



## **ANTIGONISH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION 2018 SEASON POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR PARENTS AND PLAYERS**

### **ANTIGONISH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION**

Antigonish Baseball Association consists of Antigonish Kinsmen Minor Baseball, Antigonish Challenger Baseball and Antigonish Sandlot Baseball. Minor Baseball has both recreation (11U, 9U, 7U, and 5U) and competitive (18U, 15U, 13U, and 11U) based divisions. Emphasis for all divisions is on appropriate skill development, fair play and enjoyment of the game. All divisions are co-ed. Challenger Baseball is an adapted baseball program for children with special needs. Players in Challenger Baseball are paired with a Buddy who assists the player play ball and have fun. Sandlot Baseball is a self-umpired weekly pickup game for adults and youth 16 years and older.

| <b>Antigonish Baseball Executive 2018</b> |   |
|---|---|
| Kris Hunter                               | President   |
| Randy Crouse                              | Past-President<br>Coordinator of Antigonish Challenger Baseball |
| Mary Fisher-MacDonnell                    | Registrar   |
| Kim Cormier                               | Treasurer/Secretary   |
| Matthew Schumacher                        | Head Umpire   |
| <b>Committees</b>                         |   |
| Executive                                 | Fundraising   |
| Challenger                                | Recreation/Development  |
| Competition/Coaches                       | Umpires/Rules   |

### **COACHES/VOLUNTEERS/BUDDIES**

Antigonish Baseball Association is a volunteer organization. As with any volunteer organization, help is needed and greatly appreciated. Without volunteers, baseball in Antigonish could not survive. If you are interested and able to volunteer as a coach, a parent manager, a buddy or on one of our committees then please contact [antigonishbaseball@gmail.com](mailto:antigonishbaseball@gmail.com) or 902-863-7771.

### **QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS**

Feedback regarding our association and programs is always welcomed, but please do so in a constructive manner. Rude and threatening emails, phone calls and comments have been received in the past and they will not be tolerated. Our association is made up of a small group of dedicated volunteers who are always looking for ways to improve baseball programs for the children. Through conversation and brainstorming, problems can be resolved.

### **CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK**

Due to Baseball Nova Scotia regulations, any individual (19 years old and above) wanting to volunteer with children must have a criminal record check completed. The criminal record check will be completed at no cost to the volunteer. If you plan on volunteering and have not picked up a criminal record request form from Antigonish Baseball Association, please do so as soon as possible. The request form can be dropped off at the local police department for processing. Once you have received your criminal record sheet from the police department, please provide Antigonish Baseball Association with a copy.

### **PICTURES AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

Many families post pictures online of their children participating in baseball. While Antigonish Baseball Association does not want to discourage the sharing of pictures of children enjoying physical activity, please be aware that not all families want pictures of their children on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other forms of social media. Before posting pictures online, please make sure that if the picture includes a child who is not your child, that you have permission from their family before doing so.

### **FAIR PLAY CODE - PLAYERS**

I will participate because I want to, not just because my parents or coaches want me to. I will play by the rules and in the spirit of the game. I will respect my opponents, teammates, officials, coaches, volunteers and parents. I understand that use of tobacco, drug or alcohol products during baseball activities will not be tolerated. I understand that throwing and/or mishandling of equipment will not be tolerated. I will refrain from the use of insulting, harassing or offensive language at the field and surrounding areas. I understand that hostility and violence of any form will not be tolerated. I understand that bullying will not be tolerated.

### **FAIR PLAY CODE – PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

I will not force my child to participate in baseball. I will remember that my child plays baseball for his/her enjoyment. I will respect players, officials, coaches, volunteers and other parents. I will never ridicule or yell at my child for making a mistake or losing. I will refrain from the use of insulting, harassing or offensive language at the field and surrounding areas. I understand that hostility and violence of any form will not be tolerated. I understand that bullying will not be tolerated.

### **FAIR PLAY CODE - COACHES**

I will teach my players to play fairly. I will teach my players to respect the rules. I will teach my players to respect their opponents, teammates, officials, coaches, volunteers and parents. I will ensure that all players get equal instruction, support and playing time. I will treat all players equal regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, religion or economic status. I will not ridicule my players for making mistakes or performing poorly. I will remember that children play to have fun. I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the players' age and abilities. I will abstain from the use of tobacco, drug or alcohol products while in the presence of players. I will refrain from the use of insulting, harassing or offensive language while performing coaching duties. I understand that hostility and violence of any form will not be tolerated. I understand that bullying will not be tolerated.

### **DIVISION INFORMATION**

Divisions are based on year of birth. To be eligible for a given division a player must not turn older than the maximum age within that calendar year. For example, a 11-year-old that turns 12 in 2018 (even if that occurs after the baseball season has ended) is ineligible to play in 11U and would instead play in 13U. Players must play in their allotted age division unless recommended for an older division by their coach and approved by the executive. Baseball NS allows an exception to the division rule for girls, as they are allowed to play one extra year in each division (i.e. a girl turning 12 in 2018 can play either in 13U or in 11U).

### **CAMPS AND CLINICS**

Antigonish Baseball Association is always looking for ways to promote baseball and to assist with children's skill development. Please check our website ([www.antigonishbaseball.com](http://www.antigonishbaseball.com)) for dates and locations for various baseball camps and clinics throughout Nova Scotia.

### **EMERGENCIES AND FIRST AID KITS**

First aid kits will be available in the baseball equipment shed. If you use any supplies from the first aid kits, please let the nightly coordinator/coach know or contact [antigonishbaseball@gmail.com](mailto:antigonishbaseball@gmail.com) or 902-863-7771 so supplies can be replaced. There will also be a binder with emergency action plans, players' health card number, address, player/parent contact information and emergency contact numbers stored in the shed. If you notice any unsafe field conditions, please contact Town of Antigonish Recreation and/or contact [antigonishbaseball@gmail.com](mailto:antigonishbaseball@gmail.com) or 902-863-7771.

### **INSURANCE**

All players, coaches, volunteers and umpires will be insured through Baseball Nova Scotia and All Sport.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

E-mail (preferred method of contact) – [antigonishbaseball@gmail.com](mailto:antigonishbaseball@gmail.com)

Facebook – Please 'like' our pages - Antigonish Baseball Association and Nova Scotia Challenger Baseball

Website – [www.antigonishbaseball.com](http://www.antigonishbaseball.com) and [www.nschallengerbaseball.com](http://www.nschallengerbaseball.com)

Twitter – @antigonishball and @ns\_challenger

Phone – 902-863-7771 (Kris' Cell)

## **WATER BOTTLES**

A water bottle for each child is greatly recommended.

## **HELMETS AND GLOVES**

Double ear flap batting helmets are required to be worn whenever a player is batting. For hygiene purposes, all players will be required to bring their own batting helmet and glove to practice/games. Chinstraps are mandatory in the 13U division and below during games. If you have questions about equipment please contact your coach, [antigonishbaseball@gmail.com](mailto:antigonishbaseball@gmail.com) or 902-863-7771.

## **ATTIRE**

For safety, we request that children do not wear open-toed shoes, sandals, flip flops or Crocs while playing. Sneakers, baseball cleats and soccer cleats are all appropriate footwear for minor baseball. Cleats are recommended in 11U division and higher. Metal cleats are not permitted in 13U and below. Ball hats are recommended to be worn whenever player is not wearing their batting helmet. Ball hats are required to be worn during games in 11U division and higher. Long pants (sweat, track, or baseball) are recommended to be worn but are not required in 9U division and lower. Players on teams in 11U division and higher will need to wear baseball pants, belts and socks during games. Baseball socks and belts should be red. Baseball pants will either be grey or white, check with your coach as to what color your team will use. Athletic supporters are required in 11U division and higher. Players in 9U division and lower will be given team shirts. These players can get a free small ice cream at McDonalds after their practice if they are wearing their team shirt. Players in 11U division and higher will be given team hats. Players on teams in 11U division and higher will wear jerseys during game play that will be provided by the association.

## **CANCELLATIONS**

In the event that a baseball night/event needed to be cancelled, Antigonish Baseball Association will inform The Hawk and XFM about the cancellation. The cancellation will also be posted on [www.antigonishbaseball.com](http://www.antigonishbaseball.com), on Facebook and through an email to parents/guardians. Although our association attempts to make the decision to cancel baseball in a timely fashion; sometimes, due to work commitments and changes in the weather, this is not possible. Please check our website/Facebook prior to leaving for baseball each evening. If weather declines during practices or games, coaches or umpires will utilize their own discretion as to when to cancel. Parents are welcome to pull their child from the field if they feel weather conditions are unsafe.

## **FIELDS**

Unless otherwise specified, see note under schedule below, all practices and home games will be played on the ball fields by Dr. J.H. Gillis Regional High School. Parking may be restricted by the school on certain dates (i.e. prom, graduation, etc.). Driving on or parking in the fire lane next to the school gym beyond the bus loop area is strictly prohibited. If you have mobility issues or have difficulty reaching the field, then please contact Town Recreation for special permission to gain access to the fields via this lane.

**Start Date** – Either May 28<sup>th</sup> or June 4<sup>th</sup>. You will be sent an email during the week of May 21<sup>st</sup> confirming the start date.

**Special Olympics** – Minor baseball will not hold practices during the week of National Special Olympics (July 29 -August 4th). Teams may have away games during this period.

## SCHEDULE

The schedules and fields given below are somewhat tentative because of unknowns surrounding field renovations and the National Special Olympics. We are working to finalize the schedule but there may be developments throughout the season that are unavoidable. For instance, 13U and 11U division home games which ideally are played on field 2 (softball field) may be played on field 3 or an alternate field in the county. We will attempt to provide as much advance notice of schedule or location changes as possible. We appreciate your patience during this transition year.

| Division   | Year of Birth | Field | Schedule            | Team Practice              |
|------------|---------------|-------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 5U         | 2013/2014*    | 1     | Monday 5:15-6:15pm  |                            |
| 7U         | 2011/2012     | 1     | Tuesday 5:15-6:15pm |                            |
| 9U         | 2009/2010     | 1     | Tuesday 6:30-7:45pm |                            |
| 11U        | 2007/2008     | 3     | Wednesday 5-7pm**   | <i>Mondays 5-7pm***</i>    |
| 13U        | 2005/2006     | 3     | Thursday 5-7pm      | <i>Tuesday 5-7pm</i>       |
| 15U        | 2003/2004     | 3     | Thursday 7-9pm      | <i>Tuesday 7-9pm</i>       |
| 18U        | 2001/2002     | 3     | Monday 7-9pm        | <i>Wednesday 7-10pm</i>    |
| Challenger | 2000-2014     | 1     | Thursday 6-7pm      |                            |
| Sandlot    | before 2002   | 3     | Wednesday 7-10 pm   | first hour skills with 18U |

\* Players must be 4 years old by February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

\*\* Wednesday are our house league/skills night. All players registered in the division participate.

\*\*\* Mondays are practice nights for our 11U rep team. Only players on the team participate in these practices except during the first two weeks when all players registered in 11U who are interested in being on the team are welcome to attend.

## REGULATIONS (abbreviated)

| Division   | BASES | PITCHING | MOUND     | Bat Regulations  |
|------------|-------|----------|-----------|--|
| 5U         | 50'   | n/a      | n/a       | n/a  |
| 7U         | 50'   | n/a      | n/a       | n/a  |
| 9U         | 50'   | n/a      | n/a       | n/a  |
| 11U        | 60'   | 44'      | n/a       | Metal, ≤ 32" long, ≤ 2 ¾" diameter                                     |
| 13U        | 70'   | 48'      | n/a       | Metal or wood, ≤ 32" long, ≤ 2 ¾" diameter, max weight-length dif. -10 |
| 15U        | 80'   | 54'      | 6" Mound  | Wood, bamboo, or wood composite bats                                   |
| 18U        | 90'   | 60' 6"   | 10" Mound | Wood, bamboo, or wood composite bats                                   |
| Challenger | 50'   | n/a      | n/a       | n/a  |
| Sandlot    | 90'   | 60' 6"   | 10" Mound | n/a  |

For complete set of rules and regulations consult Baseball Canada and Baseball NS websites. Some division leagues play by amended rules. Coaches may place additional restrictions on their based on their discretion or on the advice of the association. During game play umpires have complete authority.

## SANDLOT BASEBALL

Sandlot baseball is co-ed recreational pickup baseball for adults and youth 16 years and older on Wednesday nights under the lights on field 3 (8-10pm). No pre-registration is required for Sandlot Baseball. Registration will be completed on the first night Wednesday June 20<sup>th</sup>. Registration fee is \$25 which covers the players insurance. If you volunteer with Antigonish Baseball or Challenger Baseball, then there is no fee to participate in Sandlot Baseball.

**Antigonish Baseball Association looks forward to seeing you at the field this summer.**

**PLAY BALL!**