

Rookies: (8U):

Rookies play with an 11" ball and pitch from 35 feet. Four outfielders are permitted. The following rules are in place:

- **Pitching:**

- **Opening day through May 2:**

Player pitches. After 3 pitches, the offensive coach pitches – **6 pitches maximum per batter**. If the batter doesn't hit after the 6th pitch, the use of a batting tee is required. Pitcher must remain in pitcher's circle in a position not forward of the coach. Coach is allowed to stay on the field when the player is pitching to speed up the game. **Player and coaches pitch from the rubber at 35 feet. Coaches should be pitching with minimum arc.**

- **May 3 through end of season:**

Player pitches. After 3 pitches, the offensive coach pitches. The batter retains the strike count. Pitcher must remain in pitcher's circle in a position not forward of the coach. Batter either **hits or strikes out**. Pitcher returns for next batter and the procedure is repeated. Coach is allowed to stay on field when player is pitching to speed up the game. **Coaches should be pitching with minimum arc from the rubber at 35 feet..**

If pitcher reaches 4 balls on 3 batters in one inning, she is then reduced to 3 pitches per batter the rest of that inning

A batter hit by pitch will go directly to coach pitch and retain their current strike count. No base is awarded.

- **Batting:**

Complete inning will be 4 runs or 3 outs per side throughout the season. Bunts are not permitted.

- **Stealing:**

3 steal attempts of any combination of 2nd or 3rd base are allowed per inning. Steals of home are **not** allowed. Stealing is **not allowed** when coach is pitching. **There is no advancement of runner on overthrows from the catcher.**

- **Other Base Running:**

Runners may not advance on **any** overthrow, whether it is during a steal, a throw back to the pitcher, or an overthrow on a play in the field.

A runner may not leave the base until the pitched ball crosses home plate.

If hit to the outfield, hitter and any existing baserunners can advance up to two bases. Maximum advancement of 2 bases for all runners regardless of overthrows when hit to the outfield.

If an infielder makes a play on a batted ball, and it gets by her in some way, runners are not allowed to advance an extra base unless ball gets into the outfield grass.

Once ball is in control by an infielder, there will be no more advancing on the bases on balls hit to the outfield. Player will continue to the next base, but that is it.

- **Time Limits:**

Rookie's time limit is 1.5 hours. It is the umpire's discretion to call a game on account of darkness or weather.

Game Conditions/Miscellaneous:

Home coach must call the away coach in advance if there is any question as to the condition of the field or the weather. Either coach must contact the opposing coach if they do not expect to have enough players to field a team for a game. If at all possible, attempt to play the game anyway, whether by allowing fewer fielders, or by one team lending the other team enough players to fill the field.

Visiting team may use field to warm up for 15 minutes starting ½ hour before game time. Home team warms up 15 minutes prior to game time.

Both teams are responsible for cleaning up their own dugout after every game. Home team is responsible for field maintenance after every game.