



## GARNER BASEBALL SHETLAND 6 LEAGUE 2015 RULES

The purpose of our 6 year old Shetland League is twofold - to introduce children to the game of baseball and to provide a place for players to have fun. We have developed special guidelines to help reach both goals. Please review them and familiarize yourself with them.

1. All players are required to pre-register with Garner Baseball, Inc. (GBI) to be eligible to play on a team. This league does not have team tryouts. The coaches and league director shall select the teams.
2. This league does not select an all-star team.
3. Good sportsmanship will be required of all parents, coaches, and players.
4. One (1) head coach will be assigned to each team, and may recruit up to four (4) assistant coaches and team parents to help. GBI's Board of Directors must approve all coaches.
5. There will be no umpire for this league. The two (2) head coaches will have complete authority over the game **but league rules still apply.**
6. Each team must be on the field and ready to play at the scheduled time. The game will start as scheduled regardless of the number of players present. Players showing up late can be added to the end of the lineup.
7. No tobacco products are allowed on the field by a player, coach, umpire, or parent at any time including practices. (Official Pony League Rule).
8. All teams must pick up trash and cleanup their dugout after each game.
9. There is a 55 minute or three (3) inning limit per game. However, the third inning shall not begin after 45 minutes.
10. No score will be kept on the scoreboard or in the official scorebook.
11. No bunting, stealing, leading off or base on balls is allowed. The infield fly rule does not apply.
12. Players are required to wear long pants to participate at practices and games. Protective cups are suggested for all players. Batting helmets are required on all batters and base runners. Only 2 ¼" bats are permitted. There is to be no jewelry worn by any player during a game or practice. (Local rule)
13. A team will consist of seven (7) to thirteen (13) players.
14. All players present at a game must participate on offense and defense in every inning unless serving a suspension, due to a coach's disciplinary action, or based on the player's choice. The head coach must notify the opposing coach of any player on the bench but not participating. (Local Rule)
15. Each team bats their entire roster each inning. Each player will bat only once per inning. The coach will list all players on a roster and they will bat in that order in the first inning. The second inning, the players will bat in reverse order. Should time permit a third inning, players shall bat as of the order in the first inning.

16. The coach or an assistant shall pitch to his/her own team. The batter will receive no more than five (5) pitches to hit unless the fifth and succeeding pitch(es) is/are a foul ball. If the batter is unable to put a ball in play as above, the batter will be permitted to hit from a stationary batting tee placed on home plate for the first six (6) played games of the season. A ball batted from a stationary tee must travel a minimum of four (4) feet from home plate in order to be considered in play. Any ball batted from the stationary tee less than four (4) feet must be placed back on the tee and the batter shall continue as above. Under no circumstances shall the batter be permitted to strike out during the first half of the season. During the second half of the season, the batting tee will not be utilized and the batter will be considered out if they are unable to put the ball in play within (5) pitches. Should the batter foul off the fifth and succeeding pitch(es), at anytime throughout the season, the batter shall be permitted to continue the at bat until they either fail to foul off the pitch or fail to put the ball in play. The three (3) strike rule shall not apply.
17. A batted ball striking the adult pitcher is considered a dead ball (no pitch). Play is resumed and all runners return to their original bases as if no pitch was thrown.
18. An inning is complete when all players have batted once regardless of the number of outs.
19. Two (2) coaches will be allowed on the field when their team is playing defense. They must position themselves in foul territory in the outfield.
20. Only seven (7) defensive players will be allowed inside the base lines. **All other defensive players are to be positioned on the grass.**
21. A defensive player may not be positioned in front of the pitching mound or behind home plate. The defensive player(s) may stand on either side of the pitching mound.
22. Each team should provide an adult to assist behind home plate when their team is batting.
23. All throws should be made with an overhand motion.
24. A defensive player may not call time out until they are on or inside the base path. **There will be no time out for the last batter in an inning. The last batter is played as if there are two (2) outs in the inning. Either an out is made (at which point the inning is over), or the lead runner must be contained.**  
**\*\*\*PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR PLAYERS TO MAKE A PLAY BEFORE CALLING TIME OUT\*\*\***
25. Rained-out games will be made up as quickly as possible, hopefully within a one-week time period. The league will reschedule enough rained-out games to guarantee a minimum of 80% of regular season scheduled games. (Local Rule)
26. Any player or coach ejected from a game by the league director or GBI President shall also sit out the entire next game. The ejected player will sit on the bench with their team. The coach will not be allowed in the dug out or on the playing field. (Official Pony League Rule)
27. Any questions or comments should be directed to the League Director.