



Sunnyvale Southern Pioneer Baseball Information

Introduction to the Pioneer Baseball Division

The primary objective of the division is to have fun while reinforcing the fundamentals of baseball. The players will be instructed and coached in the following:

- The nine basic positions.
- Base running fundamentals.
- Catching, throwing and fielding the ball.
- Understanding of strikeouts, fly-outs, force-outs and game situations.
- The ability to hit a pitched ball.
- Introduction to pitching (in practice.)
- Good sportsmanship and how to have fun playing baseball.

This division may also be beneficial for older players who are either new to baseball or planning to play baseball at the same time as another sport.

Guidelines for determining if your child is ready for Pioneer Baseball

In order to play in the Pioneer Division, it is recommended that a player:

- Should be between 6 and 8 years of age;
- Should have previous baseball experience (played a season of Clinic or has camp experience in which player hit pitched balls or has been pitched to by a parent...) or exposure to baseball or other sports in which objects move at relatively high speeds;
- Should have the ability to throw a baseball overhand (not necessarily well, but in the right direction with the arm in generally the correct position);
- Should have an understanding of the bases and base-running (running in correct direction);
- Should have an understanding of the concept of an out;
- Should be able to focus well and stay alert to batted and thrown balls.

Highlights from the Pioneer Baseball Playing Rules

- One hour and fifteen minutes are allotted for each game. No score is kept.
- Each team will play one game per week and practice at least once per week.
- The season lasts roughly 10 weeks. There are 2 weeks of practice before start of season.
- A team coach will pitch to the players. There is a 6 pitch maximum, no outs on foul balls.
- There are no umpires. A coach will call outs on the bases.
- All players will take the field with a maximum of six players in the infield.
- The catcher position should be played by a coach or an advanced player.
- With the exception of catcher, players get a fair chance to play all positions.
- Only one base is allowed on an overthrow.
- There are no walks.
- No bunting or stealing is allowed.