

**Northwest Forsyth American Little League Spring 2026  
AA Minors - Advanced Coach Pitch Baseball – Local Rules**

**The objective of Coach Pitch Baseball is to have FUN learning the fundamentals of the game while providing as many opportunities (positions and innings) as possible for each player to play defense and bat.**

**Batting Order:** All players present shall be in the batting order for the entire game. Free defensive substitution. See rule 4.04.

**Playing Time:** All players present shall play a minimum of three (3) full defensive innings per game. At least one (1) full defensive inning must be at an infield position which includes 1B, 2B, SS, 3B or Pitcher. It is recommended that all players present play a minimum of four full defensive innings per game with at least two of those innings at an infield position. **Please note that infielders must be positioned 2 feet behind the baseline as the pitch is delivered.**

**Starting a Game:** The goal is for rosters to have at least 10 players - the minimum to play a game is 7 players - opposing team to supply needed outfielders when possible. A total of four outfielders may be used to allow maximum play time as long as both teams have an equal number of defensive positions.

**Time Limit:** Game length is 6 innings subject to the following time limit - no new inning shall start later than 1 1/2 hours after the start of the game. An inning begins as soon as the 3<sup>rd</sup> out/ or 5<sup>th</sup> run is made in the previous inning. On Mon-Thu, a new inning may not start after 8:00pm.

**Run Rule:** To meet our objectives, the 10-run rule and 15-run rule (4.10 e) will **NOT** be in effect.

**Thrown Bat:** 1st offense = play stands; umpire calls time and issues warning; 2<sup>nd</sup> offense = play stands, umpire calls time and lets managers and official scorekeeper know that player is allowed to be play defense only the balance of the game - spot in order is passed over - no automatic out.

**Ending an Inning:** An inning shall end when 3 outs are made or when 5 runs have scored (rule 5.07).

**Stopping Play: (with less than 3 outs):** Play is not over until no further play is being made and pitcher is in possession of ball on the mound. Runners that are **GREATER THAN HALFWAY** to the next base may advance, otherwise, they must return to the previously tagged base.

**Overthrow to first base:** If a play is attempted at FIRST BASE and fails for any reason, the runner may advance to 2<sup>nd</sup> base only, **but only at their own risk.** Other base runners may advance to next base **ONLY** if they are forced. This encourages making the right play.

**Pitching Machine:** The pitching machine shall be set at 7-3-3 and placed at a distance of 40 feet from home plate. Approved Little League Equipment (bats, helmets, catcher's gear, etc.) must be used at all times.

**Batters:** Three strikes and the batter is out. Batter will receive up to 5 pitches. If the 5<sup>th</sup> pitch is fouled, the batter will remain at bat until a pitch is taken, put into play or there is a swing and a miss. There are no bases on balls.

**Catcher Back-Up:** One coach for the defensive team may be positioned in the proximity of home plate, in foul territory, for the purpose of expediting play by retrieving passed balls. This coach may not interfere with an attempted play.

**Coaches:** Up to 3 approved coaches may be utilized in a game while the team is playing defense. Three coaches will be permitted on the field while on offense: Two base coaches and one feeding pitching machine. One coach must remain in the dugout. Players may not be used as base coaches.

**No digging is allowed:** To maintain fields and prevent injuries, players may not dig while on defense. First offense is a warning, second offense is removal for that inning, and third offense is removal from the game.

**Slash Bunting:** Slash bunting is not permitted. This is an act by a batter to fake a bunt and then attempt to make a full swing on the same pitch. If attempted, the batter will be called out and all runners will return to their previously awarded bases.