

# ***Spring 2022 Rules – 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Coach Pitch***

## **1. FIELD DIMENSIONS**

Bases – 60 feet

Pitching plate – 30 feet

## **2. INNING LIMIT – 6 innings**

## **3. TIME LIMIT – 75 minutes.**

## **4. BALL SIZE – 11 inch safety ball**

## **5. EXTRA INNINGS – in post season tournaments only**

## **6. INNING RUN RULE – 5 runs max**

## **7. GAME ENDING RUN RULE – N/A**

## **8. BUNTING – not allowed**

## **9. STEALING – not allowed**

## **10. DROPPED 3<sup>RD</sup> STRIKE – none**

## **11. INFIELD FLY RULE – not in effect**

## **12. PITCHING**

- a. The batting team's Coach Pitcher will do the pitching. When the Coach Pitcher pitches, there are no walks.
- b. The Coach Pitcher must start with at least one foot on the pitching rubber.
- c. If at the umpire's discretion, the adult designated pitcher is actively coaching on the field, then the batter will be declared out and all advancing runners will be returned to their point of origin.
- d. There are no called strikes if the batter does not swing.
- e. A maximum of 6 pitches will be allowed for each batter. If on the 6<sup>th</sup> pitch and any subsequent pitch, the Batter hits the pitched ball into foul territory, the batter may continue to bat until the ball is either hit into play or the batter swings and misses (strike). The batter has no limit on the number of foul balls. If the batter swings and misses on the 6<sup>th</sup> or subsequent pitch, the batter is called out regardless of how many strikes have been recorded. If the batter does not swing on the 6<sup>th</sup> or subsequent pitch, the batter is out
- f. The batter is not out if she swings at and misses 3 pitches, if it is before the 6<sup>th</sup> pitch
- g. If the ball is hit during Coach Pitching, the coach-pitcher must make his/her way off the field as quickly as possible and/or in a direction that will not affect the play. If the coach obstructs the play of the defense or in any way interferes with the defensive play, the batted ball will be declared a "NO PITCH".
- h. The batter will then resume with the same count as before the original pitch and all base runners will return to their point of origin.
- i. There will be no advance on a passed ball or if an overthrow occurs when the catcher is returning the ball to the pitcher after a pitch. This is a dead ball situation. NOTE: The adult pitcher is to help field the returned pitch.
- j. The coach-pitcher may not instruct or direct any opposing players in any way while on the playing field. An offending coach-pitcher will be given one warning, and then removed after repeated infractions.

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## **13. STOPPING OF PLAY**

For balls hit to the outfield (or behind the infielders): When the ball is returned from the outfield, and is in control by an infielder, all runners may advance, at risk, 1 base beyond the last legally touched base at the time the ball was in control by the infielder. No overthrow advancement will be allowed, regardless of the infielder's actions. At such time, the umpire will call "Time" and stop play. When the ball is returned from the outfield and, if all runners have stopped advancing, the umpire will call "Time" and stop play. For example... If the ball is returned from the outfield and is in control by an infielder, the umpire will look to see where the runners are. If a runner is 10 ft. from 3rd, he must stop at third (one base beyond last legally touched). If he's rounded 3rd, he may advance home at risk. After that, play stops. If runners stop or hesitate, the umpire will kill the play.

## **14. ADVANCE ON AN OVERTHROW**

In an effort to reinforce the fundamentals of baseball and encouraging the defensive team to make the correct baseball play, the following rules will be enforced concerning overthrows.

7/8 League(s) – on balls hit in the infield, the runner, at his own risk may advance one additional base beyond the originally intended base. An overthrow is defined as a ball stopping at least 5 feet behind the intended fielder regardless if the ball is in fair territory or foul. A runner(s) may only advance one base on an overthrow per play. This prevents the situation of multiple overthrows on a single play. Since the runner is advancing at their risk on overthrows, if the runner is tagged or forced out as a result of the overthrow, the runner is considered out. For example, if there is an overthrow at 1<sup>st</sup> base the runner may advance to 2<sup>nd</sup> base. That is as far as the runner may advance.

## **15. PITCHER POSITION**

- a. The defensive team will have the pitcher positioned three (3) feet to the right or left of the pitcher's plate.
- b. The defensive pitcher will not be in front of the pitcher's plate.
- c. Interference committed by the adult representative, such as touching the batted ball or failure to position herself/himself so that the pitcher can play to ball, will result in the batted ball being declared a "NO PITCH".
- d. The batter will then resume the batter's role with the same count as before the original pitch.

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## **16. DEFENSIVE POSITIONS**

- a. Infielders will be no closer than 10 feet in front of the baselines (imaginary lines which connect the bases) and outfielders shall be no closer than 20 feet behind the baselines until the ball is hit.
- b. A coach from the defensive team can act as a backup catcher in order to speed up the game. The adult backup catcher may not coach or instruct any player for any reason. The adult backup catcher is prohibited from discussing plays or calls with the umpires. The umpire has the discretion to send the parent to the bleachers at any time.

## **17. PINCH RUNNERS** – Not allowed except for injury.

## **18. BUNTING** - Bunting and Fake Bunting is not allowed. Slapping is allowed.