



## **Minor 1 - Coach Pitch (Ages 6-8)**

### **Northeastern Little League (NELL) Rules**

- Games are a strict 1 1/2 hour time limit.
- No inning shall start after the 1 hour and 15 minute mark has been eclipsed.
- Games are 6 innings.
- 3 outs per inning.
- A 5 run rule per inning is in effect until the 6th inning, where runs are unlimited.
- No on-deck batting circle is allowed. Players must remain in the dugout until their turn to bat.
- Players will be given up to 10 pitches per at bat.
- There are no walks. After 3 swinging strikes, the batter is out.
- No base stealing or lead-offs allowed.
- A batter may ONLY advance up to 2 bases on any hit. Base runners may advance at their own risk on any batted ball and may advance as many bases as warranted.
- A base runner may NOT advance on any overthrow.
- Coaches will call their own outs when their team is batting.
- Any batted ball that strikes the coach who is pitching or the bucket of balls is deemed a dead ball. A strike is NOT counted and all runners must return to their original base.
- Score is kept for 5 run limit purposes, but game score and win-loss is not important.
- Up to 4 outfielders are allowed.
- Catchers must wear all protective gear: helmet, chest protector, and shin guards.

NOTE: Coaches should meet with the opposing team's coach(s) prior to the game beginning to agree upon all rules, especially when playing interleague games against other local leagues.

Some leagues may play up to 5 swinging strikes or allow for overthrow advances. The goal is to let the kids have fun and learn some fundamentals along the way.

Additionally, for those coaches who will be pitching, please remember that it is easier for your kids to hit a ball when it is not lobbed, so don't be afraid to throw it harder than you might think. They might struggle to hit it early on during practices, but once they get the hang of it, it will surprise you. Also, please try and give your players the opportunity to play all the positions, regardless of skill level, throughout the season. Rotate your players defensively on an every inning or a bi-inning basis.