

TOURNAMENT PLAY

TIPS FOR PARENTS: Tournament play is very exciting and fun for the players, coaches and parents. Tournament play is also very demanding. It will undoubtedly be hot and we will ask each player, especially pitchers and catchers, to dig down deep to go that extra distance. All coaches and parents should be alert to signs of unusual fatigue that might indicate that a player has reached his limits, but having witnessed tournaments over the 4th of July, kids are very resilient.

1. Rules: Tournaments have special rules for play; pitching, base running (stealing and lead-offs), etc. The coaching staff will prepare the players for each tournament. As parents and coaches, we are expected to display appropriate behavior, even though we will not see every team display good sportsmanship.
Most tournament rules do not require minimum defensive playing time or continuous batting order.
2. We will also provide parents with copies of all pertinent materials about rules and directions to fields.
3. The coaching staff will furnish a tarp or tent structure to place over open player's benches.
4. When we play more than one game in the same day, it is a good idea to find shade for the time in between games. If the time between games is an hour or more, it is advisable to avoid going into air-conditioning; find a shady spot, drink fluids (water and/or sports drinks), eat a light meal, and RELAX in the shade.
5. The following information is provided for players and parents as to what to bring with them. This is written assuming multiple games in a given day, so please scale to what you think is practical for a single, evening game, or a single, day game.

ITEM	EXPLANATION
<i>PLAYERS</i>	
Water (sports drinks, too, but water is a must)	
Spray bottle (with or without fan)	To cool face, neck. . .
Towels/cloths	Wet down and place over head when team comes in from field.
Change of clothes	If time between games is an 1 ½ or more, some kids like to slip out of the uniform.
Sandals	It is a good idea to slip out of the socks and cleats and into sandals.
Sunglasses	
<i>PARENTS</i>	
Golf umbrella and or beach umbrella	It helps for providing shade when there is none to be found. Beach umbrella could be used for covering a blanket area where siblings can play.
Water	
Cooler with ice – with soft drinks, fruits, light lunch (as appropriate)	
Lawn chairs	For when there are no bleachers.
Bleacher cushions	For when there are bleachers.
Blanket	To rest on between games or for siblings to play. SPECIAL NOTE – Other fields do allow players to swing bats outside the gate to the field. Keep siblings away from the player benches at all times.
Bug repellent, sunscreen, hats, pain relievers, sunglasses, moist towelettes.	Being a fan for the team, takes it toll on parents and siblings. This is just a reminder to be prepared.

REMINDER: There is no guaranteed playing time. For a variety of reasons, players might sit out all or part of any given game.