

# Coach Pitch Rules (Ages 7-8)

## Game Time

- Games will be 6 innings OR 90 minutes from scheduled start time
- A new inning should not be started if the "visiting" team is batting with less than 10 minutes until next scheduled game.

## Two Halves to the Season

- For the first five (5) games of the season, the focus will be on learning the game and therefore score will not be kept. During the first half of the season, each player should bat each inning.
- For the last five (5) games of the season starting on April 21, the score will be kept; however, please keep the focus of the game on learning and not winning.
- During the latter half of the season starting on April 21, innings shall end when either three (3) outs have been made or (5) runs have been scored in the inning.

#### Equipment

- Baseball: Level 5 Safety Ball
- Bats: Aluminum, Official Little League Bats Only
- Base length: 60 ft.
- Helmets must be worn by offensive players at all times.

## Coaches

- Umpires: Coaches will umpire
- Coaches allowed on field: Offense 1st & 3rd base coach; Defense: two field coaches

## Players on the Field

- 10 players (4 in outfield)
- No player should ever sit out more than one (1) inning per game (if at all). Each player must play at least 5 innings. Coaches should rotate players through positions each inning allowing players to play at least four (4) different positions in each game. Try to move players from outfield to infield and vice versa whenever possible.
- Play will stop when the ball is in possession of any defensive player in the infield. Coaches should call "time" so that runners do not advance any more bases.
- If the ball goes out-of-play (overthrown at first, third, or home) all base runners advance one (1) base beyond the base to which they are running

#### Players at Bat

- All players will bat once each inning during first half of the season.
- Balls & Strikes will NOT be called
- Walks are not permitted.
- Bunting is not allowed
- Stealing bases is not allowed. No tagging up. No infield fly rule.
- Batters have a maximum of five (5) swings to put the ball in play if a batter is unable to put the ball in play in five (5) swings, he or she will be ruled out.
- Batters who are tentative to swing should be thrown a maximum of ten (10) pitches; the Coach who is Pitching should warn the batter when there are only two (2) or three (3) pitches remaining.

## Rule Changes During the Second Half of the Season Starting 4/21

- Innings end after three (3) outs or five (5) runs have scored in the inning.
- If the batter drives in run #5 and the ball is still live, runners may advance normally and may attempt to score.
- A maximum of 8 runs are allowed in a single inning.
- There will be no run limit in the 6th inning (or the last inning as designated by the coaches).
- A foul ball on the last strike cannot end a batters at-bat.
- At the conclusion of a batters at-bat, the catcher or coach will remove any stray balls in the batting box or running areas.

## Additional Notes

- No jewelry will be worn during game.
- Shoes with metal cleats or spikes are not permitted.