

To all RAH Families:

January, 2021



RE: How the Recreation Association of Highland (RAH) handles Scheduling

Every year we get countless questions regarding scheduling Baseball and Softball teams. Rather than responding to each e-mail individually, this will be posted to our website for this year and future years.

Collectively, between 5 Highland High School Teams, Highland “school activities” (i.e., band, choir, orchestra, track, DARE, etc.), 5 Community Softball League (CSL) communities, 6 Community Baseball League (CBL) communities (G & F), 8 CBL E-League communities, the other communities’ “School Activities”, up to 10 Highland Select Boys and Girls Travel Teams (20+ communities), Outside “Club Travel” teams that rent the high school fields, T-Ball, and In-house Rec Baseball (Rookies and Minors), **we (RAH) have to coordinate scheduling, proper field dimensions, field conditions, and field availability for over 2,500 games per year for our 50+ teams that play under the RAH umbrella. This encompasses our 14 fields that we maintain during the season as well as every surrounding community and their fields and field availability.** We also try to accommodate some flexibility for rain outs, game rescheduling, practices, all-star games, playoffs, etc. While we do not initially schedule Sundays, it may be necessary for rescheduling some rain out games and tournaments. Flexibility is essential for everyone during a baseball/softball season. Unlike other sports (soccer, football, lacrosse, etc.) that can play in the rain or snow, baseball and softball need dry fields for either games or practices. Mother Nature has a huge impact each year on if and when we play games. We also cannot work around everyone’s individual personal schedules and requests.

Below is our process and priority for our scheduling:

- 1) Coordinate with the High School Athletic director for Baseball (F, JV, Varsity) and Softball (JV & Varsity) schedules
- 2) Highland Select Travel Teams (Feb/March timeframe)
- 3) CSL and CBL - This is coordinated with 4 or more neighboring communities (typically Early April – various schools have varying Spring Breaks) – This can also only be done **AFTER** registrations are completed and teams are assigned – normally 14 – 20 teams per age division
- 4) Practice schedules for Travel, CSL, CBL (Mid-April practices / as their games start late April)
- 5) Outside Club Teams that “rent fields” from Highland Local Schools
- 6) RAH – “in-house” boys baseball (Rookies and Minors) and “in-house” softball (normally Mother’s Day to Mid-July)
- 7) Practice Schedules for “In-House” Rec (normally 2 weeks before the season starts)
- 8) CBL – E-League – Early May scheduling for last week of May to last week of June (approximately 20 teams for 8 communities)
- 9) T-Ball – early May scheduling for season from Memorial Day through Middle of July

RAH also has to coordinate with 3 Umpiring Organizations for all divisions excluding Rookies and T-Ball.

While everyone would like to plan 2 to 4 months in advance, there are obviously too many variables to do it any differently. Please keep in mind that Mother Nature’s occasional “unplanned” interruptions are going to be a problem on top of all the above mentioned.

Sincerely,

*Mike Oyler*

**Mike Oyler**

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