

KHawks Spring League Rules

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- 1.) **Players must be 8 years old or under as of April 30, 2022** (coaches should carry birth certificates if needed).
- 2.) Each game consists of 6 innings or time limit. Bases to be set at 60', and pitching distance set at 40'.
- 3.) Home team will be determined by coin flip.
- 4.) 1 hour 30 minute time limit for each session. 5:30pm-7pm 7:15pm-8:45pm If your game is done early, a second game may be played up until time expires. 2nd game will not count in standings. This game is to give everyone a chance to move players around and get more field time. If you are playing a second game, this will be drop dead. If you are still in the first game, this game is NOT drop dead and the inning may be finished.
- 5.) A 5-run limit will apply per inning, with the last inning being UNLIMITED. 6.) A mercy rule will be in effect for all games. A game will be called if a team is winning by 15 or more runs after 3 innings, or 10 or more runs after 4 innings.
- 7.) NO metal spikes, leading off, stealing, or bunting allowed (and no infield fly rule).
- 8.) Continuous batting order, all players must bat, and free defensive substitution is allowed.
- 9.) Each batter will be allowed seven (7) pitches or (3) swinging strikes. If the 3rd strike of the 7th pitch is a foul, then the batter will get another pitch.
- 10.) Kid pitcher must start with at least one foot in the circle.
- 11.) 10 players are allowed, with 4 outfielders. Teams can play with 9 players as a minimum, but an automatic out must be taken in the 10th spot. Outfielders must begin each play in the grass. One coach will be allowed in the outfield when team is on defense. All other coaches must remain in the dugout area, with the exception of a coach retrieving balls behind the catcher.
- 12.) The home team will have the official book. Each team's scorekeeper should check with the other to confirm the score at the end of every inning.
- 13.) No length/weight restrictions or barrel limitations on bats, but all bats must have a USSSA, USA, or BBCOR stamp.
- 14.) **Pitcher/Circle Rule:** No base runners may advance once the pitcher has control of the ball in the circle around the pitcher's mound. Once control in the circle is established, the play is considered dead. If base runner is past the mid-point, runner is awarded the base he is going to; if not past the mid-point, the runner must return to the base he came from. Please instruct your boys to take care of the ball and try to end each play by making throws to your kid pitcher. Please do not expect the coach pitcher to end a "live" play, unless there is a dead ball type of situation. Overthrows to the pitcher are considered "live balls" if they are made in an attempt to limit runners from advancing. Any overthrow from an outfielder to the pitcher will be considered "live". Please do not take advantage of overthrows to the pitcher from infielders if all runners are stationed on bases and no longer looking to advance – i.e. simply returning the ball to the pitcher when a play is over.
- 15.) A game is official after 4 innings if called because of bad weather. If called before that, it will be considered a suspended game and play will resume at that point. League officials reserve the right to alter the format of the games due to weather, darkness, or any other unforeseen circumstances.
- 16.) The umpire's rulings are final. Protests will not be allowed. Please support the umpires.
- 17.) Please have teams warmed up and ready to go at least 15 minutes prior to your listed game time. Games may start early if your scheduled field is open and umpires are ready. Infield practice will only be allowed as time permits.
- 18.) **Full concessions will be available at all game sites. Louisville Slugger Complex rules. Please do not bring food, beverages, or coolers to any of the baseball complexes. Also not allowed are CARTS of any kind.**
- 20.) Any situation not covered here will be governed by the IESA rulebook.
- 21.) We ask that your coaches, players, and fans exercise good sportsmanship, and refrain from berating the umpires, opposing players, coaches, and fans. There will be a zero-tolerance policy. Anyone that is in violation of this rule will be asked to leave immediately by the umpire or league officials.