

General Rules for 12 and Under – 2024

Games will not end in a tie. The international tie breaker is in effect. Each team will bat, but whoever was the 3rd out will go to 2nd base to begin the inning. Example: At the end of the fourth inning the game is tied, and the time limit has been reached. The base runner or batter that was the 3rd out will go to 2nd base to begin the inning.

A team must have a minimum of 7 players present to play a regulation game.

Players from a younger age division may be used to fill the team, only if the team does not have enough of its own roster players.

All players present (unless injured or ejected) will be listed in the batting lineup and will bat even if the other team is short some players. (EXCEPT 11-12 DIVISIONS)

If a coach feels the need to discipline a player because of behavior, excessive missed practices, etc., he may choose not to bat that player for part of the game, but not more than 3 innings. If the player is not listed in the batting lineup, she/he must be placed in the last batting position. After a coach has decided to discipline a player, he must notify the umpire, opposing coach, and the official scorekeeper. If it is the player being disciplined time to bat, skip her/his turn and do not count an out unless the coach failed to make the proper notifications.

If an injury occurs that prohibits a player from batting, skip that player and do NOT count an out.

The umpire may call a batter out for throwing the bat. The ball is dead, and the runners must return to the base they started from when the pitch was released. Note, intentionally throwing the bat may also warrant ejection from the game.

Sliding is recommended on a close play. However, a player is not required to slide, but they must avoid a collision if they don't slide. If a runner that doesn't slide collides with a defensive player that has the ball or is receiving the ball near a base, the runner is out. If it is flagrant, the umpire shall eject the player from the game. If the defensive player is not receiving a thrown ball, or doesn't have the ball, it is obstruction. If the runner stays on her/his feet and does not cause a collision, then whether she/he is out or safe will be decided by the play.

A defensive player cannot block the plate or a base. This means that the defensive player must be positioned so that the runner can slide, run, or tag without interference from the defensive player. If the defensive player does block the plate or base and the runner does collide with the defensive player, then the runner is safe.

Outfielders must be at least 15 feet behind the base lines and all players must be in normal playing position when the ball is hit.

Each player must play at least 6 defensive outs, and bat 1 time. If the player does not he

must start the very next game. Free substitution will be allowed; this includes the pitcher if she/he hasn't reached their pitching limit.

All games will be seven innings (except t-ball, 7-8 & 9-10 will only be 6 inn.) unless: (1) the time limit is reached before the seventh inning has started, (2) the run rule is applicable, or (3) there is a tie.

A called game will be considered regulation when at least four innings have been completed, 3-1/2 innings if the home team is ahead. If a game is called before it is considered regulation, then the game will be rescheduled and played from scratch. If a game is called before the completion of the current inning and at least four innings have been completed, then the score at the end of the last completed inning will be used as the final score.

6 is the maximum number of runs that a team can score per inning. This means if a team has scored "5" runs, bases are loaded, and the next batter hits a home run, only "1" additional run will be counted to a total of "6" runs.

Catchers must wear all required gear. This includes a facemask WITH A THROAT PROTECTOR, and approved helmet with earflaps, shin guards that offer protection to the kneecaps, and body protector. Any player warming up a pitcher must wear required headgear.

If a team is not ready to play within 15 minutes after the scheduled start time, that team forfeits the game.

Jewelry and/or watches cannot be worn during the game. Medical alert tags will be allowed, but they must be worn in a safe manner. If a player is requested by the umpire to remove jewelry or other illegal objects and she/he refuses, the player will not be allowed to play.

The use of tobacco and/or alcohol consumption is prohibited at the games.

Teams warming up will NOT be allowed to take infield practice before their games. The only exception is for teams that play the first game. However, such practice cannot be allowed to prevent the game from starting on time.

Softball Only-The Double Base will be used at first base. The defense will use the white portion only and the offense will use the orange portion in a run-by situation (when a play is being made at first). If they fail to do so, a warning will be issued. After reaching first, the runner will use the white portion only. On an extra base hit or rounding the base, the runner may use either the white or orange portion but if they return to first base, they must use the white portion.

The home team's scorebook will be the official scorebook. Each town will also have an official scorekeeper that will keep all official score sheets.

Judgment calls made by an umpire **CANNOT** be appealed. None of the umpires has the authority to overrule any other umpire. If one of the umpires questions his own call, he may request the opinions of the other umpires. If this is the case, the umpires shall call time and

discuss the situation privately. After the discussion, only the umpire that made the call can reverse the decision if he feels it would be appropriate. The head coach may question a call only if he feels it is a misinterpretation of the rules.

Baseball - The USA bat standard will be adhered to by all teams. USA stamped bats will have a maximum barrel measurement of 2 5/8 inches.

Softball only - Face Masks are **required at all times** for the pitcher, 1st base, and 3rd base positions.

We will follow Babe Ruth League Official Regulations and Playing Rules, except for our league exceptions.

7-8 Girls – 2024 – Coach pitch

An 11-inch ball will be used.

The time limit will be 1 hour 15 minutes or 6 innings. A new inning will not start with less than 5 minutes remaining. If you are in the middle of an inning when time expires, we will finish the inning.

Coach pitch will be utilized in 2024. The pitching rubber will be set at 35 feet. The coach is NOT required to pitch from the rubber but must pitch from within the circle that surrounds the rubber.

All players that are present MUST be in the batting order. Free substitution is allowed but the batting order must remain the same.

Runners **CANNOT** steal bases but may leave the base when the ball crosses home plate or is hit. Bunts are **NOT** allowed.

10 players in the field but all players **MUST** bat.

The “infield fly rule” will **NOT** be used in this age group.

The “missed thrown ball” rule is in effect for this age group.

MISSED THROWN BALL RULE: a missed thrown ball is a ball that is thrown to a baseman (in an attempt to get an out at the base), but the baseman doesn't catch the ball. When a missed thrown ball occurs, no runner can advance more than 1 additional base. Only 1 missed thrown ball will be allowed per play. EXAMPLE: The batter hits the ball, and the ball is thrown to first base. The first baseman misses the ball. The defense gets the ball and throws it to second base to try to get the batter-runner out. The player covering second base misses the ball too. The runner CANNOT advance any farther because only 1 missed thrown ball is allowed. When a “missed thrown ball” occurs, the umpire should call out loudly “missed ball” unless the ball becomes blocked or out of play, then the overthrow would apply.

The **20-foot diameter circle** around the pitcher's mound will be used.

Face Masks are **required at all times** for the pitcher, 1st base, and 3rd base positions.

If the batted ball hits the pitching coach, the ball is dead and all runners will advance one base if forced to advance (i.e. – runner on 2nd base must have a runner on 1st base forcing the advancement, etc.).

The run rule is 13 after 4 innings and 7 after 5 innings.

One paid umpire will be used for this age group.

5-PITCH RULES

A. There are no walks issued.

B. There **ARE** strikeouts. 3 strikes.

C. The batter will receive at most 5 pitches unless the 5th pitch is fouled. If it is, then the batter is allowed additional pitches until they hit, strike out or don't swing. D. If the pitching machine is used, the umpire will do the pitching.

9-10 Girls - 2024

An 11-inch ball will be used.

The time limit will be 1 hour 15 minutes or 6 innings. A new inning will not start with less than 5 minutes remaining. If you are in the middle of an inning when time expires, we will finish the inning.

10 players will be in the field. You must bat all players on the roster that are present.

The pitching distance is 35 ft.

Batters **CANNOT** run on a dropped third strike.

Bunting and Slapping are both allowed.

Free substitution is allowed, but the batting order must remain the same.

Runners CAN steal all bases EXCEPT Home. If a pick off is thrown from catcher to 3rd the runner may advance. Base +1 when played upon. Example 1: If the ball is thrown to 1st and missed the runner may advance to 2nd. If the ball is then thrown to the pitcher the runner must stop. If the ball is thrown to 2nd the runner may advance. Also, if there are runners on 1st and 3rd and the catcher attempts to pick off a baserunner attempting to steal 2nd base, the runner on 3rd base may advance home.

Runners are allowed to leave their bases as soon as the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. Runners are OUT for leaving too early.

The “infield fly rule” WILL be used in this age group.

An extended strike zone will be used. It will be from the bottom of the knees to the top of the shoulders and 3 inches on both sides of the regular plate.

Modified pitching will be used. The pitcher will pitch to a batter if the batter strikes out or hits the ball the game is played as usual. If the batter receives 4 balls the coach will pitch to the batter until she hits or strikes out. **The coach must pitch from the pitching rubber.**

Example: Count: 4 balls, 1 strike- The coach will throw 2 pitches to the batter unless the batter fouls off the 3rd strike.

The run rule is 13 after 4 innings and 7 after 5 innings.

Two paid umpires will be used for this age group.

The 20-foot diameter circle around the pitcher's mound will be used.

The home team's scorebook will be the official scorebook. Each town will also have an official scorekeeper that will keep all official score sheets.

Pitchers can only pitch 10 innings per week, Monday - Sunday.

11-12 Girls - 2024

A 12-inch ball will be used.

The time limit will be 1 hour 15 minutes or 6 innings. A new inning will not start with less than 5 minutes remaining. If you are in the middle of an inning when time expires, we will finish the inning.

9 or 10 players in the field but you can bat all players on the roster. Coaches can discuss.

The pitching distance is 40ft.

Pitchers can only pitch 10 innings per calendar week (Monday-Sunday).

Runners **CAN** steal all bases. Batters **CAN** run on a dropped third strike.

Runner can lead off or steal when the pitcher releases the pitch. If they leave too early, they are out. (Umpires can give warning the first time.)

Bunting and Slapping are both allowed.

The infield fly rule **WILL** be used in this age group.

Two paid umpires will be used.

The run rule is 13 after 4 innings and 7 after 5 innings.

The home team's scorebook will be the official scorebook. Each town will also have an official scorekeeper that will keep all official score sheets.

7-8 Boys - 2024 - Coach pitch

The time limit will be 1 hour 15 minutes or 6 innings. A new inning will not start with less than 5 minutes remaining. If you are in the middle of an inning when time expires, we will finish the inning.

All players that are present **MUST** be in the batting order. Free substitution is allowed but the batting order must remain the same. 10 players in the field unless coaches agree to have more.

Runners **CANNOT** steal bases but may leave the base when the ball crosses home plate or is hit. Umpires may warn.

Bunts are **NOT** allowed.

The "infield fly rule" will NOT be used in this age group.

The "missed thrown ball" rule is in effect for this age group. MISSED THROWN BALL RULE: a missed thrown ball is a ball that is thrown to a baseman (in an attempt to get an out at the base), but the baseman doesn't catch the ball. When a missed thrown ball occurs, no runner can advance more than 1 additional base. Only 1 missed thrown ball will be allowed per play. EXAMPLE: The batter hits the ball, and the ball is thrown to first base. The first baseman misses the ball. The defense gets the ball and throws it to second base to try to get the batter-runner out. The player covering second base misses the ball too. The runner CANNOT advance any farther because only 1 missed thrown ball is allowed. When a "missed thrown ball" occurs, the umpire should call out loudly "missed ball" unless the ball becomes blocked or out of play, then the overthrow would apply.

No more than "1" defensive coach on the field at a time in the outfield.

The **20-foot diameter circle** around the pitcher's mound will be used.

The pitcher must be within the 20-foot circle when the ball is pitched.

Free Substitution will be allowed; this includes the pitcher, if he hasn't reached their pitching limit. The run rule is 13 after 4 innings and 7 after 5 innings.

One paid umpire will be used for this age group. The umpire will be off to the side of the catcher where the entire field can be seen.

5-PITCH RULES

- A. There are no walks issued.
- B. There **ARE** strikeouts. 3 strikes.
- C. The batter will receive at most 5 pitches unless the 5th pitch is fouled. If it is, then the batter is allowed additional pitches until they hit, strike out or don't swing.
- D. The coach will pitch.
- E. If a batted ball hits the coach, it will be declared a dead ball. The hitter is awarded first base, and all runners will advance one base.
- F. The pitching distance is 35 feet.
- G. Pitching coach can't coach within the playing field.

9-10 Boys 60' Bases – 2024

The time limit will be 1 hour 15 minutes or 6 innings. A new inning will not start with less than 5 minutes remaining. If you are in the middle of an inning when time expires, we will finish the inning.

All players that are present **MUST** be in the batting order. Free substitution is allowed, but the batting order must remain the same, this includes the pitcher if he hasn't reached their pitching limit.

The pitching distance is 46ft. with bases at 60 ft. [Pitch Count Rules](#)

Pitch Counts: Coaches must use a pitch count sheet and carry with them their scorebook to all games.

TOURNAMENT PITCHING REST REQUIREMENTS				
AGE	DAILY MAX (PITCHES IN GAME/DAY)	REST PERIOD		
		0 Days	1 Day	2 Days
7-8	50	1-20	21-35	36+
9-10	75	1-40	41-65	66+

Batters **CANNOT** run on a dropped third strike.

Runners **CAN** steal all bases **EXCEPT** Home. If a pick off is thrown from catcher to 3rd the runner may advance. (Base +1 when played upon.) Example: If ball is thrown to 1st and missed the runner may advance to 2nd. If the ball is then thrown to the pitcher the runner must stop. If the ball is thrown to 2nd the runner may advance. Also, if there are runners on 1st and 3rd and the catcher attempts to pick off a baserunner attempting to steal 2nd base, the runner on 3rd base may advance home.

Runners are allowed to leave their bases as soon as the ball crosses the plate or is hit. If the runner leaves too early they are called out. (Umpires may give a warning for the first time.)

Bunts are allowed.

The “infield fly rule” WILL be used in this age group.

An extended strike zone will be used. It will be from the bottom of the knees to the top of the shoulders and 3 inches on both sides of the regular plate.

The run rule is 13 after 4 innings and 7 after 5 innings.

Two paid umpires will be used for this age group.

The home team’s scorebook will be the official scorebook. Each town will also have an official scorekeeper that will keep all official score sheets.

11-12 Boys 70’ Bases - 2024

The time limit will be 1 hour 15 minutes or 6 innings. A new inning will not start with less than 5 minutes remaining. If you are in the middle of an inning when time expires, we will finish the inning.

The pitching distance is 50 ft. with bases at 70 ft. [Pitch Count Rules](#)
Pitch counts. Coaches must use pitch count sheet and carry with them their scorebook to all games.

TOURNAMENT PITCHING REST REQUIREMENTS				
AGE	DAILY MAX (PITCHES IN GAME/DAY)	REST PERIOD		
		0 Days	1 Day	2 Days
7-8	50	1-20	21-35	36+
9-10	75	1-40	41-65	66+
11-12	85	1-40	41-65	66+

Runners **CAN** steal all bases and lead off. Batters **CAN** run on a dropped third strike.

The infield fly rule **WILL** be used in this age group.

Two paid umpires will be used.

The run rule is 13 after 4 innings and 7 after 5 innings.

The home team’s scorebook will be the official scorebook. Each town will also have an official scorekeeper that will keep all official score sheets.