

DIVISION OUTLINE OF PLAY
PONY DIVISION
Executive Summary
Spring 2009

Division Representative(s)
John Bennett & Mike Rusch

Philosophy

The Pony Division uses regular Major League Baseball rules throughout the entire season. Emphasis is placed not only on individual skill development, but also on team strategies required at this advanced level of baseball. Players will adjust to a larger field, stronger defenses, and more experienced pitchers.

The Pony Division is the last division prior to High School baseball. The intention of Pony baseball is to provide competitive baseball and follow rules much closer to Major League baseball. Players will be allowed to lead off and steal on all bases and managers will have the opportunity to execute the finer tactics of advanced baseball. This is a competitive division, where umpires are used and league standings are kept.

The Pony division is the next step for most players as they continue to build on the skills and knowledge gained in the Shetland, Pinto, Mustang and Bronco Divisions. To that extent, there is still an emphasis placed on instruction. All managers and coaches undergo a series of clinics so that all players should receive the instruction needed to enjoy their experience in the Pony Division.

Objectives;

In the Pony division our objectives are to:

- A. Continue learning experience for players.
- B. Emphasize teamwork. It takes a team to win a championship.
- C. Provide more focus on specific positions. (outfield, pitcher, catcher, infield)

HIGHLIGHTS

League Formation: (preliminary, pending registration data)

- **One league.**
- **7 or 8 team league**
- **11 or 12 Players per team**

Regular Season Games

- 18 game season.
- (All games count in the standings.) Standings will determine seed for post season tournament.
- Slide at the plate to avoid contact. (Same as last year in Bronco and Pony)

League/Division Championship Series – Post Season Tournament

- End of season double elimination tournament.
- Awards: trophies for first and second place.

Memorial Day Tournament Participation

- 2 teams, 2 teams traveling
- Player selection process is same as for allstars.
- Manager selection process is same as for allstars.

All Stars

3 of Teams participating. Teams selected in the order listed below.

13 year old

Pony A

Pony B

12-15 Players per team

Player selection process as defined in MHPB rules

Manager selection process as defined in MHPB rules

Morgan Hill Pony Baseball

Year 2009 – Pony Division – Outline of Play

I. OUTLINE OF PLAY

**Single division,
All teams to play each other twice.**

Managers and Coaches will be selected by the Division Representatives and approved by the MHPB Board. All Managers and Coaches will be asked to fill out an application. Selected Managers and Coaches need to be capable of providing the best possible instruction to the players. All Managers and Coaches will be required to attend the coaches clinic, have attended the ACEP training at least once, and participated in the First-Aid training within the last year. It is also encouraged for the Managers and Coaches to attend any additional clinics that may be offered, such as Rules Clinics.

Field Days will be held throughout the year to bring the Pony 1 and Pony 2 fields into the conditions necessary for safe play. Early season field days will be held to get the fields in shape for evaluations and early season practices. Each team is expected to provide volunteers for the field days. Managers will be responsible to make sure that they do have a volunteer present for field days or they may forfeit the right to utilize these fields for practices at the DR's sole discretion.

During the season managers/coaches shall be responsible for the playing field conditions. They should police the area before allowing players access to the field. They should take all reasonable measures to assure that the field is in a safe condition. Managers/coaches shall report all unsatisfactory conditions to the Division Representative within 24 hours.

Once the season begins both teams will be responsible for preparing the field for the game. The home team will be in charge of preparing the infield, batters box, and pitchers mound. All teams will be required to clean out the dugout and surrounding area after each game. In other words leave it better than you found it.

Both teams are also required to repair the field after each game when ever possible during the week. On the weekend the teams which just completed playing their game should make every effort to recruit parents to prepare the field for the next game so that the next two team playing managers can focus on getting his team ready for the game.

**Player Evaluation is scheduled for January 31. If it is rained out, evaluations will take place February 2nd
Draft will be held February 5th.**

Post Season Play –

3 Teams

Teams selected in the order listed below.

13 year old

Pony A

Pony B

12-15 Players per team

Player selection process as defined in MHPB rules

Manager selection process as defined in MHPB rules

Both 13 and 14 year old players are eligible for the Pony A and B teams.

Memorial Day Tournament:

3 teams, 2 team traveling

Pony 13 team will play in MHPB tournament

Player selection process is same as for allstars.

Manager selection process is same as for allstars.

All Stars – Will be selected per the MHPB rules. Uniforms will be provided by MHPB at a cost to each team member. Coaches may modify or change uniforms with approval of the MHPB board.