



San Marcos Youth Baseball
PO Box 111, San Marcos, CA 92079
www.sanmarcosyouthbaseball.com



Spring 2026 - Recreation FOAL DIVISION GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are for use during Foal league play and, when applicable, are a supplement to the official Baseball Rules, PONY Baseball Rules, the SMYB Bylaws and these SMYB Division Guidelines.

Any violation of the SMYB By-Laws, Division Guidelines, or Pony Rules, may result in a forfeit of the game and/or the suspension of a player, manager, coach, umpire, or any other person for such period as shall be deemed appropriate by the Board.

Only SMYB Board approved managers and coaches will be allowed on the field during practices and games. The team manager is solely responsible for ensuring that each assistant coach registers on the SMYB website and that they are approved by the SMYB board prior to being on the field. See the “credentials” section at the bottom.

Foal is a development division intended to prepare kids for the next level of play in Shetland.

1. Tee Ball/ Coach Pitch

- a. Foal will be traditional Tee Ball play. Each batter is to use the tee at every at bat. Coach pitch can be used at the manager’s discretion based on the player’s ability.
- b. Coach pitch should be no more than 3 hittable pitches from the coach and then the tee is used for pace of play sake.

2. Game Guidelines

- a. All games will be three innings in length or 1 hour, whichever occurs first.
- b. An inning consists of all players from both teams batting.
- c. All players must bat each inning.

Updated October 31, 2025

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- d.** There will be no strikeouts, no score keeping or statistics maintained.
- e.** Coaches of the fielding team are allowed on the playing field, to coach.
- f.** Every player should be allowed on the playing field, when they are fielding.
- g.** No player shall play the same position more than one inning in the same game. Rotating positions is necessary to give each player a chance to play a different position.
- h.** Base runners are not permitted to steal or lead off bases.
- i.** The offense is allowed to take one base at a time. Runners will advance to the next base after a ball is put in play by the batter.
- j.** The last batter of each inning must be announced by the coaching staff. After the last batter hits the ball, all the runners will advance all the way around the bases until the batter reaches home plate.
- k.** The batter and base runners must wear a helmet. If a catcher is used, the catcher must wear the catcher's gear.
- l.** All players will be issued a jersey and cap that must be worn with baseball pants, belt, and baseball socks.
- m.** Throwing any equipment will not be tolerated. First time the player will be warned. Second time the player will sit out the remainder of the game.
- n.** A safety ball shall be used.
- o.** Home Team shall occupy 3rd base dugout; visiting team is in the 1st base dugout.
- p.** Home team is responsible for setting up the field with bases and chalk if needed.

Credentials:

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- Prior to stepping on the field, Managers and Assistant Coaches are required to do the following trainings:
 - Live Scan (Only Needed One Time)
 - Background Check (Needed Every Spring & Fall)
 - Sudden Cardiac Arrest (Needed Every Year)
 - Abuse Awareness (Needed Every Year)
 - Concussion in Sports (Needed Every Year)
 - NOTE: The above (3) training certificates and Background check confirmation need to be uploaded to the google form, prior to your teams first practice.
- Team Parents are required to complete the Background Check (Needed Every Spring & Fall)
 - NOTE: If your team parent will be entering the field or dugout, then they will be required to do all (3) training stated above for Coaches, as well as the live scan.
- All Volunteers (Managers, Assistant Coaches, and Team Parents) must register as a volunteer on the SMYB website.