TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER COACH PAIRING
3. PLAYERS FROZEN POSITIONS MAY BE MOVED UP OR DOWN BY A VOTE OF THE MAJORITY OF MANAGERS
4. PITCHING PROSPECTS WILL BE REVIEWED BY MANAGERS PRIOR TO THE START OF THE DRAFT.
5. DRAFT WILL BE BASED ON AN ORDER DETERMINED BY THE FROZEN PICKS, LOWEST PICKS FIRST.

G. SEASON

1. 16 GAME SEASON
 - a. INTRA-LEAGUE: EACH TEAM WILL PLAY LEAGUE OPPONENTS TWICE.
 - b. INTER-LEAGUE: INTER-LEAGUE OPPONENTS WILL ROUND OUT THE SCHEDULE
 - i) INTER-LEAGUE GAMES ARE NOT USED TO DETERMINE POST-SEASON SEEDING.

H. MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

1. IF MUSTANG IS PARTICIPATING IN AN OUTSIDE MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT, THE ALL STAR TOURNAMENT RULES OF PLAY AND SELECTION APPLY PER SECTION J BELOW WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTION(S).
 - a. MAXIMUM 65 PITCHES PER GAME BY ANY PITCHER
2. IF THE MUSTANG TOURNAMENT IS PLAYED IN HOUSE, THE FOLLOWING RULES APPLY:
 - a. MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT IS A COMBINED LEAGUE TOURNAMENT
 - b. PONY BASEBALL RULES APPLY TO MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT PLAY WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MHPB MINIMUM PLAY TIME AND PITCH RESTRICTIONS: 3 PITCHED INNINGS / GAME MAXIMUM, 65 PITCHES PER GAME MAXIMUM
 - c. MANAGERS AND COACHES ARE APPROVED BY MHPB BOARD.
 - d. TEAMS ARE SELECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH MHPB RULES WITH THE FOLLOWING MODIFICATIONS.
 - i) FOUR BALANCED TEAMS WILL BE SELECTED BY UP & DOWN DRAFT
 - (1) THE PLAYER AGENT TALLIES POINTS, CREATING A LIST OF PLAYERS RANKED BY THE MANAGERS OF EACH MUSTANG TEAM.
 - (2) THE FOUR MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT MANAGERS DRAW LOTS TO DETERMINE THE ORDER OF DRAFT.
 - (3) MANAGERS DRAFT TWELVE (12) TO FIFTEEN (15) PLAYERS.
 - (4) DECLINING PLAYERS ARE REMOVED FROM LIST AND CANNOT BE PICKED UP AFTER THE DRAFT.
 - e. MHPB PROVIDES COMMEMORATIVE AWARDS FOR THE WINNING TEAM.

I. POST-SEASON TOURNAMENT

TWO BRACKETS: AMERICAN LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUE.

1. ALL TEAMS PARTICIPATE WITH SEEDING DETERMINED BY SEASON LEAGUE RECORD.
 - a. 1ST TIE BREAKER: HEAD TO HEAD RECORD
 - b. 2ND TIE BREAKER: HEAD TO HEAD RUNS ALLOWED
 - c. 3RD TIE BREAKER: HEAD TO HEAD RUNS SCORED
 - d. 4TH TIE BREAKER: COIN TOSS
2. TOURNAMENT IS DOUBLE ELIMINATION.
3. DURING THE TOURNAMENT ALL MHPB & PONY PITCHING RULES APPLY WITH MHPB RULES TAKING PRECEDENCE. (PITCHERS: 65 PITCHES / GAME, 3 INNINGS / GAME MAXIMUM)
4. MHPB PROVIDES TROPHIES FOR BOTH TEAMS IN EACH LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP.
5. CITY CHAMPIONSHIP
 - a. LEAGUE CHAMPIONS MEET IN CITY CHAMPIONSHIP ON "CITY CHAMPIONSHIP SATURDAY".
 - b. MHPB PROVIDES COMMEMORATIVE AWARDS FOR BOTH TEAMS.

J. ALL STAR TOURNAMENT

1. MANAGERS AND COACHES ARE APPROVED BY MHPB BOARD.
2. PONY BASEBALL RULES APPLY TO ALL STAR PLAY
3. TEAMS ARE SELECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH MHPB RULES WITH THE FOLLOWING MODIFICATIONS.
 - a. MUSTANG A TEAM
 - i) THE PLAYER AGENT TALLIES POINTS, CREATING AN EIGHTEEN (18) PLAYER LIST OF THE HIGHEST POINT RECEIVERS AMONG ALL MUSTANG PLAYERS.
 - ii) TWO (2) HIGHEST POINT RECEIVERS FROM EACH LEAGUE ARE AUTOMATIC SELECTIONS.
 - iii) MANAGER DRAFTS REMAINING TEAM MEMBERS
 - iv) MANAGER CONFIRMS COACHING STAFF AND TWELVE (12) TO FIFTEEN (15) PLAYERS.
 - v) DECLINING PLAYERS ARE MANAGED AS FOLLOWS.
 - (1) 9 YEAR OLD PLAYERS MAY DECLINE A-TEAM SELECTION TO PLAY ON THE 9YO TEAM ONLY.
 - (2) 10 YEAR OLD PLAYERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO PLAY ON LOWER LEVEL TEAMS IF THEY HAVE DECLINED TO PLAY AT THIS LEVEL
 - vi) REMAINING PLAYERS ARE RETURNED TO LIST.
 - b. MUSTANG 9 YEAR OLD TEAM
 - i) MANAGER DRAFTS 9YO TEAM FROM REMAINING PLAYERS, FOR A TEAM OF BETWEEN TWELVE (12) TO FIFTEEN (15) PLAYERS.
 - ii) DECLINING PLAYERS ARE REMOVED FROM LIST.
 - (1) DECLINING PLAYERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO PLAY ON LOWER LEVEL TEAMS
 - iii) REMAINING PLAYERS ARE RETURNED TO LIST.
 - c. MUSTANG B TEAM (1 OR 2 TEAMS DEPENDING ON PLAYER OR COACH AVAILABILITY)
 - i) MANAGERS SELECTS 1 B TEAM BASED UPON THE REMAINING PLAYERS, FOR A TEAMSOF TWELVE (12) TO FIFTEEN (15) PLAYERS
 - ii) DECLINING PLAYERS ARE REMOVED FROM LIST.
 - (1) DECLINING PLAYERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO PLAY ON LOWER LEVEL TEAM
 - iii) REMAINING PLAYERS ARE RETURNED TO LIST
4. MANAGERS HAVE THE OPTION ON UNIFORM PANTS OF EITHER WHITE, GREY, WHITE WITH GREEN PIPING OR GREY WITH GREEN PIPING. COST OF CUSTOM PANTS IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MANAGER AND NOT MHPB.

K. DIVISION REPS

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DRAFT REV 1: FIRST DRAFT TO BE SUBMITTED FOR BOARD APPROVAL

DRAFT REV.2: SUBMITTED AND APPROVED BY BOARD 1-14-08