

CITY OF
WOODLAKE
W
PARKS & REC

YOUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL



D·R·HORTON
America's Builder



LEAGUE INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Woodlake Park & Recreation Youth Baseball and Softball League! We offer this program for kids TK to 8th Grade, and our program continues to grow each year! We are now offering affordable play to over 500 kids! Thank you for your patience as our league continues to go through growing pains from adding more teams, and creating new Divisions that help hone in on age-appropriate skills.

The City of Woodlake has four baseball/softball fields, and we also work with the WUSD to have limited access to some of their fields to accommodate our continued growth.

Because of this quickly growing program, and the fact that we do not put a cap on our registrations (for example, only take 300 registrations and then close the league), forecasting the details of each season is impossible. So what we are striving to do in this packet of information is provide what has been done the previous season, to give you an idea of what to expect. However, ***this information can change!*** It's simply meant to give you a guide.

Our League is a Parks & Recreation League, which means that it is non-competitive. The scores and stats are not recorded. There are no playoffs or championships. All players must receive an equal amount of playing time, and all will receive a participation medal at the end of the season.

The season's games will begin in April. We try to work around Spring Break, but sometimes this cannot be avoided. During this sports season we also need to work around the Easter holiday, as well as the large Woodlake Rodeo which takes place on Mother's Day Weekend each year. Your team will have a 9-game schedule, and the season will wrap up at the end of May.



SEASON OVERVIEW BULLET POINTS

SEASON REGISTRATION:

We only offer a Spring Youth Baseball & Softball Season. Registration for the season will begin during the Winter—in early February. Registrations will be taken until the announced deadline—likely the early/middle of March.

We like to group our registrations by grade (versus age) so that it's not confusing to kids if their classmate is in a different division. We will use this structure template as we accept registrations (this structure is **subject to change**):

- **T-Ball Division**—this division is split into boys and girls divisions, and includes students in TK. Anyone wishing to register their child who is not yet in TK will need to agree to Coach their child's team. This Division plays everyone on defense & bats the full lineup. There are no outs. It's very likely these games will be played on week nights.
- **Single-A Division**—this division is split into boys and girls divisions, and includes students in Kindergarten and 1st Grade. This Division will start out using a tee (for those who need it) and will transition to Coach Pitch as players are ready. This Division plays everyone on defense & bats the full lineup. There are no outs. It's very likely these games will be played on week nights. If you feel that your child is ready to play up at the next level, please note on your registration form that you'd like for your child to play in the Double-A division. There is also a great need for Coaches at this level as this is our largest age division for both boys and girls.
- **Double-A Division**—this division is split into boys (baseball) and girls (softball) divisions, and includes students in 2nd and 3rd grades. This Division will start out as Coach Pitch and will transition to Player Pitch as players are ready. This Division incorporates defensive positions, balls/strikes, and outs. It's very likely these games will be played on week nights. If you feel that your child is ready to play up at the next level, please note on your registration form that you'd like for your child to play in the Triple-A division.
- **Triple-A Division**—this division is split into boys (baseball) and girls (softball) divisions, and includes students in 4th and 5th grades. This Division will incorporate and enforce modified baseball/softball rules. These game days will be reliant on registration numbers, as the games are longer and we have limited daylight during the Spring.
- **Majors Division**—this division is split 14U Boys and 14U Girls, and includes students in grades 6th—8th. This division will very likely play their games on Friday nights or Saturdays (to avoid Middle School sports schedules). The teams in these divisions are often selected via a draft by the Coaches, so special requests are not taken into account.

It's incredibly important to register before the final deadline. After the deadline, teams are created and uniforms are ordered. We will order an equal amount of uniforms for each team in the same division to anticipate each team to have the same sized roster. So any late registrations that are accepted will be assigned to a team based on their uniform size (if it's available), and no special requests will be taken into consideration.

SPECIAL REQUESTS:

We recognize that Woodlake is a small town with a lot of related families, so we will do our best to accommodate special requests. However, we do ask for a few things by you: 1) Put all special requests on your child's registration form (any received via call or email will not be taken into consideration). 2) Be willing to Coach your child's team—Coach's requests are prioritized. 3) Make sure you state your request clearly. For example, do not list nicknames or first names only. If you feel your child is ready to play at a higher level, state that clearly (ie: don't just list a request to play with an older sibling). ***Please understand that we cannot guarantee your special requests.***



SEASON OVERVIEW BULLET POINTS

TEAM COACHES:

All of our coaches are volunteers. The season does not run smoothly without the volunteerism & dedication of parents and family members who step into these crucial team rolls! Don't be afraid to Coach your child's team—we will help you along the way, and we also encourage groups of parents to help each other and coach together!

Coaches are responsible for being the team point person with Woodlake Parks & Rec, as well as their team parents. We will host a Coaches Meeting before the season to introduce ourselves, allow you to meet fellow coaches, go through the rules, and answer any questions. After that meeting, Coaches will be able to reach out to their team parents and set practice dates. We encourage anyone wishing to have some control over the schedule to volunteer as a Coach. Parent's who take on coaching more than one of their children's teams are given priority during schedule making. They are guaranteed that none of their children's games will overlap.

To be a team coach, simply make that notation on your child's registration form when you sign him/her up for the season—there will be a box to check that says you are willing to Coach. Once the season registration closes, you will be contacted with information for the date/time/location of our Coaches Meeting. At that meeting, you will receive your roster and team parent contact information, as well as your team's equipment.

HIGH SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS:

If you, or someone you know, would be interested in Coaching or Assisting a team for school volunteer hours, please reach out to Jennifer at JReynolds@ci.woodlake.ca.us.

PRACTICES:

Practices are determined & communicated by your team's coach. Woodlake Parks & Rec has no control over the date and time your team's coach sets for your teams practices. If you have any issues, we encourage you to speak with your child's Coach, or, volunteer to coach your child's team so you can work with your own busy schedule.

PRE-SEASON SCHEDULE:

Once registration closes, Woodlake Parks & Rec will release two "Season Information Packets". The first version will include pre-season events, team rosters, basic season info, and uniform information to help you prepare for the season. The second information packet will be released after the Coaches Meeting, and will include game schedules.

For the most up-to-date season information, follow the City of Woodlake on social media, or check our website at www.cityofwoodlake.com/recreation. If you include an email address on your registration form, you will also receive season announcements via email.

Here are a few key pre-season events to look forward to:

- **End of March:** Team Rosters Announced
- **Coaches Meeting:** Coaches will meet the first full week of April
- **Youth Baseball/Softball Clinic:** This one-time clinic is in partnership with the WHS Baseball and Softball Teams. Participation is \$20 and includes a t-shirt. All money raised goes to support the WHS Baseball and Softball Teams. This is a great way to get your child excited for the season!
- **Opening Weekend:** Our season will kick off with one big Opening Weekend where all teams will play their first games, and have their team pictures taken. These games are also very festive and are created to get our participants excited about playing. All players will receive giveaways, there will be food vendors, and a photo backdrop to take pictures with friends/family.
- **Games:** Games will begin mid-April and will run through the end of May (before the final week of school). Reference the chart on the following page to see when each Division played their games last season (*please note, this may change based on registrations for the next season*).



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BASIC BASEBALL RULES & INFO

PARKS & REC

Division Lines:

Number of Teams:

Total # of Players:

Team Names:

Game Day (Consistent):

Field Location:

Umpires:

of Players Batting:

Coaches During Batting:

of Players in the Field:

Coaches During Defense:

Length of Game:

Ball Size:

Bases / Mound Distance:

General Batting Rules:

General Base Running Rules:

General Pitching Rules:

Outs:

Runs:

Throwing:

Player Minimum Play:

Substitutions:

Practice Time (max):

Skills to Develop:

T-BALL	SINGLE-A	DOUBLE-A	TRIPLE-A	MAJORS
Traditional T-ball	Transition from T-ball into Coach Pitch	Transition from Coach Pitch into Player Pitch	Player Pitch Modified Baseball	Traditional Baseball
Pre-TK	Kinder-1st	2nd - 3rd Graders	4th-5th Graders	6th to 8th Graders
4	6	4	4	4
40	60	48	48	48
MiLB "Copa" Names	MiLB "Copa" Names	MiLB "Copa" Names	MiLB "Copa" Names	MLB Team Names
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday (+ 3 Mondays)	Saturday (+ 3 Wednesdays)
Castle Rock Fields	Castle Rock Fields	Castle Rock Fields	Castle Rock Fields	Middle School / WHS JV Fields
None	None	None (coaches call bases & strikes)	1 behind plate	1 behind plate
Bat the lineup (no outs)	Bat the lineup (no outs)	Bat the lineup	Bat the lineup	Bat the lineup
1 Helping at Tee 2 Base Coaches 1-2 in Dugout	1 Pitching / Tee 1 Helping Catch/Shag 2 Base Coaches 1-2 in Dugout	1 Pitching 1 Helping Catch/Shag 2 Base Coaches 1-2 in Dugout	2 Base Coaches 1-2 in Dugout	2 Base Coaches 1-2 in Dugout
All	All	10 players (up to 4 outfielders)	9 players	9 players
2 Helping Direct (1 per side)	2 Helping Direct (1 per outfield side)	2 Helping Direct (1 per outfield side)	None	None
3 innings, or 1 hour	3 innings, or 1 hour	3 innings, or 1 hour 15 mins	5 innings, or 1 hour 30 mins	6 innings, or 1 hr. 30 mins
soft-touch baseballs	soft-touch baseballs	soft-touch baseballs	hard baseballs	hard baseballs
40' bases	40' bases	60' bases 35' pitch rubber	60' bases 40' pitch rubber	90' bases 60.6' mound
Everyone hits off tee	Coach throws 3 pitches; if no hit, bring in tee	First Half: Coach throws 5 pitches; if no hit, out counted Second Half: Combo of Coach Pitch & Player Pitch - same rule of 5 pitches, if no hit, out counted	Normal batting rules	Normal batting rules
run 1 base at a time	run 1 base at a time	leadoff after pitch leaves hand no stealing/pass balls If ball is hit to outfield, ok to try an advance 1 extra base	leadoff after pitch is thrown; no stealing; 1 base on overthrow	Leadoffs, stealing, and advancing on overthrows ok
NA	Coach throws from approximately half way between mound & plate. Could vary by player.	First Half: Coach throws 5 pitches; if no hit, out counted Second Half: Player throws 3 pitches; coach throws 2 additional if-needed	Players v. Player, Pitchers: no more than 5 innings per week, per player	Player v. Player No more than 6 innings per week, per player Balks will be called
NA	Try throwing for outs, but no outs counted	3 outs, and/or bat through lineup	3 outs (or 5 runs scored)	3 outs (or 5 runs scored)
NA	NA	NA	5 per inning (except last inning)	5 per inning (except last inning)
Coaches help w/ overthrows	Coaches help w/ overthrows	no infield fly rule, no base on an overthrow	no infield fly rule, 1 base on an overthrow	Normal rules
Everyone plays	Everyone plays	1 inning of defense, 1 at bat	2 innings of defense, 1 at bat	2 innings of defense, 1 at bat
Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
1 hour per week	1 hour per week	1-2 hours per week	1-2 hours per week	1-2 hours per week
batting stance, fielding stance, throwing motion, glove up/down catch	batting stance, fielding stance, situational throwing, glove up/down catch	full batting motion, fielding & throwing to bases, basic out scenarios	pitching & catching, learning positions, baserunning & lead offs, situational awareness	situational strategy & signals (ie: bunting, stealing)

No metal cleats allowed, no jewelry allowed

Home/Away: based on schedule notation, or decide between coaches

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS TO PROVIDE A POINT OF REFERENCE; THIS INFORMATION IS ALL SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON THE NEW YEAR'S REGISTRATIONS.



PARKS & REC

Division Lines:

Number of Teams:

Total # of Players:

Team Names:

Game Day (Consistent):

Field Location:

Umpires:

of Players Batting:

Coaches During Batting:

of Players in the Field:

Coaches During Defense:

Length of Game:

Ball Size:

Bases / Mound Distance:

General Batting Rules:

General Base Running Rules:

General Pitching Rules:

Outs:

Runs:

Throwing:

Player Minimum Play:

Substitutions:

Practice Time (max):

Skills to Develop:

BASIC SOFTBALL RULES & INFO

	T-BALL	SINGLE-A	DOUBLE-A	TRIPLE-A	FAST PITCH
	Traditional T-ball	Transition from T-ball into Coach Pitch	Transition from Coach Pitch into Player Pitch	Player Pitch Modified Softball	Traditional Softball
	Pre-TK	Kinder-1st	2nd - 3rd Graders	4th-6th Graders	6th to 8th Graders
	4	6	4	4	4
	32	60	48	44	48
	MiLB "Copa" Names	MiLB "Copa" Names	MiLB "Copa" Names	MiLB "Copa" Names	MiLB "Copa" Names
	Tuesday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday	Wednesday
	Castle Rock Fields & Willow Court (Sat)	Willow Court Fields	Willow Court Fields	Willow Court Fields	Willow Court Fields
	None	None	None (coaches call bases & strikes)	1 behind plate	1 behind plate
	Bat the lineup (no outs)	Bat the lineup (no outs)	Bat the lineup	Bat the lineup	Bat the lineup
	1 Helping at Tee 2 Base Coaches 1-2 in Dugout	1 Pitching / Tee 1 Helping Catch/Shag 2 Base Coaches 1-2 in Dugout	1 Pitching 1 Helping Catch/Shag 2 Base Coaches 1-2 in Dugout	2 Base Coaches 1-2 in Dugout	2 Base Coaches 1-2 in Dugout
	All	All	10 players (up to 4 outfielders)	9 players	9 players
	2 Helping Direct (1 per side)	2 Helping Direct (1 per outfield side)	2 Helping Direct (1 per outfield side)	None	None
	3 innings, or 1 hour	3 innings, or 1 hour	3 innings, or 1 hour 15 mins	5 innings, or 1 hour 30 mins	5 innings, or 1 hr. 30 mins
	soft-touch 10"	soft-touch 10"	soft-touch 11"	11" hard balls	12" hard balls
	40' bases	40' bases	60' bases 35' pitch rubber	60' bases 35' pitch rubber	60' bases 40' pitch rubber
	Everyone hits off tee	Coach throws 3 pitches; if no hit, bring in tee	First Half: Coach throws 5 pitches; if no hit, out counted Second Half: Combo of Coach Pitch & Player Pitch - same rule of 5 pitches, if no hit, out counted	Normal batting rules	Normal batting rules
	run 1 base at a time	run 1 base at a time	leadoff after pitch leaves hand no stealing/pass balls If ball is hit to outfield, ok to try an advance 1 extra base	leadoff after pitch is thrown; no stealing; 1 base on overthrow	Leadoffs, stealing, and advancing on overthrows ok
	NA	Coach throws from approximately half way between mound & plate. Could vary by player.	First Half: Coach throws 5 pitches; if no hit, out counted Second Half: Coach Pitches 1st inning. Player Pitches 2nd inning: 3 pitches; coach throws 2 additional if-needed	Players v. Player, Pitchers: no more than 5 innings per week, per player	Normal pitching rules
	NA	Try throwing for outs, but no outs counted	3 outs, and/or bat through lineup	3 outs (or 5 runs scored)	3 outs (or 5 runs scored)
	NA	NA	NA	5 per inning (except last inning)	5 per inning (except last inning)
	Coaches help w/ overthrows	Coaches help w/ overthrows	no infield fly rule, no base on an overthrow	no infield fly rule, 1 base on an overthrow	Normal rules
	Everyone plays	Everyone plays	1 inning of defense, 1 at bat	2 innings of defense, 1 at bat	2 innings of defense, 1 at bat
	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
	1 hour per week	1 hour per week	1-2 hours per week	1-2 hours per week	1-2 hours per week
	batting stance, fielding stance, throwing motion, glove up/down catch	batting stance, fielding stance, situational throwing, glove up/down catch	full batting motion, fielding & throwing to bases, basic out scenarios	pitching & catching, learning positions, baserunning & lead offs, situational awareness	situational strategy & signals (ie: bunting, slapping, stealing)

No metal cleats allowed, no jewelry allowed

Home/Away: based on schedule notation, or decide between coaches

**PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR UNIFORM PROVIDER WILL BE CHANGING IN 2026.
UNIFORMS WILL BE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT.**

UNIFORMS

- Each player is provided with a jersey, socks & hat *(2026 uniforms will be different from past years)*
- You must provide your own cleats, pants & belt
- Please ensure you list your child's correct uniform size when you register him/her
- If you requested an incorrect uniform size for your child & you'd like to order a new one, there will be a replacement cost

PROVIDED UNIFORM:

- Jersey
- Socks
- Hat/Visor
- Provided Team Equipment: helmets & bats



(example softball provided uniform elements)

NOT PROVIDED:

- Cleats
- Pants
- Belt
- Personal Required Equipment: Glove



(team pant color will be listed with rosters)



(example baseball provided uniform elements)