



2023 Fall Ball League Playing Rules MINI DIVISION

This division is for instructional purposes. There will be no official score kept. No league standings will be maintained. All players will receive a participation award at the end of the season. Many of the players in this division are playing on an organized sports team for their first time ever. As a coaching staff your priority is training and assisting your players to learn how to play and to have fun. Team spirit and good sportsmanship will be emphasized. Positive coaching is to be used.

DIVISION MAKE-UP

- Players of League Age 4 and 5, as per PONY rules. Players will be ages 3,4,5 during the season.

PLAYING FIELD

- Distance between bases is 50 feet.
- The pitcher's plate is 25 feet from home plate.
- A 2-foot vertical line will be drawn halfway between each base to assist the umpire in determining where to place the runner when a ball is dead. Players must both feet completely over this line to be entitled to the next base.
- The grass area designates the outfield. The dirt is the infield.
- A 10-foot arc will be drawn, from foul line to foul line, in front of home plate, which is deemed foul territory.

EQUIPMENT

- Batting tee
- A safety base will be used (at first base)
- Standard size baseball – Safety ball

GAME DURATION

- Games will drop dead at one hour and 10 minutes.
- No score or standings will be kept.

PLAYING RULES

BATTING:

- Six players will bat each inning. A team may have more than 3 outs in an inning.
- The batting tee will be used (no Coach Pitcher). The player will attempt to hit off the batting tee until the ball is put into play. If the batter lightly hits the ball and it is in the arc area, it is considered a foul ball and the ball is put back onto the batting tee. The player continues to bat.



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DEFENSIVE PLAY:

- Players may only be in the same defensive position maximum 2 innings, per game. It is important that players rotate positions, i.e. playing infield, outfield, pitcher position, etc
- All players will play defensively each inning.
- 6 players allowed on the infield (pitcher, catcher, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and short stop). All other players must be in the outfield.
- All outfielders must be in the outfield prior to a batter attempting to hit the ball. Outfield is designated as the grass area.
- COACHES: 1 coach in the home plate area. 2 coaches will be allowed in the field of play. Additional coaches may be used as determined by the team manager.

AFTER THE BALL IS PUT INTO PLAY:

- If the ball is hit into the infield the team on defense must attempt to make a play (no attempting to stop the play by holding the ball in the air).
- If the ball is in the outfield, the ball must be returned to the infield. The ball is considered dead when an infielder has control of the ball in the infield and in the umpire's judgment play has stopped.
- If a player has crossed the hash mark (both feet), they shall be awarded the next base when a dead ball situation occurs.
- STEALING BASES: Not permitted. Base runners must remain in contact with the base until the ball is hit. If in the umpire's judgment a runner leaves the base too soon the umpire may call the runner out.
- No infield fly rule.

OFFICIAL TEAM PARENT: Two official team parents are allowed in the dugout.