



2010 SAFETY EMPHASIS BULLETIN

The Commissioner of Dixie Boys Baseball issues the following safety guidelines.

1. The Safety Committee advises that a number of excellent safety/training programs are now available. DIXIE & ASEP have partnered to provide coaches online training courses. National Center for Sports Safety is endorsed as a sports education safety course.
2. The Board of Directors extensively discussed concerns about the overuse of pitchers in youth baseball. Every effort must be made to insure that coaches exercise good judgment and that extreme care is taken to protect the arms of all youth participants. Pitch counts as well as an innings per week limit (league play) are used to determine pitcher eligibility.
3. The Safety Committee reviewed injury loss data and recommended the continuation of the facial protection device for Dixie Boys Baseball (ages 13-14).
4. It is recommended that adult base coaches wear a protective helmet, with or without ear flaps. Note: Should language in the MLB Rulebook require a protective helmet, Dixie Baseball would adhere to the rule by making it mandatory.
5. Jewelry shall not be worn except for religious or medical medals. A religious medal must be taped and worn under a uniform. A medical medal must be taped and may be visible.
6. Rule 1.90: It is strongly recommended that only players warm up pitchers. No other person is allowed to warm up a pitcher without an approved catcher's mask and throat protector.
7. The Board of Directors implemented a policy that host teams as well as all teams traveling to a tournament have the following level of insurance:
 - a. Excess accident insurance with a medical limit of at least \$100,000. Coverage must include all participants, volunteers, and employees.
 - b. General liability insurance on an occurrence form (not claims made) that has a per occurrence limit of at least \$1,000,000 combined single limits and does not exclude "athletic participants" (see your insurance carrier for further details). In addition, Dixie Boys Baseball, Inc. must be named as "additional insured" if the policy is not purchased through the endorsed insurance program. (see rule book ad) Proof of insurance is required of all teams involved in tournament play.

Leagues should secure adequate liability/accident coverage beginning with the local league season.

8. It is strongly recommended that leagues require waiver/release forms for all participants. A sample waiver/release recommended by the endorsed insurance carrier can be downloaded at www.sadlersports.com/dixieboys under the Risk Management Section.
9. Dixie Baseball issues a warning in regard to the danger of the use of 15 passenger vans. It is recommended that leagues seek the most acceptable mode of transportation for travel.
10. Dixie Boys Baseball, Inc. emphasizes that all franchised leagues adopt and implement a child abuse risk management program. Information is available at: www.dixie.org/boys under the Risk Management Section. The endorsed General Liability policy will contain the following provision:

"Coverage for sexual abuse or molestation will not apply unless there is a system in place to perform at least one of the following background checks: 1) Internet sexual offender registry checks on all persons with repeated access to youth. This check must be done on at least an annual basis. 2) Criminal background checks through a third party vendor. This check must be done once upon initial employment, subcontracting or volunteering of a person with repeated access to youth and at least once every third year thereafter."