



## COACH PITCH RULES

### I. The FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE SPORTSPLEX GROUNDS:

- a. Glass containers
- b. Vehicles off the roadways or parking lots
- c. Metal cleats
- d. Alcoholic beverages around the playing fields

### II. INCLEMENT WEATHER

If practice or games are canceled because of inclement weather a message will be left on the rainout number at (281) 554-1155. The rainout number will ONLY leave a message when practices or games are rained out.

### III. LEAGUE STANDINGS

NO records or standings will be kept! This league is only for the enjoyment of the youth.

### IV. GENERAL RULES

- a. Players **MUST** remain inside the dugout. The gate to the dugout area shall remain closed during the entire game.
- b. A team may not practice more than once a week.
- c. A practice may not last longer than one and half hours.
- d. In the event that a game must be rescheduled, it is the responsibility of the Recreation Department to reschedule the game at the earliest available date. The Recreation Department will inform the managers at least 72 hours in advance of the rescheduled game time.
- e. The Parks & Recreation Department shall have the right to censure the actions of managers and coaches, and the authority to suspend or remove them, should the Parks & Recreation Department determine that the manager or coach is not acting in the best interest of the children (or the league).
- f. A manager or head coach is the only one with the authority to eject someone from their team from a game (including spectators).
- g. This league will use the MacGregor 87SP, or a similar brand that meets league standards.
- h. All youth who are between the ages of 6-9 will be allowed to participate in the league.

### V. LEAGUE RULES AND LEAGUE EXCEPTIONS

League rules will be based on the Official Playing Rules of Little League. The following set of rules will be the local exceptions:

- 1) Bases will be set at 55 feet.



- 2) The pitcher's plate shall be located such that the distance between the front side of the pitcher's plate and the rear point of home plate shall be 35 feet.
- 3) The minimum allowing pitching distance shall be 27 feet.
- 4) A chalk line shall be placed across the base path halfway between the bases on the baseline (these are the halfway marks)
- 5) The infield fly rule will not apply.
- 6) The bench and the dugout is reserved for, and restricted to players, one manager, two coaches, and one dugout parent when they are not actively engaged on the playing field.
- 7) Bunting is not allowed
- 8) Base stealing is not allowed
- 9) A team shall play with 10 defensive positions. If a team is unable to field 10 defensive players, 7 shall constitute a legal line-up.
- 10) A player ejected from a game is not eligible for re-entry.
- 11) All players who do not play a defensive position in the first and second innings must play a defensive position in the third and fourth innings.
- 12) All players present will be listed in the batting order prior to the start of a game, and this batting order will be maintained throughout the game.
- 13) If a child that has been marked absent reports late to the game, the player will enter the game and bat in the last position in the line-up. The manager must make every effort to assure that the player meets the minimum defensive playing requirements.
- 14) The side shall be retired if 3 outs occur, or after a team scores 5 runs in the inning.
- 15) Each manager must identify the "adult pitcher" to the umpire at the start of the game.
- 16) The defensive team may place two adult coaches in the outfield to instruct the outfielders. The outfield coaches must remain against the back fence at all times!
- 17) Each offensive team is allowed 2 adult bases coaches on the field during its time at bat (1 in the first base coach's box, and 1 in the third base coach's box). Coaches must remain inside the box at all times! Base coaches are allowed to talk to members of his/her team. A base coach who is offending, derogatory, etc. will be removed from the field!
- 18) The 8 foot pitching circle will be treated the same as the pitching rubber for the purpose of establishing when a ball is dead, and the whether the base runners are supposed to return to their base or advance to the next base. Unless the runner has the halfway mark the runner will be required to return to the last legally obtained base. The umpire shall declare dead ball if:
- 19) The lead runner is stopped or frozen (for lead runner to be stopped (frozen) the defensive player must have control of the ball, and the defensive player must be facing the lead runner and the base that the runner is on). Other base runners will be placed on the correct base according to the runners location and halfway marks when a dead ball is called. Remember, this rule applies to the LEAD RUNNER ONLY!!
- 20) The kid pitcher is the pitcher's circle control of the ball and there is no attempt by any other base runner to advance. Base runners will be placed on the correct base according to runner's location and the halfway marks when a dead ball is called.
- 21) While the ball is dead NO player may be put out, no bases may be ran, and no runs may be scored.
- 22) Only one base is allowed on overthrows to first base.



- 23) The batter is out when he/she has failed to hit a fair ball, and the adult pitcher has delivered 5 pitches (6 max-if fouls on fifth, allow extra pitch) to the batter.
- 24) If a fair ball hits the adult pitcher, the ball declared dead, the batter is awarded first base, and base runners will be allowed one base if forced.
- 25) If a batter throws a bat, one warning shall be issued to the batter with notification to the manager. On the second offense, the batter shall be called out. The ball is dead and no base runners may advance.
- 26) NOTE: A thrown bat is defined as one that can cause potential safety hazards to others. This is a judgment call by the umpires.
- 27) A runner may only advance on a batted ball.
- 28) Each team shall furnish its own adult pitcher. The adult pitcher shall not wear a baseball glove. The adult pitcher may only deliver a pitch after the umpire has declared play ball.
- 29) The pitcher shall stand facing the batter, on or behind the chalk line making the minimum pitching distance. The pitcher must complete delivery of the ball to the batter with at least one foot on or behind the minimum allowable pitching distance. NOTE: An improperly delivered pitch shall be declared a dead ball by the umpire and one pitch assessed against the batter, however in no way shall the defensive team be penalized.
- 30) The adult pitcher must make every attempt to leave fair territory after the ball has been hit. The adult pitcher may not in any way interfere with the defensive team and their play of the ball. The adult pitcher may return to fair territory only after the umpire has declared the ball dead. NOTE: If in the judgment of the umpire, the adult pitcher interferes with the, obstructs, impedes, hinders, or confuses any fielder attempting to make a play, interference shall be called and the batter or runner on whom the play is being made shall be declared out. All other runners shall return to the last base that was, in the judgment of the umpire, legally touched at the time interference was called.
- 31) The defensive fielder designated as the pitcher must keep at least one foot inside the circle behind the 35-foot pitcher's plate while the adult pitcher delivers the pitch.
- 32) No lead offs. Base runners **may not** leave the base until the ball has been hit! On the first offense the team gets a warning, on the second offense and each additional offense the runner is **OUT!**
- 33) There is **NO** yelling, chattering, etc. by the players or coaches while the game is in progress!

## **VI. GAME TIME, TIE GAMES, CALLED GAMES**

- a. A regulation game shall be a maximum of 5 innings.
- b. No new inning shall start after 55 minutes. Any game that reaches the time limit is a regulation game regardless of the number of innings played
- c. Games where the score is tied at the end of regulation play (5 innings or 55 minutes, whichever comes first) will be declared "tied" Extra innings will not be played
- d. If a game is called for whatever reason, it shall be considered an official game if 3 innings have been played.
- e. **NO** protests will be allowed in this league.

If you have any questions or comments concerning the league, please call the Recreation offices at (281) 554-1180.