

2019- 8u Boys Coach Pitch Rules, Regular Season League Option-Fall & Spring (Revised 07-17-19)

1. Ten players in the field for defense only. Free substitution on defense as often as needed to get players in the game on defense. Each child must play three consecutive outs of defense for each game played. If an opportunity to get another inning of defense arises, then coaches should take advantage if possible. Teams can start with 8 players with no penalty, but **MUST** have a catcher on defense. 7 or fewer players is forfeit.
2. All players on the team roster **will bat** the entire duration of the games. ****Batters must wear helmets with face mask. **Bases will be set at 60 ft.****
3. An inning will end on the 3rd recorded out or, once playing action ends--after the 10th batter of the inning is used, whichever comes first.
4. **Games will consist of 5 innings or 1 hr. time limit, whichever comes first.** No new inning will start after time expires. If the game is in the top half of an inning and time expires, the bottom half will be played and the home team will get their turn at bat **only** if it is needed. **No extra innings to break ties.**
5. Pitching circle will be set at 8 ft. radius (16 ft. diameter), drawn off the center of the 46 ft. chalk mark. Coach pitcher must throw overhand and player/pitcher must wear helmet with facemask.
6. The batter will be allowed (5) pitches or (3) strikes. The batter will be called out after the 5th pitch unless the 5th pitch is a foul ball, the pitch shall not count unless a foul fly is caught in the air. In this case the batter would be out. ****NOTE:** The player pitcher shall wear a batting helmet with a face guard and be in a position behind the coach pitcher, even with the 46' chalk mark, and with at least one foot within the pitching circle until the ball is hit by the batter.**
7. Coach must keep both feet in the circle until the release of the pitch. The coach would be considered in the circle if one foot is on the chalk during the release of the pitch. **Penalty;** the umpire will issue a warning to the coach pitcher on the first offense. After the next violation, the umpire will give the defense the option of taking the result of the play or a no pitch.
8. **Only 4 coaches** allowed in coach pitch. This is enforced, extra parents not allowed in the dugouts or field.
9. If a batted ball hits the coach, a dead ball is called and the batter will be placed back in the box. A no pitch would then be declared. IF, in the umpire's judgment, the coach intentionally interferes with a play, the batter will be out. All runners would return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.
10. Outfielders should be positioned at least 20 ft. back of the bases, in the grass. Umpire will note this and remind coach if players are not in the proper position. Coaches are asked to keep down possible delays in this matter. ****All fields will have variables with the size of infield in relation to outfield.**
11. ***Time will be called by the umpire once the ball is under control by any infielder requesting time, and in the umpire's judgement, playing action has ended.**
12. **Catchers** will be in full gear, including a protective cup. Catchers helmets will have a throat protector, unless it is a hockey style mask. An adult coach can assist the catcher to help get balls back to the coach pitcher, potential plays at the plate must be made by the catcher or fielder with no coach interference.
13. Runners **can not** advance on a passed ball or steal bases. *****Infield fly rule does not apply.*****
14. Only two defensive coaches allowed on the field to manage the defense. One coach must be in the outfield grass to instruct outfielders and one coach to help the catcher return balls to the pitcher only.
15. **Regular baseballs will be used in all games, this includes regular season and the end of season tournament**
16. Tie games at the end of regulation will end in a tie. ****Regular season only.****
17. All games are under the jurisdiction of the UIC (umpire in chief), once the officials take the field, all decisions for stopping games due to foul weather, field conditions, etc, will be made by them. All threats of lightning will require minimum 30 minute delay for passing thunderstorms. Weekday games will be canceled if delays would be too extensive to resume play on a school night.
18. **All Bats** must be labeled with the USA Bat Standard, with the exception of wood bats and the BBCOR certification. The BBCOR certified bats, (-3 drop) are legal, however must comply with the 2 5/8 barrel max. **Tee ball bats are not legal** for coach pitch. The barrel of all bats can not exceed 2 5/8" inches in diameter or exceed 33" in length.
19. Sportsmanship: Each coach is a representative of his/her community and must refrain from vulgar language and conduct themselves in a respectful manner. Any coach ejected from a game, must leave the park premises and take their child with them. The child can return to play his team's next game, however the coach must sit out his team's next scheduled game and is not allowed on park grounds. **Any player** ejected from a game will require an out recorded each time the ejected player's spot is due to bat.