

# 2025 CMRC Coach Pitch Guidelines

## Meet & Greet

2025 Coach Pitch officially gets underway with a Meet the Coach & Greet the Players event. This event is on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 6PM at Hydes Park. The specific field assignment will be identified on the season schedule. This is **NOT** a practice, but a scheduled time for coaches you to meet their players, players introduce themselves to their teammates, and for coaches to distribute uniforms. We do not anticipate any more than that on that first date. The season begins Saturday 4/12, and concludes on Saturday 6/7.

## Equipment

On the date of the meet & greet, we ask that one of the coaches please arrive at the Hydes Park equipment shed at 5:30/5:45 to pickup the teams equipment bag and ball bucket. Equipment includes includes balls (soft baseballs and whiffle balls), helmets, bats, rubber bases, and a batting tee. We are working on getting bases on the fields for the games, but in years past we have definitely had a few times in which there were no bases. That can be hard for the little kids, so we will try our best to have bases out there.

## Season Start

Once we do start the actual season, teams should anticipate dedicating the first three dates as purely practice. Because there are 8 teams and 4 fields, 2 teams will have to share each field. The home team is the bottom team listed on the schedule. The home team shall occupy the first base dugout. The visiting team should take the infield for the first 30 minutes, with the bottom team taking it for the latter 30 minutes. Teams not on infields should occupy open outfield space making sure to stay clear of any orange fencing or parking lots. Once the 4<sup>th</sup> scheduled date (5/1) is reached, the coaches should begin getting into games. Both coaches should agree on the plan for that day (practice vs game), but the goal is ultimately to do a quick warmup and then at least a 3 inning game.

## **Weather Cancellations**

Each Coach will be responsible to contact their Players in the event of a Cancellation. In addition, Baseball Cancellations due to weather will be announced by Carroll Manor on their web sites ([www.CarrollManor.org](http://www.CarrollManor.org)) depending on the timing of the storm taking place.

There are many times (weekends and late afternoon storms) when the CMRC office is closed and no message will be posted on the web site. The Commissioners will notify the Head Coaches who, in-turn, will notify their Teams.

There will be no scheduled makeups in the event of rain, teams will continue as scheduled until the season ends on June 7, 2025.

In the event of rain during a Game, there will be a 20-minute Rain Delay before the game can be called. If both Head Coaches agree on an immediate Cancellation, the 20-minute period can be waived and the Game can be cancelled immediately. Coaches must immediately halt play when thunder is heard.

**DO NOT WAIT TO SEE LIGHTNING.** Play shall not resume for 30 minutes.

If thunder is heard again during any 30-minute wait period, the clock starts on a new 30-minute wait period. No Team shall be penalized for leaving the Field of Play for purposes of safety due to threatening weather.

If lightning is seen, the Game is Suspended immediately and Players / Parents should leave the Field and wait in their cars. The Teams must wait 30 minutes after the last lightning strike before play can be resumed. If both Head Coaches agree, the Game can be called immediately.

## **Game Details**

As a reminder in Coach Pitch, every player bats in each inning. Player jerseys are sequential so batting order can be simplified having them hit in that order. There are no recorded outs, so players advance base by base until the final batter. The last batter legs out a homerun and clears the bases after hitting the ball. Always start each inning with a different numbered player so everyone experiences the Home Run trot. Once the homerun hitter has crossed home plate, the teams switch places.

On defense, there are a variety of ways to set up defensive alignment of players (by position, in a straight line behind the pitcher's mound with each player taking a turn fielding the batted ball, in an arc etc.) Coaches situate the defense at their discretion – there is no right or wrong way to do it. So long as all the kids are getting an opportunity to participate, all is well. Assign at minimum a first baseman so players fielding batted balls can make an attempt to throw the baserunner out at first. Again, there are no recorded outs but players should be taught where to throw the ball if it is hit to them.

### **Safety & Equipment**

Only Baseballs provided by Carroll Manor Rec Council can be used as game balls. ALL PLAYERS SHOULD WEAR A PROTECTIVE CUP. Batters and Base Runners must wear batting helmets at all times (including on deck batters). Batting Helmets must have double earflaps.

All offensive players should remain on or behind the team bench. The Bench is reserved for Team Members, Coaches and Snack Duty Volunteers only. All other parents, siblings and spectators are required to stay off the Playing Field. Only On-Deck Batters shall be allowed behind the Backstop ... on their Bench's side. For safety purposes, aside from the batter at the Tee, only the on deck batter should be handling a bat. No one (Players, Coaches, Spectators, Fans, etc.) is allowed directly behind the Backstop while the Game is in progress.

### **Snacks**

It is recommended that one or two parents volunteer for snack duty each game. For added safety, please ensure that all snacks/drinks are individually wrapped, or in the case of fruit, it is the type that can be individually peeled.

### **Conduct**

Managers, Coaches, Players, and Parents shall not yell at, heckle or embarrass players or coaches. Players and Coaches will not heckle or belittle an opposing Player or Team in any manner. Such incidents must be reported to the Commissioner. We are here to have fun and we are here to make these kids love the game of baseball.

Questions can be directed to 2025 Coach Pitch Commissioner:

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