**A Ball Rules and Regulations**

The rules of baseball will be followed with the exceptions noted herein. Coaches MAY NOT suspend these rules.

* Each player must play 3 innings per game. A game will consist of 6 innings. In foul weather, 4 innings constitutes a legal game, or 3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead.
* Games will be canceled due to foul weather by the division coordinator. A division wide email will be sent by 4 pm on game days.
1. A player may pitch only three (3) innings per game and not more than six (6) innings in a calendar week.
2. 3 outs constitutes an inning and for the purpose this rule, one (1) pitch equates to an inning
3. Player must remain on the bench when not actually playing in the game.
4. The coaches of the A Division will pitch to their own players until the beginning of the 3rd week of the season
5. A player from the opposing team will play the pitcher’s position and field balls hit to that position
6. On an overthrow into foul territory, runners may advance one (1) base at their own risk. On an overthrow at home plate. If the ball remains within the confines of the backstop, it is in play and the runners may advance at their own risk, on overthrow into fair territory, runners may advance at their own risk.
7. When the ball is returned to the pitcher on the mound, play is dead
8. Runners may not advance further than the base they are approaching when the ball reaches the pitcher
9. A pitcher who has hit three (3) batters in one (1) game or two (2) batters in one (1) inning must be removed from the the mound to another position
10. USE JUDGEMENT WITH A PITCHER WHO HAS HIT A BATTER IN THE HEAD… THINK OF THE KIDS’ SAFETY FIRST
11. Pitches should be encouraged to pitch from the pitcher’s mound
12. Eight year olds may pitch from a distance of not less than thirty six (36) feet
13. No more than nine (9) batters may bat in one half inning
14. The coach will notify the umpire and the opposing coach as the ninth batter comes to the plate
15. Batters and runners must wear protective helmets during all games and practices
16. Catchers must wear protective cups during games and practices
17. Bunting, leading and stealing are NOT allowed
18. Full uniform is required. Shorts are NOT allowed
19. Coaches will inspect the field before each game and agree upon any special ground rules they feel are needed
20. The catcher may use any fielder’s glove or first baseman’s mitt
21. The league will supply catchers’ equipment
22. Batters may not advance to first base on a dropped third strike
23. The home team will sit on the first base side of the field
24. No game may start or continue unless at least one coach from each team is present
25. When the ball is touched by anyone other than a player, lands in high grass or woods, rolls under a vehicle or any playing situation that is created that interferes with the playing of the ball (bad hop not included), the ball is dead at that point. Runners may proceed to the base being approached at the point the ball becomes dead
26. This is **INSTRUCTIONAL** baseball: it is the duty of the coaches and umpires to advise and instruct players as the game proceeds
27. If a dangerous situation develops, such as players being in a position where they may get hurt, the first coach or umpire to see it should call time and correct it
28. One parent from each team will be asked to umpire three (3) innings each
29. Umpires should call the game from behind the pitcher
30. The umpires should be directed by the coaches to call pitches perceived to be hittable as strikes
31. While we want players to develop some sense of the strike zone, we also want them to be swinging the bat
32. The general area of the arm pits to knees will be considered the strike zone
33. All players may be rotated in and out of the game to ensure all players get equal playing time
34. No inning should be started after dusk or if the visibility of the ball is poor
35. No inning shall start after 7:45 pm
36. No metal cleats are allowed. Rubber cleats should be worn
37. Players must remain on the bench when not actually playing in the game
38. Heckling of umpires or opponents is NOT allowed
39. The balk and infield fly rule will not be observed
40. Throwing a helmet or bat in anger is NOT allowed
41. A player will receive a warning for the first offense, but will be ejected from a game for the second offense… and will be disciplined by WCR
42. A coach may bench a player as a disciplinary measure is it is felt that such action will benefit  the player
43. If a player has a habitual behavior problem, it should be brought to the attention of  the Division Coordinator
44. This rule applies to the players on the coach’s own team
45. Players involved in a fight will be ejected from the game and the field.
46. Any player who misses three successive games or practices without a valid excuse may be dropped from the team with the permission of the league coordinator
47. A continuous batting order will be used
48. Coaches should verity score after each inning
49. Past ball run from 1st to 2nd 2nd is empty. Last month of 9 year old season.