

COACH PITCH- SINGLE A GUIDELINES

The objective of Minor A (Coach Pitch) is to promote sportsmanship, teach the fundamentals of the game and have fun. These objectives should be at the forefront of every team's philosophy.

GENERAL

- (1) Games should start promptly at the scheduled start time and will last not longer than one (1) hour and forty-five (45) minutes. Use the entire time provided!
- (2) Each team should require their players to arrive at the field at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. This allows for field preparation and an organized warm-up.
- (3) Coaches are expected to have their players ready to bat and ready to take the field. Batting order and defensive positions should be established prior to the start of each game.
- (4) No score shall be kept.
- (5) Managers and coaches closest to the play shall make the calls of an umpire. Asking for help on a call is encouraged.

OFFENSE

- (1) Each team will bat through the entire order each inning, regardless of outs recorded or runs scored. (NOTE: If, after two complete innings, the coaches wish to play three outs or five runs, they shall be permitted to do so.)
- (2) Any player that throws the bat will first receive a warning. If the same player throws the bat again during the same game, that batter will lose his remaining at-bats for the rest of the game. Coaches must emphasize the importance of not throwing the bat.
- (3) Single base hits only. (Exception: if a batted ball hits the outfield grass, or equivalent distance on a larger field, two bases are permitted).
- (4) There is no on-deck position. All players must remain in the dugout, without bats!
- (5) Coaches will pitch to their own team's players. All pitches should be thrown overhand. Normal pitching distance shall be approximately 35 feet but may change to accommodate individual batters.
- (6) Each batter will be given six (6) pitches, no exceptions! If the batter fails to hit any of the six pitches into fair territory, the ball will be placed on a batting tee. Balls and strikes are not called.
- (7) Stealing bases is not allowed. Sliding and tagging up is permitted.
- (8) First and third base coaches are permitted provided there is still one coach in the dugout.

DEFENSE

- (1) Coaches are expected to have their players ready to take the field when necessary.
- (2) ALL players will take a defensive position on the field, every inning.
- (3) The nine defensive positions should be filled first (no rover position) with the remaining players placed in the deep outfield. All players shall receive equal playing time over the course of the season, with players getting the opportunity to play every position.
- (4) Catchers must wear appropriate fitting catcher's gear. A cup is mandatory for the catcher's position and highly recommended for all other positions.
- (5) Defensive coaches shall be permitted on the field of play.