



Real Baseball...Real Fun!

LCYO Pinto Division Facts Sheet

Welcome to the LCYO Pinto Division, which is largely for 7-8 years old players. To determine if your child is eligible for LCYO's Pinto Division, please go to www.PONY.org to determine your child's league age. If you would like a player who is not yet league age 7 to play in the Pinto Division, please see LCYO's "play-up" policy on the baseball page of www.LCYO.org. This division is known for exciting, action-filled games and noticeable improvement in skills by its players. Our goal for our young players at this level is to develop a strong foundation in the principles of sportsmanship and teamwork, and most importantly, having fun learning to play baseball.

All players need to be present at our evaluation day in January at the La Costa Meadows Elementary School fields. The purpose of the evaluations is to promote a competitive balance on the teams. 100% participation of all players in this event is required. Additional information about evaluation day can be found at www.LCYO.org and will be emailed to all registered Pinto players by the Division Director.

Our division commonly fields between 20 teams with an average of 12 players per team. This will be the largest number of teams per division in our league and we need your help in Managing and Coaching teams. We are asking you to volunteer now to begin to experience the joys of providing our young children a fun and lifelong baseball experience. We will be holding a pre-season Coaches clinic where long-time LCYO coaches and a professional baseball instructor will review practice drills, routines, and skills development. Please check off the Manager or Assistant Coach box on your registration form or if you would like to volunteer directly, however, please first email the Pinto Directors to express your interest and discuss the possibilities of being involved.

Practices are scheduled to start in early February and run through early March and will consist of one weekday and one weekend practice. The regular season will then start consisting of one weekday and one Saturday game per week. The regular season will finish in mid May followed by a short post-season tournament.

If your child is selected for one of the all-star teams, the season will likely extend into mid-July. Information regarding All-Stars will be distributed to managers near mid-season.

Pinto baseball is an enjoyable transition from T-Ball and an instructional introduction to traditional baseball. Batters are allowed up to six pitches thrown by a pitching machine. By the start of regular games, nearly all players can hit these very consistent pitches, which provide excellent skill development in both fielding and hitting. League rules require players play both infield and outfield positions and every player hits, whether or not they are currently playing in the field. Games are six innings; no new inning will start after one hour and 45 minutes, and are umpired by parent volunteers. A team can score a maximum of five runs in an inning.



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Equipment: LCYO provides all players with a team jersey, hat, and depending on the season, socks (you will hear from your director and managers). You will need to provide rubber cleats, belt, glove, baseball pants (color to be provided by your manager), glove, bat, and +/-socks. The glove should be the softest and largest the player can handle. A leather pocket is best. This type of glove will enable the child to catch and hold onto the ball better than the smaller, stiff, plastic versions.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON BATS: All bats must be USABat certified and must contain the USA Bat licensing stamp on the bat. USABat is USA Baseball's certification standard for youth baseball bats that establishes a wood-like performance for non-wood bats. Please note that USA is allowed and USSSA is not. NO non-USA BIG Barrel, "club", or USSSA bats allowed. As this is a safety issue, any violations in this policy will result in penalty per PONY baseball and may include ejection and forfeiture and penalties to the manager for repeat violations. The recommendation for bats if you want to purchase them for your child are that it should not exceed 29" in length and should not weigh more than 20oz. These recommendations will help promote and develop a proper bat swing.

Once teams are formed via the formal draft in late January, your coach will contact you and arrange for practices. Please remember that your coach is a volunteer, so please give them your support. Parent participation is a key to the success of our league. Parents are needed as managers, coaches, sponsors, team parents, bench parents, umpires, pitching machine feeders and scorekeepers. Please volunteer to help – kids love having Mom and/or Dad involved in their team activities.

We are glad you are participating in our league. Let's make it another great year of Pinto baseball. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us via email or visit our web site at www.LCYO.org. We look forward to seeing you this season.



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