

AGE DIVISIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS

BASEBALL/TEE-BALL (all ages as of May 1, 2012)

Division	Age	Description
4 Year Old T-Ball	4 yrs	Coed league that introduces players to baseball concepts
T-ball	5-6 yrs	Coed league where players begin to learn the very basic fundamentals and rules of baseball/softball.
7 Year Old	7 yrs	Intermediate league machine pitch.
8 Year Old	8 yrs	Intermediate league machine pitch. Opportunity for All-Stars.
9 Year old	9 yrs	Player pitch league. Opportunity for All-Stars.
10 Year Old	10 yrs	Player pitch league. Opportunity for All-Stars.
11 Year Old	11 yrs	Player pitch league. Opportunity for All-Stars.
12 Year Old	12 yrs	Player pitch league. Opportunity for All-Stars.
Dixie Boys	13-14 yrs	Player pitch league. Opportunity for All-Stars.
Dixie Seniors	15-18 yrs	League plays on high school sized field. Opportunity for All-Stars.

NOTE: All players must remain in the league for which they were originally chosen for the entire season.

GIRLS FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL (all ages as of January 1, 2012)

Division	Age	Description
8 & Under	6-8 yrs	Coach pitch emphasizing fundamental instruction.
10 & Under	9-10 yrs	Player pitch league. Opportunity for All-Stars
12 & Under	11-12 yrs	Player pitch league. Opportunity for All-Stars.
18 & Under	13-18 yrs	Player pitch league. Opportunity for All-Stars.

REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION FEE: \$50.00 per child; additional \$35 non-resident fee per child (applies to those registrants who reside outside the city limits of Aiken.)

ADDITIONAL CHILD FEE: \$45.00 per child (after one sibling is paid for at \$50.00)

LATE FEE: \$15.00 for first child, \$10.00 per each additional child (Registration Deadline is January 26, 2012) (*non-refundable*)

All refunds must be requested in writing and are given based on the following:

- A full refund can be given if requested two weeks prior to the first practice.
- A full refund can be given if a participant has a medical issue (doctors note required) and has not participated in any games.
- A 50% refund can be given if requested two weeks prior to the first game, no refunds after this.

MEMBERSHIPS: City Memberships waive the Non-Residential Fee in any of our programs your child may participate in for one calendar year.

- Individual - \$75.00
- Family - \$125.00

RETURNED CHECKS: City policy requires a \$30.00 service charge on all returned checks. This fee, as well as all original charges, must be paid in cash before your child will be allowed to participate.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES: Any player who has not participated and submitted a birth certificate to APRT in the past must provide proof of birth date.

INSURANCE: Insurance may be purchased through the City of Aiken PRT for \$10.00 per child. The insurance is valid through August 12, 2012, and is for City of Aiken PRT sponsored events only. Please complete the necessary form at the time of registration if you wish to purchase this insurance.

TRY-OUTS AND DRAFT

City of Aiken PRT Try-outs is an evaluation process that enables coaches to review the skill level of each player. Try-outs help to balance out each teams' talent in an attempt to make the league more competitive from top to bottom. Also, Try-outs help coaches and APRT Staff to identify which league best fits each child's needs, so that they may each reach their highest potential positive learning experience and skill development.

Division	Try-out Dates
9 year old	February 20, 2012
10 year old	February 22, 2012
11 year old	February 13, 2012
12 year old	February 15, 2012
Dixie Boys 13-14	March 12, 2012
Dixie Seniors 15-18	March 27, 2012
Girls Fast-pitch 10 & Under	February 22, 2012
Girls Fast-pitch 12 & Under	February 21, 2012
Girls Fast-pitch 18 & Under	March 15, 2012

- All Try-outs will be held at Citizens Park II unless otherwise notified.
- Please make sure your child brings a glove and is properly dressed for potentially cold weather.
- Your child should check in at the table set up behind home plate then head out to the field for warm-ups.
- Please be on time.

CHANGING TEAMS: Once a player has been drafted by a team, he/she will remain on that team throughout his/her age eligibility for that division. If a parent or player has a problem with a coach and wishes to change teams they must submit a written complaint to APRT. The complaint must be filed the same season in which problem(s) occurred in order for the player to be eligible to switch teams. APRT Staff will review the complaint and determine if a team-switch will be granted. If a complaint is not properly filed, no team-switch will be allowed. Players may not change teams during the season. Any player who quits during the course of the previous season will return to the same team the following year unless otherwise requested by the coach or parent, or APRT grant approval.

LATE REGISTRANTS: If a child registers after the Draft takes place, he/she will be placed on the first team with available roster slots. If there are no available open roster slots on any team, the child will be placed on the APRT waiting list.

Parents should expect to hear from a coach or APRT staff member within 48 hours of your child's league draft. Please call APRT if you have not heard anything by then to find out what team your child will be on.

LEAGUES WITHOUT TRY-OUTS: 4 Year Old T-ball, T-ball (5-6), 7 year old baseball, 8 year old baseball, and Softball 8&U will not try-out. Players in these leagues will be drafted by the coaches. Requests for placement on certain teams will be noted but cannot be guaranteed.

These leagues begin later than those leagues with try-outs. Coaches meetings in T-ball, 7 year old baseball, 8 year old baseball, and Girls 8 & under Softball do not take place until late February or early March. Parents should expect to hear from a coach by the end of the week following the meeting.

UNIFORMS

Each baseball and softball player will receive a game jersey and hat/visor, which is theirs to keep. The baseball and softball uniforms are Major League Baseball team replicas.

Each player is responsible for providing their own white baseball pants (or Softball shorts).

Baseball/Softball cleats are strongly recommended but not required.

No names or nicknames are to be screened or printed anywhere on the jerseys.

Jerseys may not be cut or altered in any way. If this is done the player will be required to replace the jersey at his/her own expense. The player will not be allowed to play in any game unless the new, unaltered jersey is worn.

Uniforms may be exchanged by a parent or coach at Citizens Park II. Please call ahead so we can have ready what you need when you arrive.

PRACTICES

Practice frequency and length will be at the discretion of the coaches. All practices will be held at Citizens Park and the surrounding practices areas (unless a coach has an alternate facility arranged). The following are the restrictions on the number of practices allowed per week, broken down by age:

* An "Event" is defined as a practice or a game.

- Baseball ages 4-10 yrs ----- 3 events allowed per week (practices are not to exceed 90 minutes).
- Baseball ages 11-18 yrs ----- 5 events allowed per week
- Girls Softball 8 & Under ----- 3 events allowed per week (practices are not to exceed 90 minutes).
- Girls Softball 10 & Under, 12 & Under, 18 & Under ----- 4 events allowed per week.

All players are expected to make every effort to attend all practices set by the coach. If a player cannot attend a practice, it is his/her responsibility to notify the coach in advance. Missing practice may result in disciplinary action by the coach.

REGULAR SEASON

Due to field availability, All-Star dates, and administrative purposes, the starting dates for the different leagues are staggered. Some leagues will play practice games one or two weeks before the regular season games are set to begin. The following are the dates each league's regular season is set to begin for 2011:

<u>League</u>	<u>Regular Season Starting Date</u>
4 Yr Old Tee-ball (4) -----	April 9, 2012
T-ball (5-6 yrs) -----	April 9, 2012
7 year old baseball -----	April 9, 2012
8 year old baseball -----	April 9, 2012
9 year old -----	March 19, 2012
10 year old -----	March 19, 2012
11 year old -----	March 12, 2012
12 year old -----	March 12, 2012
Dixie Boys 13-14 -----	April 9, 2012
Dixie Seniors 15-18 -----	April 16, 2012
(Girls Fast-pitch Softball)	
8 & Under -----	April 9, 2012
10 & Under -----	March 19, 2012
12 & Under -----	March 19, 2012
18 & Under -----	April 9, 2012

STANDINGS: Standings will be maintained throughout the season in 9-18 year old baseball, Girls Softball 10 & Under, 12 & Under and 18 & Under. Cal Ripken and Dixie Boys tiebreaker procedures will be used for baseball. ASA tiebreaker procedures will be used for fast-pitch softball.

REGULAR SEASON AWARDS: Regular Season Division Champions and Runner Up will receive awards from APRT.

LOCAL LEAGUE POST-SEASON TOURNAMENTS

Every League that keeps scores and standings will have a post-season tournament. All tournaments will take place the week following the end of the regular season (unless other circumstances arise). Certain rules will be different during tournament play than in regular season play (i.e. playing time, batting lineups, innings pitched). Cal Ripken and Dixie Boys Tournament Rules will be used for baseball and ASA Tournament Rules will be used for Girls Fast-pitch Softball. (Note: this only applies for "in-game" rules – not player eligibility).

TOURNAMENT AWARDS: Tournament Champions and Runner Up will receive awards from APRT.

ALL-STARS

All-Stars give the elite players from each league a chance to compete in tournament play at a highly competitive level. Selection of All-Stars is done by the coaches in conjunction with APRT Staff. For those players that are selected to play on an All-Stars team, there will be an additional fee of \$30.00.

Each All-Star team consists of 12 players, a manager (head coach), and two assistant coaches.

To represent the City of Aiken on an All-Star team a player must perform highly in the following criteria:

- baseball skills / talent level
- teamwork
- attitude
- hustle
- sportsmanship

CONDUCT

All coaches and players are expected to shake hands after each game.

Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated by coaches, players, or spectators. This will include taunting, swearing, or anything else that may be viewed in a negative manner.

Rule XII. Conduct and Sportsmanship from Dixie Youth Rulebook

- (A) – Members of one team shall not ride, kid, heckle, poke fun at or in another manner do anything that in the opinion of the umpire distracts the opposing team. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be the removal of the guilty player, players and/or coach or manager from the game and from the dugout.
- (B) – The use of any alcoholic beverage or tobacco product within the confines of the playing field, dugout or bench by any manager, coach, player, umpire or league official is prohibited. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be the removal of the guilty manager, coach, player, umpire or official from the game and from the dugout.
- (C) – Local league rules have the authority, as permitted by local and state law, to remove or ban from the league's playing facilities any spectator who is flagrantly displaying unsportsmanlike conduct, profanity, or who threaten physical harm to umpires, players, managers, coaches or league officials. This authority extends to all scheduled regular season games or tournament games played at its playing facilities.

Rule 4.07 – When a manager, coach, or player is ejected from a game, they shall leave the field immediately and take no further part in the game. Managers and coaches may not sit in the stands or remain in the dugout. Managers, coaches and players may not be recalled. Player only may remain in the dugout.

Rule 4.08 – When the occupants of a player's bench show violent disapproval of an umpire's decision, the umpire shall first give warning that such disapproval shall cease. If such action continues:

PENALTY: The umpire shall order the offender out of the game and away from the spectator's area.

PLAYER DISCIPLINARY ACTION:

- – Players must attend all scheduled practices to avoid potential disciplinary action. It is the coach's responsibility to notify the parents of practice times. If parents are not properly notified then no disciplinary action may be warranted.
- – Unsportsmanlike Conduct of any form (abusive language, abusive actions, etc) towards coaches, umpires, teammates, opponents, spectators, or staff will not be tolerated. Players will treat each with respect.
- – Players will not be disruptive in any way during practices or games.

If any of the above problems are reported, the following disciplinary steps will be taken:

- (1) – Coach will inform parent/guardian to discuss the situation and find a possible solution.
- (2) – Coach will report the problem and his/her efforts to correct the situation (in writing). The coach will then meet with APRT Staff to discuss possible solutions and/or actions.
- (3) – Parent/guardian and coach will meet with APRT Staff to discuss possible expulsion of the player from the program. NOTE: APRT reserves the right to take any step at any time it deems necessary.

PARENTS CODE OF ETHICS

Every parent/guardian that registers a child in a City of Aiken PRT Athletic Program is required to read and sign the Parents Code of Ethics. By signing that form, they pledge to the following:

- I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports by following this Parent's Code of Ethics Pledge.
- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials at every game, practice or other youth sports event.
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
- I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free of drugs, tobacco and alcohol, and will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
- I will remember that the game is for youth – not for adults.
- I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.
- I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.
- I promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by doing whatever I can, such as being a respectable fan, assisting with the coaching or providing transportation.
- I will require that my child's coach be trained in the responsibilities of being a youth sport coach and that the coach upholds the Coaches' Code of Ethics.



The City of Aiken PRT recognizes the value of youth sports on publicly owned facilities and as a community working together we will do our best to deliver on these promises to our kids. We promise to provide you the opportunity:

- For a fun, safe, positive environment in which to participate
- To participate under the supervision of positive role models that will help focus on developing skills, teamwork, sportsmanship and how to win and lose graciously
- For all participants to play regardless of skill or ability
- To build self-confidence and self-esteem while respecting oneself and others
- To make new friends
- To continue to improve and enhance the quality of your youth sports experience

Everyone associated with this youth sports program will do their part in keeping these promises to our kids.

To make good on these promises:

1. Each youth sports league/program must agree to abide by the policies and procedures that are established by the public entity.
2. All professionals, volunteer administrators, coaches, and parents must successfully complete an orientation/training program that includes an understanding of the community's philosophy, policies and procedures, and specific knowledge required for each position.
3. Everyone associated shall be held accountable for his or her actions and behaviors.

NATIONAL YOUTH SPORT COACHES ASSOCIATION (NYSCA)

The National Alliance for Youth Sports is a non-profit organization based in West Palm Beach, Florida, founded in 1981 as the National Youth Sport Coaches Association (NYSCA) with the mission of improving out-of-school sports for more than 20 million youth participants under the age of 16. The Alliance believes that (1) participation in youth sports develop important character traits and values, and (2) the lives of youths can be positively impacted if the adults caring for them have proper training and information.

The City of Aiken PRT requires that each coach go through this certification process before they are eligible to coach a team in our programs. The NYSCA certification provides the coaches with helpful information and teaches them necessary skills needed to positively influence youths.

OTHER INFORMATION

PARKING: There will be no parking allowed along either of the two Citizens Park entrances. This has been implanted by Aiken Public Safety and will be enforced. All drivers should park their vehicles in either a permanently marked parking area or in one of the overflow areas during practices or games. Tickets will be issued to drivers that continue to straddle the curbs and are not parked in the designated areas.

RAINOUT LINE (803-643-4661): Please call this line for information on that night's game status. No decision on games will be made before 4:30pm. Sometimes we will not be able to make a decision of games until right up to game time. Please be aware that on some occasions we may cancel games in the younger age groups but play the games in the older age groups. The safety of our participants is our number one objective.

www.RainedOut.com – Receive instant notifications as soon as decisions are made through text messages or e-mails to your home or work. Registration is fast and easy.

CONCESSIONS: Concessions will be available each night at Citizens Park I and Citizens Park II. During a night in which only a limited number of games and/or fields or scheduled, concessions may not open.

There will be NO pets allowed within the premises of Citizen's Park.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why do some registrants have to pay the Non-residential (Out of City) Fee?

City of Aiken taxes help to provide construction, maintenance, and staffing of our Parks and Recreation facilities. The Non-Residential Fee applies to participants not residing inside the City limits of Aiken, thus not paying City taxes. Aiken PRT uses the Non-Residential Fees to help with various expenses such as training of coaches, provision of officials/umpires, maintenance of facilities, staffing, etc.

What do my registration fees pay for?

Your registration fee is used for several various expenses necessary to run a quality athletic program. These fees are used for equipment (helmets, catcher's gear, batting tees, baseballs, etc.), uniforms (replica jerseys and hats), the recruitment, training, and background checks for all coaches and officials/umpires, and for National Youth Sports Coaches Association Certification for all of our volunteer coaches.

Who does the background checks and what all do they include?

All background checks of coaches and officials are performed by Southeastern Security Consultants, Inc. Included in the report is any information on a coach's or official's criminal background or sex-offender background (even if they have moved locations in the past ten years). If a definite match is made APRT will review the information and take appropriate action.

WEBSITE

For updated league news, standings, and information, please visit our website

www.cityofaikensc.gov

2011 Baseball/Softball Sponsors

Each year the city asks businesses to sponsor a baseball or softball team for the season. Sponsors help make our baseball/softball seasons successful. The City of Aiken Parks, Recreation & Tourism department would like to say “THANK YOU” to our sponsors.

A & A Vending	706-793-2723	Floyd & Green Jewelers	803-649-6005
Aiken Lions Club	803-643-0719	Friendship Baptist Church	803-642-4526
Aiken Ophthalmology	803-642-6060	Goldman True Value	803-649-4908
Aiken Photography	803-649-9400	Hornsby Builders	803-642-5038
Aiken Public Safety	803-642-7620	Hutson-Etherredge Companies	803-649-5141
Aiken Siding Company	803-648-1049	John Wade Plumbing, Inc.	803-649-2124
		Johnson, Johnson, Whittle & Snelgrove	803-642-2904
Argo Land Development, Inc.	803-663-6853	Johnson Trucking	
B & B Ford, Inc.	803-646-3958	Jordan’s Signature Automotive	803-226-0247
Baker Family Dentistry	803-648-4231	Kent’s Korner	803-564-5944
Beef O’ Brady’s	803-270-4257	Mathis Farms	803-648-6954
Butler Automotive	803-644-0553	McKinney Realty	803-641-0021
Callas Construction	803-642-5500	Moore’s Carpet	803-648-6868
Carolina Awards	803-642-0505	Pamletto Baseball	
Carolina Erosion Control	803-257-6467	Plato’s Closet	706-733-2990
Carolina HVAC	803-507-1267	Precision Machine Works	803-649-6582
Carolina Musculoskeletal Institute, PA	803-293-1480	RSC Equipment Rental	803-642-1235
Coke		SMS Sportsworld	803-278-4151
Corta-flx	803502-1050	SP & E	
Country Inn & Suites	803-649-4024	Southern Equine Service	803-644-1544
Crescent Automotive	706-790-4565	Southeastern Tool Co., Inc.	803-649-4127
Dick’s Sporting Goods		Sun Trust Mortgage	803-646-0690
Dominos		Therapy Solutions, LLC	803-634-3029
		Tucker Orthodontics	803-648-3266
		Unihealth PAC-Aiken	

