

West El Paso Baseball 2024

Machine Pitch League

Ages 6 to 8 year old

*This is a recreational and instructional summer league. Teams will consist of players of all skill levels.

Official Player

*Only players that are officially registered and paid can participate. The league has received payment; registration and waiver forms have been completely filled out and turned into league officials. Coaches that use illegal players will result in forfeit/s of games, in which an illegal player has participate in.

*What is "Officially Registered" -

Registration has been paid in full.

- Registration form completed

- Parent Code of Conduct, Amateur Athletic Minor Waiver and Release of Liability, and Consent to Treat, Waiver form completed

- Copy of Birth Certificate turned into the league, unless league has one from previous year.

*Please reference and feel free to contact us via email webp@comcast.net or Call 719-648-5171 should you have questions.

***Age limit will be determined as of August 31st, 2024**, Players can play down or up with league approval; contact Jorge Lacayo @ 719-648-5171 or email the league at westelpasobaseball@comcast.net, Subject: Approval Needed to Play Down or Up. Please submit information as to player should play down or up.

Players per Team/Number of Games

*Team roster will consist of 14 registered players per roster. The roster can be expanded to more players per coach's request only.

*The Rookies Division will have 12 game regular season schedule, plus a single elimination end-of-the-season tournament. The tournament will start right after the final game of the regular season, including the weekend...Saturday and Sunday.

Regular Season/Start Date/ Game Length/Locations/Dates/Times

*Regular season games will start on **June 3rd** last game of the regular season will end on/by **July 24th**.

*Games will consist of 6 **innings or one (1) hour 30 minutes' time limit**. No new inning will begin after one **(1) hour and 30 minutes** of play during the week. Teams will complete the inning in progress unless the home team is at bat and already leading. There is a **drop-dead time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes on all weekend games**.

*Games that complete two (2) ½ or three (3) full innings or exceed 45 minutes in playing time will be considered "**official**" and will not be rescheduled.

*Tied games will not be extended to determine a winner.

*All games during the regular season will be played at El Pomar Youth Sports Park, 2212 Executive Drive, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80906. All Colorado Springs Sporting Facilities are SMOKE AND TOBACCO FREE.

*One game during the week and one during the weekend on **Saturday or Sunday**, weather permitting. Some weeks, teams might have to play more than two games. **Rainouts** will be made up on the following Sunday morning. Or after the last scheduled game on Saturday or a weekday prior to a 5:30pm game.

• Weekday games will start at 5:30PM. Weekend games can start at 8:00, 9:30 or 11:00AM

*Teams are unable to finish last inning; the score from the previous inning will stand as the final score.

End of Season Tournament

*End of the Season Tournament is tentative scheduled for **July 27th -28th** (Saturday and Sunday) Tournament Games will be played at El Pomar Youth Sports Park, 2212 Executive Drive, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80906 and Cheyenne Mountain HS Softball field.

*In the event of inclement weather during the tournament: If unable to play, awards will be handed out to 1st and 2nd seed in the tournament. If the tournament is canceled during the 1st or 2nd day of play, awards will be handed out to the 2 highest remaining seeds in the tournament.

Game Schedule

***The regular** season schedule will be posted on the home page of the website www.westelpasobaseball.com If there a discrepancy in the schedule please notify your coach or team representative ASAP, they will notify the league.

*Scheduled games will not be rescheduled unless it is ONLY a weather-related cancellation. If games are canceled for other than weather, teams can make the game/s but it will be up to both coaches to schedule and pay for the rescheduling the game.

Short on Players

*The league will try to above forfeits when possible. If a team has seven (7) players or less it will result in forfeit. Game will not be rescheduled.

*Teams will borrow players from another team in the league (player must be on an official roster) in order to play.

*If a team is going to be short of players, it will be the responsibility of the coach to notify the league. Please email league 48 hours prior to the game to wepb@comcast.net with the following information: Short Players, Team name, division, game date/time, and coach's best contact information.

Pre-Game Team Warm up

*Players may warm up in the outfield part of field. Stretching and Long Toss.

*No soft toss or live batting practice with hard baseballs will be allowed against the fences, infield or outfield before or after games.

*Wiffle or lite-flite baseballs are allowed for batting practice in the outfield.

*During weekend games, pre-game warm-ups can be done in the open areas around the baseball fields. Coaches are responsible for all games to start on time.

Coaches Pre-Game Conference

*Coaches to meet before game to discuss start time and agree on game specific details. i.e. Weather/lighting issues, player issues, etc. Both coaches must agree if any game rules are to be altered to meet game time conditions.

*If lightning occurs during a game, both coaches will suspend play. Once fields are cleared due to lightning, they will remain closed for at least 25 minutes and games may not begin until both coaches have evaluated conditions, play may resume. Take shelter in vehicles; do not stay in the dugout, by trees or sanding water. If lightning occurs during practice times, you should immediately clear the fields and take shelter. See section lightning <http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/>

Home Team

*Home team keeps the official scorebook. Home team will notify league of the game results within 24 hours: who won, the score. Email results csbscores@gmail.com Subject: Division, team name and score: (Rookies Bats 13 vs Fish 3).

Dugout

*Only uniformed players, the manager, two coaches and one scorekeeper are permitted on the bench. The manager should require all others to leave the dugout. Players must stay in the playing area or on the bench during the game unless the manager permits them to leave. During a game, the only individuals allowed outside of the dugout are the defense team, the batter, base runners, manager and base coaches. **Each team must clean up their respective dugout and area after a game or practice has been completed.**

Batting Line-Up Rules

*The batting order will consist of all players (officially registered) present for the game. This order will not change throughout the contest. If a player leaves the game for any reason (ie; is injured or leaves early), the order will move up and team will not be charged with an out when that spot comes to bat.

*Players arriving late may only be added to the bottom of the batting order.

*Batting helmets must be worn at all times by the batter/base runners until they are back in the dugout.

*No metal cleats are allowed. *No undeck batter allowed.

***BAT:** The following bat sizes are allowed 2 ¼ to 2 5/8. Bats with and without the USA Stamp are allowed.

Base Path *Rookies

60 feet

Base Runner/Running Rules

*Pinch" base runners needed due to injury, will be the last player that recorded an out.

*It is the responsibility of the base runner to avoid a collision. The runner must slide, give up, or attempt to return if the infielder is in position and has possession of the ball or is simultaneously receiving the ball. Runners may not attempt to dislodge the ball. *Players may not lead off. They must wait until the ball is hit. *No head-first slides. *No Stealing.

*One based on an overthrow.

*Batter/runner and baserunners can advance one base on an overthrow. Coaches, please review this rule during your pre-game conference. Both coaches need to be mindful of this rule. We don't want a track meet.

Offense: Four Run Rule per Inning, No Mercy Rule

*Each team is limited to four runs scored per inning. There is no unlimited run inning.

*When a batted ball hits the pitching machine the ball is dead, the batter is awarded first (1st) base and all runners advance one (1) base.

*One based on an overthrow.

*THERE IS NO MERCY RULE IN THE LEAGUE. ALSO IF A TEAM IS SHORT OF PLAYERS THEY CAN BORROW PLAYERS UP TO THREE FROM THE OTHER TEAM WITHOUT TAKING AN OUT.

Pitching Machine Storage

*The pitching machine will be stored in a container by field one by right field fence at El Pomar Youth Sports Park. Coaches will have the key to the container.

Pitching Machine/Field Rental

*Pitching Machines will be available for teams starting **May 24th, 2024**. Before using the pitching machine, coaches will need to call El Pomar Youth Sports Park at 719-630-0168 to reserve a field (Field #1, #2, or #3). The league doesn't cover field rental. Once a field is reserved, you must contact the league wepb@comcast.net to ensure enough pitching machines are available for your reserve time.

Pitching Machine Rules

***In the event of rain please bring the pitching machine in the dugout, do not leave on the field.**

*Pitching Machine: The **home team** is responsible for setting up and putting away the pitching machine, locking up the storage container. When putting away the pitching machine, please ensure the motor faces up and the machine rests in its wheel. The extension cord is rolled up and set around the machines stance.

*Distance between home plate and pitching machine: The front edge of the pitching machine will be set at forty-two feet (42'), usually the first rubber to the back point of home plate.

*Recommended pitching speed is **35 M.P.H – 37 M.P.H.**

* **June 3rd to June 30th**. Players have a maximum of six (6) pitches through the pitching machine. Players can swing and hit the ball fair using no more than six (6) pitches. After six pitches without putting the ball in fair play the batter will be out unless the last pitch results in a foul ball. Then the batter will get one more pitch only. In June, players will acclimate to hitting off a pitching machine. Beginning **July 1st** any combination of three strikes (attempted swings and missed) will result in an out or failing to hit the ball fair by the sixth pitch will result in an out, unless the sixth pitch is a foul ball. The player will get one more pitch. If the player swings and misses or looks at the pitch, the player is out. An example would be: batter looks at the two pitches, next pitch he swings and misses, the next two pitches player fouls off. Batter has a count of two strikes with only one pitch left to make contact. On the very next pitch batter swings and misses...batter is out. If the batter hits a foul ball on the sixth pitch, the player will get one more pitch (only one more). There are no walks.

*When a batted ball hits the pitching machine the ball is dead, the batter is awarded first (1st) base and all runners advance one (1) base.

*In the event of light rain or a pitching machine malfunctions, the game will become a coach pitch game, the same rules apply.

Defense

* Ten (10) defensive players will play in the field with four (4) outfielders (are not allowed on the dirt infield, must be positioned on the grass). The fourth outfielder may not be allowed to assume an infield position.

*Two defensive coaches are allowed on the field.

***FREE SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYERS ON DEFENSE:** Any team player can substitute for another player on defense at any time.

*Players and Positions: Safety is first. Coaches will not be putting players in defensive positions that will increase the chances of injury. The player's abilities and the head coach, not the parents, will determine defensive positions.

*Every player present for the game must play two (2) of the first four (4) innings. Players who don't receive their minimum playing time (due to injury, illness, or discipline) must be identified to the opposing coach prior to the start of the game. Free substitution for all defensive players.

*Overthrows are live ball. Runners can advance at their own risk for a maximum of one base per overthrow. When a ball is hit into the infield/outfield, and the infield/outfielder has the ball, players run at your own risk. When the ball is returned to the infield by either infielder or outfielder and player has control of the ball, play stops, the runner must return to base. If the base runner's progress has stopped, that base runner will return to the previous base unless it is already occupied. If more than halfway the runner goes to the next base if less than the runner must return to the previous base.

Catchers

*Must wear proper equipment: Catchers Helmet, Chest Protector, Shinn Guards and Athletic Cup.

*Coaches please have your catcher ready to catch prior to the offensive inning ending. This will help the flow of the game.

Keeping the Flow of the Game

*Arrive 45 minutes before your game. *Get the kids ready by pre-game drills and exercises.

*Home team has the pitching machine ready to go 15 minutes prior to game time.

*Have your offensive lineup ready; get extra help in the dugout. *Have your next defense set and ready before your last offensive out.

When Pitching Machine is not working

*If there is a malfunction with a pitching machine during a game, we will revert to coach pitch. Each *player will receive up six (6) pitches*. Notify the league ASAP....719-648-5171

Rain Outs

*The league will make every attempt to reschedule rainouts. The makeup game will be rescheduled 6-7 days after the rainout, unless both coaches agree on an earlier date. If coaches don't agree on a makeup date given by the league, it will be a forfeit. Make up dates are Sunday of the following week after a rainout - no exceptions.

***No rainouts will be rescheduled after JULY 6th. Once El Pomar Youth Sports Park grounds crew cancels the game due to rain and poor field conditions, players and coaches will not be allowed on the field. Staying off the field will preserve the field's integrity for future use.**

Rain Delays

*Weekday games are allowed a 30-45-minute window for rain delays. Weekend games: It will be game-by-game decision by league officials. An early game could be canceled but not the later game, and vice versa.

Lightning Safety Rules

*Stop the Game if you see lightning and thunder. Many people take shelter from the rain, but most people struck by lightning are not in the rain! Go quickly inside a completely enclosed building. If no enclosed building is convenient, get inside a hard-topped all-metal vehicle. Wait 25 minutes to evaluate the weather.

*Listen for the sound of thunder. If you can hear thunder, go to a safe shelter immediately. *If you see or hear a thunderstorm coming or your hair stands on end, immediately stop your game or practice and instruct everyone to go inside a sturdy building or car. Sturdy buildings are the safest place to be. Avoid sheds, picnic shelters, baseball dugouts, and bleachers. If no sturdy building is nearby, a hard-top vehicle with windows closed will offer some protection. The steel frame of the vehicle provides some protection if you are not touching metal.

*Listen to NOAA Weather Radio. Coaches and other leaders should listen for a tone-alert feature during practice sessions and games.

*If you can't get to a shelter, stay away from trees. If there is no shelter, crouch in the open, keeping twice as far away from a tree as it is tall.

*Avoid leaning against vehicles. Get off bicycles and motorcycles.

* Avoid metal! Drop metal backpacks, stay away from clotheslines, fences, exposed sheds and electrically conductive elevated objects. Don't hold on to metal items such as bats, golf clubs, fishing rods, tennis rackets or tools. Large metal objects can conduct lightning. Small metal objects can cause burns.

*Move away from a group of people. Stay several yards away from other people. Don't share a bleacher bench or huddle in a group.

What to do if someone is struck by lightning:

*Call for help. Call 9-1-1 or your local ambulance service. Get medical attention as quickly as possible.

*Give first aid. If the victim has stopped breathing, begin rescue breathing. If the heart has stopped beating, a trained person should give CPR. If the person has a pulse and is breathing, address any other injuries. CPR <http://depts.washington.edu/learncpr/quickcpr.html>

*Check for burns in two places. The injured person has received an electric shock and may be burned. Being struck by lightning can also cause nervous system damage, broken bones, and loss of hearing or eyesight. People struck by lightning carry no electrical charge that can shock other people. You can examine them without risk.

Stay Informed About the Storm

*Listen to NOAA Weather Radio or local media for the latest severe thunderstorm WATCHES and WARNINGS. Severe thunderstorms are those storms with winds in excess of 58 mph or hail larger than 3/4 inches in diameter. When conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop, a severe thunderstorm WATCH is issued.

*Weather Service personnel use information from weather radar, satellite, lightning detection, spotters, and other sources to issue severe thunderstorm WARNINGS for areas where severe weather is imminent. Remember, however, that ALL thunderstorms produce deadly lightning.

*For more information visit the National Weather Service web site at <http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/> Weather Cancellations

*Cancellations will be posted on the website at www.coloradospringssummerbaseball.com or you can follow us on Facebook (Colorado Springs Summer Baseball). League has no control over the playing conditions of the fields. El Pomar Youth Sports Park grounds crew will have the final decision over fields' readiness for games.

Lost and Found

*For lost items at El Pomar Youth Sports Park, contact 719-630-0168.

Lock your Car

*In the past there have been vehicle break-ins at El Pomar and Leon Young Youth Sports Complexes. To prevent becoming a victim of this type of crime, here are a few simple precautions you can take: Don't leave any valuable items in plain sight in your car, lock your car – always, park by other cars. Call Police if you see a break-in right away.

West El Paso Baseball will continue to update playing rules 5.28.24

