

Clairemont Hilltoppers Little League  
Rookie Division Rules 2023 (final)

Rookies Division will emphasize continued baseball education (defensive / offensive), improve on the skills learned in T-Ball and educate players on positions, especially defensive skill, and hitting a moving baseball. Although scores can be kept per game, there are no official standings, scorekeeping, or playoffs. The focus should be: (1) Have Fun (2) Fundamental defensive skills (3) Hitting a Live Pitch

The first half of the season will be coach pitch, the second will be machine pitch.

A Safety Baseball will be used at all times in the Rookie Division.

Games will be 5 innings or 90 minutes on Saturday. **Weeknight M - F games will be 5 innings or 75 minutes.**

4 runs maximum per inning.

Each team at bat will continue to bat in the inning until either 4 runs have scored or 3 outs or the entire line-up has batted that inning.

Bases shall be 60' apart.

There are no catchers behind home plate and no bunting.

There are no plays at home plate.

2 bases max on hits that pass the outfielders.

Base runners cannot lead off or advance on overthrows.

There are no walks, strikeouts, protests or penalties.

No infield fly rule.

10 players maximum on defense (5 infielders, 5 outfielders). The 5 outfielders must be 30' from the baselines and cannot tag runners or bases for outs. They must throw the ball to an infielder to complete the play.

The defensive team may have 2 coaches in the outfield.

If no umpire is provided by the league the coach pitching will be the umpire.

No Player may play more than two innings at the same position per game and all players must play at least one inning in the infield and one inning in the outfield per game.

**Coach Pitch Rules:**

The pitching coach should be between 25' and 40' from batter and may pitch from kneeling or underhand if needed.

Maximum of 5 pitches. Bring out the tee after 5 pitches. If the 5th pitch is fouled, the batter may continue the at bat.

The pitching coach must wear a glove.

A batted ball must travel 15 feet in fair territory to be a fair ball. If less, consider it a foul ball.

A batted ball hitting the pitching coach will be dead and the batter and forced runners will be awarded one base.

**Machine Pitch Rules:**

The pitching machine will be at 40 feet from home plate and will be set between 33-35 mph.

Maximum of 5 pitches. Bring out the tee after 5 pitches. If the 5th pitch is fouled, the batter may continue live pitching at bat.

A batted ball must travel 15 feet in fair territory to be a fair ball. If less, consider it a foul ball.

A batted ball hitting the pitching machine (or coach) will be a dead ball and the batter and forced runners awarded one base