



CHARLES COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION, PARKS AND TOURISM

MLB THE SHOW 21 TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

I. THE LEAGUE:

- A. **Mission** – To enhance the quality of life of our residents and visitors by providing well rounded recreational and competitive sports programs focusing on building a sense of community and improving the overall quality of life for current and future generations.
- B. **Philosophy** - The Charles County MLB The Show 21 Tournament is first and foremost a recreational esports tournament. The purpose of this tournament is to provide an opportunity for Charles County residents to participate in an organized MLB The Show 21 Tournament.
- C. **Administration** - The tournament will operate under the jurisdiction of the Charles County Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism. (All guidelines are subject to review and changes may be made at the discretion of the Tournament Director.) Items not specifically listed in these guidelines will be decided upon by the Tournament Director, and any questions or discrepancies should be directed to the Tournament Director Travon Royall at royallt@charlescountymd.gov.
- D. **Tournament Format** - Players will play round robin within division and will be seeded into a single elimination based on division play standings. There must be at least three players to constitute a division. Game times will be predetermined by tournament director.
 - a. **Division Play:** All division games will be played over the course of 3-4 weeks. Based on division standings players will be placed into a two-game guarantee tournament.
 - b. **Tournament Play:** The two-game guarantee single elimination tournament will take place over two days. Game times will be predetermined prior to the start of divisional play.
 - c. **Grace Period:** Players will have a 10-minute grace period to join the game within the scheduled game time. If a player does not arrive within the 10 minutes the game will be ruled a forfeit and the player who logged on to play during scheduled time will get the win. (Screen shot of proof will need to be submitted with time and date) If a Charles County Recreation tournament game goes into an extra innings the conflicts with the next scheduled game and the grace period has passed, the next game will not be ruled a forfeit. Teams will begin play immediately after first game is completed. This rule is only for teams who are playing in Charles County Recreation Tournament games.

II. PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES:

- A. It is the players responsibility to:
 - a. Be the liaison between Tournament Director.
 - b. Read all information pertaining to the tournament (rules, regulations, schedule, etc.).
 - c. Submit all scores to the Tournament Director.
 - d. Follow the recreation philosophy.

III. SUSPENSIONS:

- A. Consequences for suspensions/ejections will be decided by the Recreation, Parks, and Tourism office based upon a 3 Tier system. If games are postponed or rescheduled, suspensions are indefinite until games are played.

1. **Tier One: 2 game Suspension**

a) A tier one offense may be issued to any player, parent, coach, or spectator based on the following criteria, which includes but is not limited to:

1. Is ejected from a game or asked to leave a game or practice site by an official or Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism staff member for harassment, obscene gestures or language, or any other unsportsmanlike behavior. The result of these actions may result in a 2 game suspension, effective immediately, starting with your teams next scheduled game.
2. Any further ejections may result in suspension from the league.
3. Esports Specific - Any forms of cheating or use of a microphone.

2. Tier Two: Suspension for remainder of season

a) Players may be suspended from the league and all Department of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism programs for the remainder of the season.

b) A tier two offense may be issued, at the discretion of the League Director to any player, coach, or spectator based on the following criteria, which includes but is not limited to:

1. Committing multiple tier one offenses within the same season.
2. Strike, shove, bump, trip, or threaten an official, player, coach, spectator, Recreation, Parks, and Tourism staff member or league official during or after a game, on Charles County Community Center, Public School, or Park property.
3. Use of a microphone to harass or threaten another player.
4. Sending harassing or threatening messages to another player.

3. Tier Three: 2 Year Suspension

a) Anyone involved in a tier 3 offense may be suspended from the league and all Department of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism programs for a minimum of two years.

b) A tier three offense may be issued, with discretion from the League Director, to any player, parent, coach, or spectator based on the following criteria, which includes but is not limited to:

1. Committing multiple tier one or tier two offenses with a year of previous offenses.
2. Is involved in a severe incident that displays excessive or relentless disobedience of our mission, including but not limited to; harassment, fighting, or conduct with intent to harm an official, player, coach, spectator, Recreation, Parks, and Tourism staff member or league official during or after a game, on Charles County Community Center, Public School, or Park Property.

IV. TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY:

- A.** This is a **FREE** tournament offered by Charles County Recreation, Parks and Tourism.
- B.** Each player must be registered to participate in the tournament.
- C.** Players may play with only one team in the tournament. Any violation of this rule will result in forfeiture of all games played by the player committing the infraction.
- D.** When registering for the league you must select four current MLB teams that you would like to play with throughout the tournament. Of those four teams one will be selected and that will be the team you play with the entire tournament. Team selections are based on order of registration and team availability. Players **MUST** use the current in game rosters.
- E. Retro and Allstar teams are NOT allowed.**
- F.** Out of County Players: Non-residents are welcome to participate, however, in the circumstance where a division has reached a full capacity of teams, rosters with Charles County citizens may be given priority.

V. Tournament Format

- A.** A cross platform tournament will be offered:
- B.** Max number of players per tournament is sixteen (16).
- C.** Players will be separated into divisions.
- D.** Division selections will be made **ONE (1) day prior** to the tournament.
- E.** Players will play round robin within division and be seeded into a two-game guarantee tournament based off division play standings.
- F.** Tournament schedules can be found on www.CharlesCountyParks.com and/or the Charles County Recreation Facebook page.
- G. Game times will be predetermined by tournament director.**
- H. Division Play:** All division games will be played over the course of 3-4 weeks. Based on division standings players will be placed into a two game guarantee tournament.
- I. Tournament Play:** The two-game guarantee single elimination tournament will take place over two days. Game times will be predetermined prior to the start of divisional play.
- J. Grace Period:** Players will have a 10-minute grace period to join the game within the scheduled game time. If a player does not arrive within the 10 minutes the game will be ruled a forfeit and the player who logged on to play during scheduled time will get the win. (Screen shot of proof will need to be submitted with time and date) If a Charles County Recreation tournament game goes into an extra game the conflicts with the next scheduled game and the grace period has passed, the next game will not be ruled a forfeit. Teams will begin play immediately after first game is completed. This rule is only for teams who are playing in Charles County Recreation Tournament games.

VI. TOURNAMENT RULES:

- A.** Players must add the opponent to their friends list via their Gamertag (Xbox) or PSN ID (PlayStation) from within the game. The person that is playing as home must go to their friends list and invite their opponent to an exhibition game. The home team must send the game invite and set the game rules.

- B.** Mode: Exhibition
- C.** Innings: 5
- D.** Hitting Difficult: All Star
- E.** Batting Difficult: All Star
- F.** Guess Pitch: Default
- G.** Quick Counts: Off
- H.** Strike Zone: On
- I.** Hot Zone: On
- J.** Balks: On
- K.** Umpire Accuracy: Perfect
- L.** Umpire Close Plays: On
- M.** Ejections: Off
- N.** Injuries: Off
- O.** Presentation: Fast Play
- P.** Pool play will consist of one game against other players in the pool. Pool standings will be based on win-loss record.
- Q.** The tournament will be played in a best of 1 series format for each round after pool play

VII. GAMING PLATFORM/EQUIPMENT:

- A.** PlayStation 4, Playstation 5, Xbox One or Xbox Series S/X
- B.** Controller
- C.** Internet Access (Xbox Live/PlayStation Network)
- D.** MLB The Show 21 with latest update.

VIII. FORFEITURE/PROTESTS:

- A.** Players who fail to field a team two consecutive games may be suspended from the tournament (determined by the tournament director).
- B.** **Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated. If you believe that these rules have been violated please submit video clips via email to the Tournament Director.** If it was found that the rules were violated the game will be forfeited the violator will be eliminated.
- C.** Anyone eliminated via forfeit may not participate in any Charles County Recreation, Parks and Tourism Esports Tournaments until speaking with Tournament Director before future tournaments.

IX. Tie Break Procedures:

- A.** The tie break procedures will only be used if players are tied in pool play (identical number of points accumulated for wins/losses/ties):
 - a. Win/Loss record in head-to-head competition.
 - b. Runs allowed.
 - c. If pool play ends with all teams tied on points and runs allowed teams will be seeded in the tournament at a random draw

XI. GAME RESULTS POLICY:

- A.** At the completion of each game, both players need to photograph the final score and email them to the league coordinator at royallt@charlescountymd.gov.