



8U Rules and Guidelines

1. Bases are 60'
2. A batter is out if unable to hit a fair ball within 6 pitches from the coach, or if he/she gets 3 strikes before the 6th pitch. Each swing and miss and foul ball is counted as a strike. A batter is **not** out if they foul off a pitch, even if it's the 6th pitch.
3. Teams will have – 11/12 players (1-Catcher, 1 Pitcher, 4 Infielders, 4 Outfielders) Free substitutions. Game can be played with only 3 outfielders (1st option), and a no catcher option if short players.
4. Coach pitcher will **STAND** a minimum 38' away from hitter (no kneeling, no high arc throws)
5. 2 coaches are allowed to be in the outfield to help defensive team.
6. Catchers will be in use with a catcher helmet only and must stand off to the side while coach is pitching.
7. A player in the pitchers position must position themselves no closer than the pitching rubber and on the opposite side of on which the hitter is hitting.
8. Any bat 2 5/8th in width is legal as long as it is in good condition (no cracks, dents or misshapen)
9. 2 ¾ bats are illegal
10. No metal spikes
11. All players will bat and play the field
12. No bunts or soft swings allowed.
13. Defense must be at least 45' away from home plate, outfielders must remain in grass until contact. (Remind fielders to not stand directly in base path to avoid collisions)
14. Runner cannot leave base until the batter has contacted the ball by swinging.
15. No infield fly rule
16. 1 Hour 30 Minute time limit. No new inning may start after 1 Hour 15 minutes. (6 innings)
17. Ball must be thrown back to the **player** pitcher before time can be called. No runners can move up any further if an overthrow to the player pitcher occurs. Any baserunner not ½ way to next base must return once time is called.
18. Run rule is in effect if after 4 innings a team is winning by 15+ runs or after 5 innings - 10 runs.
19. No players are allowed to move up on overthrows.
20. Any batted ball that hits the coach pitcher shall be treated as a dead ball single. If a coach pitcher interferes with a defensive player making a play on the ball, the play is dead and should be treated as a foul ball. If coach pitcher is deemed to intentionally interfere with a player making a play on the ball, he/she will be banned for life and be forever shamed by all who encounter this person.
21. Fielded outs will be played, and the player shall be removed from the base if called out.

22. Offensive team can only score 5 runs per inning. Last inning, the trailing team can continue to score at will until they lead by 5 runs.
23. Shirts must be tucked in and caps worn properly
24. No jewelry of any kind may be worn.
25. All players are highly encouraged to wear protective gear.
26. If a player repeatedly misses practice, coaches will not be required to play that player the next game. All coaches' decisions to sit a player must be approved by the age group coordinator.
27. The home team will be responsible for keeping the official book.
28. The visiting team will be responsible for operating the scoreboard.
29. Home team will occupy the 3rd base dugout.
30. ALL COACHES ARE REQUIRED TO KEEP IT FUN, TEACH THE PLAYERS, AND DO THEIR BEST TO KEEP EVERYONE SAFE!