



# **SJBA** 2026 **INVITATIONAL ALL-STAR TOURNAMENT**

February 12, 2026

Dear Coach / League Representative:

The Southern Johnston Baseball Association will once again be hosting it's annual SJBA Invitational All-Star Baseball Tournament. The Tournament will be held at Smithfield Community Park on June 24—June 29, 2025. Depending on the number of teams, some games may also be played at Smithfield Civitan Field and other locations. Previous tournaments have drawn some of the best baseball teams in the area including Rocky Mount, Sand Hills, Southern Johnston, Wendell, and Garner as well as many others.

This year, we are looking to have the largest All-Star Tournament in the area and will be drawing some of the best all-star baseball teams North Carolina has to offer. We will be offering tournaments in the 8U Coach Pitch (7-8), 10U (9-10), 12U 50-70 (11-12 open bases) and Junior League 15U age divisions. We will accept the first 12 teams in each age group.

The entry fee for each tournament is \$200.00 for 8U Coach Pitch Teams and \$250.00 for 10U and up teams. All teams are guaranteed a minimum of three games.

We hope your team will accept the challenge and come participate in the areas largest and best All-Star baseball tournament. **DEADLINE TO ENTER IS THURSDAY, JUNE 5th.**

To enter your team, please fill out the enclosed entry form and return it to:

SJBA INVITATIONAL  
c/o SMITHFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION  
PO BOX 2344  
SMITHFIELD, NC 27577  
or email: [ethan.blailock@smithfield-nc.com](mailto:ethan.blailock@smithfield-nc.com)

We will notify you when we receive your entry and your placement in the tournament. You can include a check for entry fee or we can invoice you for credit card payment . Also please find enclosed additional information including rules, eligibility, etc. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (919) 934-2148.

Sincerely,

*Gary Johnson*

Smithfield Parks and Recreation  
Southern Johnston Baseball Association



## ALL-STAR INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT RULES AND ELIGIBILITY

Tournament is open only to recreational league all-star teams. **Travel / Tournament teams are not eligible.**

Tournaments will be played by Tar Heel Leagues, Inc. tournament rules.

- Age group cut-offs:
- 7-8 Coach Pitch Division  
May not turn 9 before 5/1/2026
  - 9-10 Midget League Division  
May not turn 11 before 5/1/2026
  - 11-12 Little League (50-70 Open Bases) Division  
May not turn 13 before 5/1/2026
  - 13-15 Junior Division  
May not turn 16 before 5/1/2026

AGE GROUP	PITCHING DISTANCE	BASE DISTANCE
7-8 COACH PITCH	40'	60'
9-10 MIDGET LEAGUE	46'	60'
11-12 LITTLE LEAGUE	50'	70'
13-15 JUNIOR LEAGUE	60' 6"	90'

10U and 12U pitchers are allowed 12 innings for the entire tournament. In the 10U and 12U age groups, pitchers will be allowed to throw 6 innings in a day. A pitcher that throws in more than 2 innings in a day must have a calendar day's rest before pitching again.

15U League pitchers are allowed to throw 14 innings for the entire tournament. In the 15U age group, pitchers will be allowed to throw 7 innings in a day. A pitcher that throws in more than 3 innings in a day must have a calendar day's rest before pitching again.

Bat Rules are specified for each age group as in the Tar Heel Leagues Rule Book.

Tar Heel League Rules can be found at [www.tarheelleagues.com](http://www.tarheelleagues.com).

Teams may elect to use a continuous batting order. They may bat as many players as they choose. A player that is in the line-up may substitute defensively as they choose. **A player not in the line-up will be considered a SUBSTITUTE and will be allowed to enter the game one time. A starter that comes out of the game for a substitute will be allowed to re-enter one time (in the same place in the line-up for the same person that replaced him per baseball substitution rules)**

If a player is injured to the extent that he cannot continue or has to leave for any other reason besides ejection, and his team does not have a substitute, he will not be ruled out and his spot in the batting order will be skipped each time he is due to hit. If a player is ejected and that team does not have a substitute, he will be ruled out each time he is due to bat.

Roster / Waiver must be signed by each player's parent.

#### **SPECIAL RULES FOR COACH PITCH (7-8 Division)** (per Tar Heel Rules)

Teams must bat every player in the lineup.

Players may not sit out defensively for two consecutive innings.

The 1/2 inning is over when the defensive team records 3 outs or the offensive team scores 5 runs.

Games will last 6 innings or until a team is mathematically eliminated due to the 5 runs per inning limit.