



## Coach's Duties

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### Pre Season

- All junior Coaches must obtain at least Level 1 qualifications. If you do not have this qualification please contact a Committee member.
- The Coach should attend pre-season RHBL Coaches & Managers meeting.
- The Coach must attend Coaches & Managers meetings held by the club.

Tip At the first Coaches & Managers meeting you will be given an Information Pack that includes a list of players / parents (guardians) & their contact details along with the manager, scorer, umpire & grounds person for your team. It is essential these positions be filled before the commencement of the season.

- Contact the President (or nominated Committee member) to arrange for the allocation of grounds for training.
- Arrange for the collection of the kit from the Equipment Co-ordinator.

Match balls should also be obtained from the Equipment Co-ordinator prior to the team's first Home game. The Coach should ensure that the team has sufficient match baseballs to satisfy the requirements of the League (refer to Ryde Hawks Baseball League Inc. Junior Operating Rules (<http://www.rhbl.com.au/hawks-baseball/>) or the Pacific Coast Competition Rules (<http://www.pcbaseballleague.org>)). The Coach should be aware of any additional rules relating to Match Baseballs if the team is in the Final Series.

- Arrange for demonstration in the use of any equipment, if required. For example, soft toss, zooka or strong arm machines.
- Attend Coaches & Umpires meetings organised by the RHBL or PCBL.
- Be familiar with the RHBL or PCBL Rules applicable to your team, in particular rules concerning safety, behaviour, players on bench, & pitching & catching rules (especially pitching restrictions).
- In conjunction with the Manager ensure your team is notified of training arrangements & your expectations for players attending team warm-ups prior to a game.

Tip The length of training sessions & pre-game warm-up is determined by factors such as the age & the ability of the team & availability of the grounds. Listed below are training & warm-up times adopted by coaches in previous years.

Age	Training	Warm-up
U7	30 mins – 1 hour	20 – 30 mins
U8	1 hour	30 mins
U9	1 – 1½ hours	30 – 45 mins
U10	1 – 1½ hours	45 mins
U11 & over	1½ - 2 hours	45 mins - 1 hour

- The Coach must become familiar with the Club's Child Protection policies.

## During the season

- ❑ The Coach determines the batting line up, field positions & the rostering of players on & off the bench (refer to the Rules).

**Tip** In younger teams the Coach/Manager writes the players' "batting number" on their hand.

- ❑ The Coach should ensure that the Manager & Scorer (& Umpire, where applicable) are provided with the batting line up before the commencement of the game.
- ❑ The Home Coach must ensure that the ground is dressed in accordance with the specification of the rules applicable for the age & grade of the teams playing. This includes setting up bases & pitching machines (if required) to the umpire's satisfaction. Note: different ages have different diamond & pitching distances (refer to Rules).

**Tip** For junior teams, always carry the summary Rules Guide available from the "Current Season" section of <http://www.rydehornsby.baseball.com.au>.

- ❑ The Coach must provide the Umpire with match baseballs as specified in the Rules.
- ❑ The Coach must attend the plate meeting with the Umpire & Coach of the other team prior to the commencement of the game.
- ❑ The Home team Coach is responsible for explaining any local ground rules at the plate meeting (refer to the Rules).

**Tip** The home team occupies the third base dugout (i.e. along the third baseline) & the away team occupies the first base dugout (refer to the Rules).

- ❑ If you do not have an assistant coach, it is recommended you organise a base coach to assist during the game.

**Tip** You coach from third base & the other base coach at first base.

- ❑ The Coach is responsible for ensuring players, officials & spectators adhere to the relevant RHBL or PCBL code of conduct (refer to Rules) & the Club's code of conduct.
- ❑ The Coach must sign the Match Results Sheet & any other documentation required by the League at the end of the game (refer to the Rules).
- ❑ The Coach is responsible for collection & safe keeping of equipment after the game.
- ❑ After the game, you must also ensure that the playing areas are raked & levelled in preparation for the next game.
- ❑ If you are the last team to play at your home ground you must ensure all bases, nets, pitching plates & other club equipment are collected & stored in the appropriate location. If you are the last to leave, ensure that storage rooms are locked.
- ❑ Coaches are responsible for any Protest regarding an umpire giving an erroneous decision on a "Rule of Baseball" or on a game rule as noted under the Rules (refer to the Rules). Note if a protest is dismissed a Penalty may be incurred. Protests will not be heard on "umpire's judgement calls". The intention to protest must be noted prior to the next pitch in accordance with the Rules. The Club requires protests (or other queries arising from the game) to be approved by either the President or Junior Vice President prior to lodgement in writing with RHBL or PCBL. Protests must be lodged within 72 hours of the game – act quickly!
- ❑ If eligible for the finals series, Coaches must review the eligibility of players & lodge the relevant documentation by the due time.

## End of season

- Be familiar with special Final Series Rules set out in sections 12 & 13 of the League Rules.
- At the end of the season the Coach will return the kit to the Equipment Officer at the time & place nominated by the Equipment Officer.
- The Coach will choose team members who at the end of the season are to be presented with trophies & other awards as requested by the Committee.

Tip Awards such as Most Valued Player (MVP) can be selected by nominating 2 or 3 parents (perhaps Coach, Manager, Scorer, Umpire) to allocate points each week to the players, alternatively you may want it to be the "Coach's call". For example, you could allocate 3 points, 2 points & 1 point to the players that performed well & where good sports. At the end of the season these points can be tallied up for the MVP award. In prior years the Club has awarded MVP & Most Improved trophies.

## Recruitment (any time)

- For any child you want to approach to join the club, get the Registrar or Juniors VP to check if they are attached to another club & discuss with them before we make contact in any way (even by email or word of mouth)