



8U DIVISION RULES

- a. Continuous batting order is used. Maximum of eleven batters per inning. Five run rule is in effect, EXCEPT the 6th inning or later, when BOTH teams can score more than five while still using the eleven batter rule.
- b. The ball is considered dead when the pitcher has control of the ball on the infield/infield grass, in fair territory, and is no longer attempting a baseball related play. Dead ball is determined by the coach operating the machine. An outfielder must get the ball to an infielder for a play to be considered dead. Outfielders are also not permitted to make plays on the infield.
- c. On 11th batter, play is dead if third out is made, the batter scores, or an infielder has control of the ball on the infield.
- d. There are no restrictions on overthrows. The ball is considered live until an infielder has control of the ball on the infield/infield grass, in fair territory, and is no longer attempting a baseball related play. There is no limit on the amount of overthrows per play.
- e. Batters will receive a maximum of four pitches per at-bat. Three strikes constitute a strikeout. If the fourth pitch is fouled and not caught, the batter will receive another. This applies to all pitches after the fourth pitch as well. There are no walks. After three outs, the half inning is complete.
- f. If batted ball strikes the pitching machine or coach that is operating it, the ball is considered dead. Batter is awarded first base, and all runners advance one base only if forced. Additional game balls must be in possession of the coach that is using the machine or pitching. No extra game balls may be placed on the field during play.
- g. Home team will be responsible for operating the scoreboard and picking up the game balls and scoreboard remote from the concession stand. Home team is also responsible for turning off the scoreboard and returning the remote to the concession stand.
- h. If a runner is more than halfway to a base when an infielder is in control of the ball and play is considered dead, runner is awarded the base they were advancing to. If less than halfway, the runner must return to previous base.
- i. Catchers are to play in position to learn the basics of said position. They are not responsible for retrieving balls that get passed them. (Another coach from either team may stay at the backstop and retrieve passed balls and return to the coach that is pitching)
- j. There is no positional rule on placing players, except that all players must play an infield position for at least one full inning. There is a maximum of ten players on the field defensively per inning. (4 outfielders)
- k. A game will be 6 innings or until the district approved time limit has been reached. The current district approved time limit is one hour and forty-five minutes for spring, and one hour and thirty minutes for fall.
- l. A game is considered

completed due to mercy rule when a team is winning by 10 runs or more after the fourth inning of play. If the home team is winning by ten or more after the top of the fourth inning is complete, the game is over as well.

- l. Pinch runners can be used if the player on base is scheduled to catch the next inning and there are two outs. The pinch runner must be the player that made the last batted out. No more than three minutes will be allowed between innings.
- m. A maximum of three coaches are permitted on the field for offense. (Coach that is operating the pitching machine and two base coaches). One defensive coach will be allowed in the outfield. Two additional defensive coaches are permitted in foul territory at the team's discretion, but must be placed further back than the offensive team's base coaches. One coach or parent must be in the dugout at all times and all adults on the field/in the dugout must be approved volunteers that have completed volunteer forms.
- n. Players who are not actively in the game shall remain in the dugout at all times.
- o. The coach that is operating the machine makes the calls on the field, and their calls stand. No challenging may be made toward a coach's calls. If you feel that a coach made a call that is not in accordance to these rules, speak to them respectfully after the conclusion of the half inning. **REMEMBER – The children are watching EVERYONE'S actions. If your team's parents are becoming unruly, please diffuse the situation as calmly and politely as possible. If the other team's parents are becoming unruly, respectfully speak to the opposing coach and voice your concerns.**
- p. Only USA bats are approved for use in Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth. For Rookie, the bats **CAN NOT** say "For Tee Ball Use" on them.