

WEST HOUSTON CHRISTIAN BASEBALL/SOFTBALL LEAGUE

2017



WEST HOUSTON CHRISTIAN BASEBALL/SOFTBALL LEAGUE

LEAGUE OFFICERS AND FACILITIES

WEST HOUSTON CHRISTIAN BASEBALL/SOFTBALL LEAGUE FACILITY LOCATIONS

ASCENSION: 2525 Seagler Rd – Westheimer East of Beltway 8.

CHAPELWOOD/: 11140 Greenbay – North of San Felipe East of Piney Point

DUCHESNE: 10202 Memorial Drive – Chimney Rock and Memorial Drive

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN: 10221 Ella Lee Lane – Westheimer @Beltway 8

MEMORIAL DR PRES /: 11612 Memorial Drive – Memorial Drive @Briarforest

MEMORIAL DR UNITED METHODIST/: 12955 Memorial Dr. – Memorial West of Beltway 8

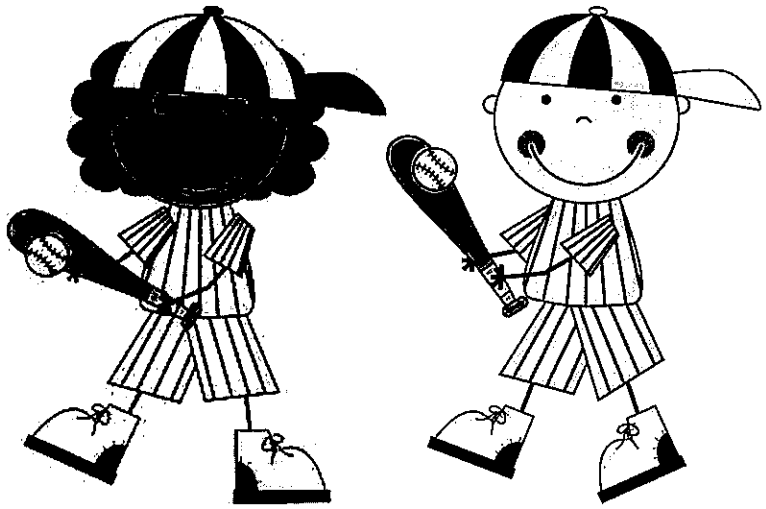
SECOND BAPTIST/: 6410 Woodway Drive – Woodway @ Voss

ST CECILIA/: 11740 Joan of Arc – I-10 and Bunker Hill

ST FRANCIS EPISCOPAL/: 345 Piney Point – North of San Felipe /West of Piney Point

ST JOHN PAUL II/: 1400 Parkway Plaza Dr/Briarforest and Parkway Plaza

ST MARK LUTHERAN: 1515 Hillendahl – North of I-10 near Westview /Pech Road



WEST HOUSTON CHRISTIAN BASEBALL/SOFTBALL LEAGUE

POLICIES AND RULES

WEST HOUSTON CHRISTIAN BASEBALL/SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Philosophy and Objectives

The West Houston Christian Baseball/Softball League is intended to provide the opportunity for children to participate in baseball/softball in a Christian setting. Our philosophy is based upon the belief that participation in competitive team sports promotes physical fitness, teamwork, sportsmanship, and the development of individual and team skills. While competition and skill are encouraged, the "win at all costs" approach is not the spirit of the league and is strongly discouraged.

The objectives of this league are to help develop skills, strength, coordination and the maximum possible health and physical growth of each participant, to assist each child in developing his or her individual athletic and leadership talents, to instill in coaches, parents and children good sportsmanship and a sense of fair play, and to encourage the widest possible participation by members of the Church and School communities.

DISCIPLINARY OBJECTIVES AND PROCEDURES

Players, coaches, parents, and spectators are expected to conduct themselves in a spirit of Christian sportsmanship and fair play. Coaches are to be in the dugout, and the 1st and 3rd base coaches are to be stationed in their proper positions during play. In T-ball, one coach is allowed at the plate. The coaches should exert every effort possible to keep themselves, their team members and team parents "low key", and to remember that the intent and purpose of this league is that children have the opportunity to have fun while playing the game.

Umpires are instructed to make every effort to first give a warning to an unruly player, parent or coach. Should the offense be repeated by the same individuals(s) then such person(s) may be ejected by the umpire.
The umpires will have full authority to eject any person without first warning them, if the behavior exhibited violates the Code of Ethics set forth by this League.
The ejected person(s) MUST leave the game site immediately and totally. See "Zero Tolerance Policy" below.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

The league has adopted a Zero Tolerance position towards any coach, player or spectator who is removed from a game or field by an umpire. Any coach, player or spectator who is removed from a game for any reason shall be suspended for the rest of the season. They shall not be allowed to coach or attend games. The league will not entertain any type of appeal regarding the suspension.

Further, any inappropriate conduct on the part of any coach, assistant coach, player, parent, or spectator before, during or after the game while on WHCSA premises will be subject to the same Zero Tolerance Policy as outlined above. All participants in WHCSA activities are expected to abide by the Coaches and Parents Code of Ethics. Failure to do so may result in suspension from future WHCSA games.

WEST HOUSTON CHRISTIAN SPORTS ASSOCIATION

COACHES ETHICS AGREEMENT

The WHCSA was created to provide the opportunity for the youth in our community to participate in team sports within a positive Christian environment. It exists for the children. Coaching in this league is a privilege and each coach has the responsibility to uphold the Ethics that the WHCSA has set forth.

I hereby pledge to uphold the Ethics of the WHCSA during my tenure as a coach in this league

- **My conduct as a coach must be such as to bring HONOR to myself, my team, my church/school, and the sport of basketball**
- **I will place the spiritual, emotional and physical well-being of all children that I encounter above all else, including my own personal desire to win**
- **I fully understand that any disrespectful/angry/intimidating behavior directed towards any child in the league by a coach or assistant coach, is an immediate violation, and will be subject to the Zero Tolerance Policy stated below**
- **I will lead my team in prayer before each practice and game, and will encourage every child to lead a prayer during the course of the season, if they so desire**
- **I will be a positive role model for the children that I coach, leading by example in demonstrating Christian love, fair play and sportsmanship**
- **I will encourage active participation of all players, always remembering the wide range of development and ability within any age group**
- **I will be knowledgeable in the rules of the sport that I coach, and I will make every effort to teach these rules to my players**
- **I will provide a safe and healthy environment for my players. I will do my best to promote self-esteem, fun and friendship while teaching the fundamentals of the sport that I coach**
- **I will treat all facilities that I attend as I would my own church/school, and will demand the same of my team and their families**
- **I will ONLY address officials, opposing team players, parents and coaches in a POSITIVE, RESPECTFUL and ENCOURAGING manner in the spirit of the game**

- **I fully understand that the officials are the ultimate authority in the game. I will respect the officials and their authority before, during and after the game,**

and demand the same of my players. I will not verbally or through gestures question or criticize an official's call or decision, in the presence of the players and spectators even though I may disagree with it

- I will in no way cause a disruption before, during or after any game that I am coaching. I will walk away from any inappropriate or negative situation, and follow the procedures for dealing with these issues, through the proper channels, with the proper league officials, AFTER I have left the game site
- I have a plan in place for handling a situation in which my team is winning by a large number of points, and I WILL use my plan
- I fully understand that the league prohibits teams from using professionals in the sport being coached, whether paid or unpaid, as coaches or consultants for their team before or during the season. (Exception would be the parent of a team member who is a professional in the sport being coached)
- I will remind my team parents that excessive cheering is not permitted, including but not limited to noisemakers, horns, bells, clapboards, drums and confetti. Failure to abide by this policy after warning will result in stoppage of game until items are removed from gymnasium
- I will uphold a drug, alcohol and tobacco-free sports environment for my players, and agree to refrain from the personal use of these substances at all practices and games

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

The WHCSA has adopted a Zero Tolerance Policy for any coach, assistant coach, parent or spectator who is removed from a game by an official. Any person removed from a game for any reason shall be suspended for the rest of the season. They will not be allowed to coach or attend games for the remainder of the season. The WHCSA will not entertain any type of appeal regarding the suspension.

Further, any inappropriate conduct on the part of any coach, assistant coach, player, parent, or spectator, before, during, or after any game while on WHCSA premises will be subject to the same Zero Tolerance Policy as outlined above. All participants in WHCSA activities are expected to abide by the Coaches and Parents Code of Ethics. Failure to do so may result in suspension from future WHCSA games.

I have read and will abide by the above Ethics Agreement, as well as the rules, regulations, guidelines and interpretations of the WHCSA. I have read and understand the Ethics Agreement and WHCSA Zero Tolerance Policy.

Signature_____Date_____

Print Name_____Church/School_____

WEST HOUSTON CHRISTIAN SPORTS

ASSOCIATION

PARENTS ETHICS AGREEMENT

- **I will at all times during my child's sports related activities make his or her spiritual, emotional and physical well being my number one priority.**

- **I will lead by example in demonstrating Christian Love, fair play, and sportsmanship to all players, fans, officials, parents and coaches.**

- **I will ONLY address the officials, opposing team players, parents and coaches in a POSITIVE, RESPECTFUL, and ENCOURAGING manner in the spirit of the game.**

- **I will stand behind the coach and support his or her decisions at all times. I will not place the coach in a position to have to be concerned with my behavior, rather than the game being played.**

- **I will in no way disrupt the game that I am attending. I will express concerns regarding any rules or calls only to proper league officials through the proper channels, once the game has concluded.**

- **I will remember that the game is for the children and not for the adults.**

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

This League has adopted a Zero Tolerance Policy position towards any coach or spectator who is removed from a game by an official. A coach or spectator who is removed from the game for any reason shall be suspended for the rest of the season. They will not be allowed to coach or attend games. The league will not entertain any type of appeal regarding the suspension.

Continued

Further, any inappropriate conduct on the part of any coach, assistant coach, player, parent, or spectator before, during or after the game while on WHCSA premises will be subject to the same Zero Tolerance Policy as outlined above. All participants in WHCSA activities are expected to abide by the Coaches and Parents Code of Ethics. Failure to do so may result in suspension from future WHCSA games.

I have read and signed the Parents Code of Ethics and agree to share this information with any and all person's who will be in attendance at my child's sporting events during the course of the season.

I agree to abide by these Ethics as well as the rules, regulations, guidelines and interpretations of the WHCSA.

I understand that any violation of these ethics is subject to review by the WHCSA, and may result in consequences that may include but are not limited to suspension from future WHCSA games.

Signature_____**Date**_____

WEST HOUSTON CHRISTIAN SPORTS ASSOCIATION

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

A prayer will be offered at the BEGINNING AND THE END of each WHCSA game!

Prior to the game, teams, coaches and officials will gather together.

The **HOME TEAM** will offer the prayer at the beginning of each game. Coaches are asked to encourage the children to participate in offering the prayer.

After the game, teams, coaches and officials will gather together.

THE VISITING TEAM will offer the prayer at the end of each game. Coaches are asked to encourage the children to participate in offering the prayer.

It is our hope that by adding the prayer after the game, we will shift the focus away from the outcome of the game and create an atmosphere of Christian fellowship and sportsmanship, benefiting all involved.

EQUIPMENT

No earrings, watches, jewelry, or protruding objects in hair. Glasses should be secure. No metal cleats are allowed.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Players enrolled in the WHCSA are strongly discouraged from playing in any other league during the WHCSA season.

Further, teams enrolled in the WHCSA may not be enrolled as a team in any other league or tournament competition during WHCSA season.

Any team that is found to be enrolled in another league or in tournament competition during the WHCSA season, will be removed from the WHCSA League immediately.

COACH ELIGIBILITY

Coaches in the WHCSA must be 21 years of age.

Coaches in the WHCSA are VOLUNTEERS. If a team is found to be under the direction of a "professional" coach or trainer, and/or one who is being reimbursed for his/her services, that team will be removed from the WHCSA League immediately.

A professional coach will be defined as a person who has previously made or currently makes his/her living coaching the sport in question. The exception to this would be if the parent of a child on the team is a professional athlete or coach, and has volunteered to assist in coaching the team.

BATTING HELMETS

Chin Straps will be required on all batting helmets in all divisions beginning in 2005.
The WHCSA recommends that batters wear face masks for safety purposes.

BATS

Only Official Little League Baseball bats, metal or wood will be permitted for use in the WHCSA.

Only Official ASA Softball bats will be permitted for use in the WHCSA.

No Big Barrel, Fat Bats or any other unofficial bats will be permitted.

BOYS TEAMS AND DIVISIONS

DIVISION	DESCRIPTION	BALL TYPE
Pre K/Kinder Coed	T ball	9" Incrediball
1st GRADE	Coach Pitch	9" Incrediball
2nd GRADE	Coach Pitch	9" Hardball
3rd GRADE	Pitching Machine	9" Hardball
4th GRADE	Kids Pitch	9" Hardball
5/6th GRADE	Kids Pitch	9" Hardball

GIRLS TEAMS AND DIVISIONS

Pre K/Kinder	T ball	9" Incrediball
1st GRADE	Coach Pitch/T ball	11" Incrediball
2nd GRADE	Coach Pitch	11" Softball
3rd GRADE	Coach Pitch	11" Softball
4th GRADE	Kids Pitch	11" Softball
5/6th GRADE	Kids Pitch	11" Softball

In an attempt to balance teams, each respective church/school shall have sole discretion to move up to three (3) players down one division, or any number of players up one division. Any team with more than three (3) players playing down one division assumes the status of the next oldest division.

RULES OF PLAY

The West Houston Christian Baseball/Softball League will play according to the latest edition of the "LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL RULES" and the "AMERICAN SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION RULES". The following constitute exceptions or additions to the official rules.

NUMBER OF PLAYERS

DIVISION	NUMBER OF PLAYERS
Pre K/Kinder, 1st & 2nd Gr Boys, All Girls Softball	10
All others	9

PLAYING FIELD

DIVISION	BASEPATH	SPECIAL FEATURES
Pre K/Kinder	60 ft	45 ft fielding pitchers plate, 15 ft. arc in front of home plate, halfway marks on basepaths
1st Gr (Boys/Girls)	60 ft	20 ft. pitcher's plate, 45 ft. fielding pitchers plate, halfway marks on basepaths
2nd Gr (Boys/Girls)	60 ft	30 ft. pitcher's plate, 45 ft. fielding pitchers plate, halfway marks on basepaths
3rd Gr (Boys)	60 ft	45 ft. pitching machine, halfway marks on basepaths.
3rd Gr (Girls)	60 ft.	30 ft. pitcher's plate, 45 ft. fielding pitchers plate, halfway marks on basepaths
4th Gr (Boys)	60 ft	42 ft. pitcher's plate, 5ft. radius circle around home plate
4th Gr (Girls)	60 ft	32 ft. pitcher's plate.
5th/6th Gr (Boys)	60 ft	45 ft. pitcher's plate.
5th/6th Gr (Girls)	60ft	35 ft. pitcher's plate, 5 ft. radius circle around home plate

THE BALL

All hardball divisions shall use the current official "Little League" baseball. All softball divisions shall use an 11 inch official softball. Vinyl or cloth covered "INCREDIBALL" will be used in the Pre K, Kindergarten and 1st Grade (Boys and Girls) divisions.

BATS

Any official baseball bat, metal or wood may be used for baseball. Any Official softball bat may be used for softball. Softball bats may not be used for hardball.

UNIFORMS

All players shall endeavor to wear matching shirts with numerals and hats. Failure to wear a uniform shall not be a cause of exclusion of a player, forfeiture of a game, or constitute grounds for protest.

GAME PRELIMINARIES

Each team is required to provide at least one new ball to the umpire prior to the start of the game.

It is advised that team have in reserve one or more new or slightly used balls, this is particularly important in older boys hardball leagues.

BATTING LINEUPS AND SUBSTITUTION

All players available for the game must bat in order. An out shall be declared for anyone batting out of order if the opposing team's coach brings this to the umpire's attention before the next batter has received a pitch. Defensive substitution is allowed, but a manager is restricted to one timeout per inning other than for changing the pitcher. Player's who arrive after the start of a game, may be immediately substituted, (as long as the manager has not expended his one defensive timeout per inning). Players arriving late will be added to the end of the batting order or ahead of any batter who has not yet batted. The umpire shall be notified immediately of any substitution.

All players must play at least every other inning in the field, except for injury or disciplinary reasons.

SUBSTITUTE RUNNERS

Substitute runners are permitted only when a runner is injured or physically handicapped. The opposing manager has the right to pick the runner in the case of a substitute runner for a batting batter. The substitute runner may not be chosen from the next four (4) batters in the batting order. When a substitute runner is used for a batting batter, the runner shall take up starting position well behind home plate and clear of possible interference with the catcher, etc. The umpire shall use judgment in positioning the runner in this instance.

GROUND RULES

It is imperative that ground rules are established for each field and division playing on that field. Ground rules should establish out of play, home run boundaries, etc.

A live ball coming in contact with the respective fence located to the outfield side of the designated dugouts will be declared a dead ball. The ball also becomes dead when it enters the other designated out-of-play areas. Runners may advance one base.

INTERFERENCE WITH PLAY

In general, players should not be penalized by ground rules doubles for balls hit into the outfield which would otherwise be home runs, but are interfered with by spectators, other nearby games or physical constraints, such as bushes. In such cases, if the ground rules have not been established, the umpire's judgment shall prevail in assigning bases to the batter.

PLAYER POSITIONS

Outfielders may not play closer than ten (10) feet from the 1st & 2nd and 2nd & 3rd basepaths. Infielders other than the pitcher may not play closer then 5 feet towards the home plate from the 1st & 2nd, and 2nd & 3rd base paths.

REGULATION GAME

In the Pre K/Kindergarten Division, a regulation game is six innings or 60 minutes. Games will be called (will end) at the 60 minute mark. In all other divisions a regulation game is six innings or 80 minutes. Games will be called (will end) at the 80 minute mark. All games will begin at the time noted on the official schedule.

If time expires in the middle of an inning, we will revert to the last completed inning to determine the score.

The home team shall occupy the first base dugout. The visiting team shall occupy the third base dugout. Coaches are to clear the dugout and the playing area of players, spectators, trash and equipment as soon as your game has ended.

Teams are not allowed to play any players from other teams. If a team is short required number of players, the opposing team should provide the necessary number of players of the game to be played. Please make every effort to play all of your games. CONTACT THE OPPOSING COACH AND YOUR COMMISSIONER if you will not be able to field a team for any game.

FORFEIT

A team shall forfeit the game when it fails at least 8 eight players within 10 minutes after the scheduled starting time. If a team has at least 8 players, the game shall commence at the scheduled time, or as soon as the required number of players are assembled.

DEAD BALL

The ball becomes dead when it enters the designated out-of-play area, established as a ground rule. Runners may advance one base.

THE BATTER

Teams playing with no less then 8 players will not have outs declared as the last batters in the lineup.

There is a limit of 6 runs per team per inning. In the Pre K, Kindergarten division, there is no run limit.

Any batter throwing a bat during the game will be declared out by the umpire.

REACHING BASE

There is no dropped 3rd strike rule.

Home run limits shall be designated by ground rules.

DESIGNATED BATTERS

Designated batters shall not be used.

RUNNING BASES

Any runner is out when the runner does not slide or attempt to get around the fielder who has the ball and is waiting to make the tag.

Any runner's helmet that intentionally or carelessly comes off, unless time is called, will result in an out.

Any runner who makes a head first slide will be called out unless the runner is attempting to return to the previously occupied base.

Any runner is out if the runner is touched by a 1st or 3rd base coach when the ball is in play.

PITCHING POSITION AND DELIVERY

The pitcher in divisions without an opposing pitcher shall stand within 5 feet of the fielding pitcher's plate or pitching machine.
Pitchers shall not pitch or play the position more than 3 innings per game in all divisions except for the Pre K/Kindergarten division. In this division, pitchers shall not play the position more then one inning per game. Playing any part of an inning constitutes a full inning.

BALK

There is no balk rule applied in this league.

PRE K/KINDERGARTEN (COED, BOYS, GIRLS)

FOUL BALL PRE K/KINDER

Identical to conventional baseball with two exceptions: The ball is fouled if it travels less then 15 ft. in fair territory from home plate, and the ball is foul if the batter hits the tee with the bat causing the ball to fall from the tee. In this case, a strike is declared.

CATCHER PRE K

There is no catcher in Pre K. This position will become a fifth outfielder. The batting coach will place the ball on the tee. Kinder division will use a catcher.

CATCHER KINDER

Kinder division will use a catcher.

SCORING PRE K/KINDER

The batting tee must be removed from home plate prior to a runner touching home plate. If a runner attempts to touch home plate while the tee is on the plate, play shall be continued but the runner will be declared no longer in play and no run shall be scored. No out shall be declared for the non-scoring runner(s)

PUTTING THE BALL IN PLAY PRE K /KINDER

The ball becomes in play when it is struck by a batter.

DEAD BALL PRE K/KINDER

The ball hit to the infield becomes dead when the pitcher has control of the ball and one foot on the pitcher's plate; or when the umpire calls time (i.e. the infielder is standing in the base path and has control of the ball and the runner(s) are being impeded from advancing to the next base).

BATTING PRE K

Each team will bat their full line up of batters per inning up to a maximum of 15
Bunting will not be permitted
There is no 3 out rule
The batter is out when 3 attempts to hit a fair ball are made.
The batting tee must be placed on home plate.
Coaches may position batters in the box.

BATTING KINDER

Each team will bat twelve (12) batters per team per inning
Bunting will not be permitted
There is no 3 out rule
The batter will receive up to four (4) pitches from the pitching coach
The batting tee must be placed on home plate.
Coaches may position batters in the box.

RUNNING BASES PRE K/KINDER

Runners are entitled to the base they are attempting if they are past the base path halfway mark at the time play is stopped

LEADING AND STEALING PRE K/KINDER

A runner is out when he leaves the base before the ball is hit. Runners may not attempt to steal.

THE PITCHER PRE K/KINDER

If a fielding pitcher fields a batted ball and fails make a play on a runner or intentionally stops play, any runners forced may advance one base without being called out.

Pitchers shall not play the position more than one 1 inning per game.

One Coach will be allowed on the field for the defensive teams. (This does not have to be the same person each inning)
Coaches are asked not to abuse this privilege, as the function of this person should be to assist the children with instruction and encouragement during the game.

PLAYER POSITIONS PRE K/KINDER

Outfielders may not play closer than ten (10) feet outside (away from home plate) of the 1st & 2nd and 2nd & 3rd base paths. Infielders, other than the pitcher, may not play closer than five (5) feet inside (towards home plate) of the 1st & 2nd and 2nd & 3rd base paths. In the Pre K and Kindergarten Divisions, no more than six (6) Players may play in the Infield (1st, 2nd, 3rd, Pitcher, Shortstop and one "floating" infielder). The balance of the team may play in any of the Outfield positions; spread evenly outside the Infield. In the Kindergarten Division, a Catcher will be used in addition to the Infield players listed above

1ST GRADE BOYS

PUTTING THE BALL IN PLAY

The ball is in play when struck by the batter.

DEAD BALL

The ball is dead when the fielding pitcher has control of the ball and one foot on the fielding pitcher's plate, or when the umpire calls times.

BATTING

Bunting is not permitted.

There are no called strikes.

A batter is out after failing to hit a fair ball after 5 pitches, or after swinging and missing a third pitch with 2 strikes.

REACHING BASE

Any batted ball striking a pitching coach will result in an automatic single with all runners advancing one base. If a pitching coach catches or intentionally interferes with a hit ball, the batter shall be out and all runners shall hold their bases.

RUNNING BASES

Runners are entitled to the base they are attempting if they are past the base path halfway mark at the time play is stopped.

LEADING AND STEALING

A runner is out when he leaves the base before the ball is hit.

Runners may not attempt to steal.

PITCHING POSITION AND DELIVERY

The pitcher may use any delivery, but must pitch from the pitching plate.

A pitching coach must remain on the pitchers plate at all times, except to avoid a batted or thrown ball. A thrown ball striking a pitching dad is live and in play unless it goes beyond the out-of-play boundary, in which case it is overthrown. If a pitching coach catches a thrown ball, play is stopped and runners must return to the last base touched, governed by the position of the lead runner.

If a field pitcher fields a batted ball and fails to make a play on a runner or intentionally stops play, any runners forced may advance one base without being called out.

1ST GRADE GIRLS

PUTTING THE BALL IN PLAY

The ball is in play when it is struck by a batter.

DEAD BALL

The ball is dead when the fielding pitcher has control of the ball and one foot on the fielding pitcher's plate, or when the umpire calls time.

BATTING

Bunting is not permitted.

There are no called strikes.

The batter will receive up to three pitches from the pitching coach. If the batter fails to hit a fair ball, then a batting tee will be placed on home plate by coach for two additional swings of the bat in an attempt to hit a fair ball. If the batter then fails to hit a fair ball, the batter is out. The batter cannot strike out.

REACHING BASE

Any batted ball striking a pitching coach will result in an automatic single with all runners advancing one base. If a pitching coach catches or intentionally interferes with a hit ball, the batter shall be out and all runners will hold their bases.

RUNNING BASES

Runners are entitled to the base they are attempting if they are past the base path halfway mark at the time play is stopped.

LEADING AND STEALING

A runner is out when he leaves the base before the ball is hit. Runners may not attempt to steal.

PITCHING POSITION AND DELIVERY

The pitcher shall deliver the ball underhand in the GIRLS DIVISION.

A pitching coach must remain on the pitchers plate at all times, except to avoid a batted or thrown ball. A thrown ball striking a pitching dad is live and in play unless it goes beyond the out-of-play boundary, in which case it is an overthrow. If a pitching coach catches a thrown ball, play is stopped and runners must return to the last base touched, governed by the position of the lead runner.

If a fielding pitcher fields a batted ball and fails to make a play on a runner or intentionally stops play, any runners forced may advance one base without being called out.

2ND GRADE BOYS & GIRLS

PUTTING THE BALL IN PLAY

The ball is in play when it is struck by a batter.

DEAD BALL

The ball is dead when the fielding pitcher has control of the ball and one foot on the fielding pitcher's plate, or when the umpire calls time out.

BATTING

Bunting is not permitted.

There are no called strikes.

The batter is out after failing to hit ball after five pitches, or after swinging and missing a third pitch with two strikes.

REACHING BASE

Any batted ball striking a pitching coach will result in an automatic single with all runners advancing one base. If a pitching coach catches or intentionally interferes with a hit ball, the batter shall be out and all runners will hold their bases.

REACHING BASES

Runners are entitled to the base they are attempting if they are past the base path halfway mark at the time play is stopped.

LEADING AND STEALING

A runner is out when he leaves the base before the ball is hit. Runners may not attempt to steal.

PITCHING POSITION AND DELIVERY

The pitcher shall deliver the ball underhand in the GIRLS DIVISION. The pitcher may use any delivery, but must pitch from the pitching plate in the BOYS DIVISION.

A pitching coach must remain on the pitchers plate at all times, except to avoid a batted or thrown ball. A thrown ball striking a pitching coach is live and in play unless it goes beyond out of play boundary, in which case it is an overthrow. If a pitching coach catches the thrown ball, play is stopped and all runners must return to their last touched bases.

If a fielding pitcher fields a batted ball and fails to make a play on a runner or intentionally stop play, any runner forced may advance one base without being called out.

3RD GRADE BOYS

PUTTING THE BALL IN PLAY

The ball becomes in play when it is struck by a batter.

DEAD BALL

The ball is dead when the pitcher has control of the ball and is within 5 feet of the pitching machine or when the umpire calls time out.

BATTING

Bunting is not permitted.

There is not an infield fly rule.

Strikes will be called.

REACHING BASE ON PITCHES

Balls are not called.

Any batter hit by a ball from the pitching machine will not be awarded first base and any runners(s) may not advance

REACHING BASE

Any batted ball striking a pitching machine will result in an automatic single with all runners advancing one base.

LEADING AND STEALING

A runner is out when he leaves the base before the ball is hit.

Runners may NOT attempt to steal.

PITCHING POSITION AND DELIVERY

A thrown ball striking a pitching machine is live and in play unless it goes beyond out of play boundary.

PITCHING MACHINE

The umpire will be responsible for the use of the pitching machine during games.

The speed of the machine shall be set at 35- 40, and will be adjusted by the umpire.

3RD GRADE GIRLS

PUTTING THE BALL IN PLAY

The ball becomes in play when it is struck by a batter.

DEAD BALL

The ball is dead when the fielding pitcher has control of the ball and one foot on the fielding pitcher's plate, or when an umpire calls time.

BATTING

Bunting is not permitted.

There are no called strikes.

A batter is out after failing to hit a fair ball after FIVE pitches, or after swinging and missing a third pitch with two strikes.

REACHING BASE

Any batted ball striking the pitching coach will result in an automatic single with all runners advancing one base. If the pitching coach catches or intentionally interferes with a hit ball, the batter is out and all players hold their bases.

RUNNING BASES

Runners are entitled to the base they are attempting if they are past the base path halfway mark at the time play is stopped.

LEADING AND STEALING

A runner is out when she leaves the base before the ball is hit.

Runners may not attempt to steal.

PITCHING POSITION AND DELIVERY

The pitcher shall deliver the ball underhanded.

4TH GRADE BOYS

PUTTING THE BALL IN PLAY

The ball is in play when it is struck by a batter, when it is thrown to a fielder in an attempt to put out a runner, and on a wild pitch or passed ball. The ball is not in play if it is miss-fielded by the pitcher on a throw back from the catcher.

DEAD BALL

The ball is dead when the pitcher has control of the ball and one foot on the pitcher's plate, or when the umpire calls time.

REACHING BASES ON PITCHES

Walks are not allowed. After ball four is called by the umpire, a pitching coach from the team at bat will enter the game and throw a **maximum** of 3 additional pitches. These additional pitches *do not* extend the batter's limit of 3 strikes. If the first pitch thrown by the coach is a swinging, or a called, third strike, then the batter is out. If the first pitch thrown by the coach is called a ball, or is fouled off, the batter gets **one more** pitch. If the batter fails to put the second pitch into play, then he is out.

LEADING AND STEALING

The runner is out when he leaves the base before the ball reaches the plate.

Runners may only attempt to advance on a wild pitch, passed ball, or direct play on a runner by a fielder (catcher, pitcher, etc.).

In an effort to speed up the game, a catcher will not be charged with a passed ball when he fails to hold or to control a legally pitched ball which travels no more than a 5ft. radius from home plate. The umpire shall have full discretion to determine such, and in such case display the time signal to alert the base-runner not to attempt to steal.

BATTING

Bunting is permitted.

There is an infield fly rule.

Balls and strikes will be called.

PITCHING

A pitcher removed from the mound may not pitch again in that game.

The coach may visit the pitcher at the mound during an inning, a second trip to the pitcher in the same inning will cause the pitcher's automatic removal.

4TH GRADE GIRLS

PUTTING BALL INTO PLAY

The ball becomes in play when it is struck by a batter.

DEAD BALL

The ball is dead when the pitcher has control of the ball and one foot on the pitcher's plate or when the umpire calls time.

BATTING

Bunting is permitted.

There is an infield fly rule.

Balls and strikes will be called.

REACHING BASES ON PITCHES

Walks are not allowed. After ball four is called by the umpire, a pitching coach from the team at bat will enter the game and throw a **maximum** of 3 additional pitches. These additional pitches *do not* extend the batter's limit of 3 strikes. If the first pitch thrown by the coach is a swinging, or a called, third strike, then the batter is out. If the first pitch thrown by the coach is called a ball, or is fouled off, the batter gets **one more** pitch. If the batter fails to put the second pitch into play, then she is out.

REACHING BASE

Any batted ball striking a pitching coach will result is an automatic single with all runners advancing one base. If a pitching coach catches or intentionally interferes with a hit ball, the batter should be out and all runners hold their bases.

LEADING AND STEALING

The runner is out when the runner leaves the base before the ball before reaches the plate.

Runners may not attempt to steal.

PITCHING POSITION AND DELIVERY

The pitcher shall deliver the ball underhanded (Fast pitch)

A thrown ball striking a pitching coach is live and in play unless it goes beyond out of boundary, in which case it is an over throw. If the pitching coach catches a thrown ball, play is stop and runners return to their last bases.

A pitcher removed from mound may not pitch again in that game.

The coach may visit the pitcher at the mound during an inning. A second trip to the same pitcher in the same inning will cause the pitcher's automatic removal.

5TH/6TH GRADE BOYS

PUTTING THE BALL IN PLAY

The ball becomes in play when it reaches the batter

DEAD BALL

The ball is dead when the pitcher has control of the ball and one foot on the pitcher's plate or when the umpire calls time

BATTING

Bunting is permitted.

There is an infield fly rule.

Balls and strikes are called.

LEADING AND STEALING

The runner is out when he leaves the base before the ball reaches the plate.

Runners may attempt to steal a base only after the pitch has reached the plate.

PITCHING

A pitcher removed from the mound may not pitch for the remainder of the game.

The coach may visit the pitcher at the mound during an inning. A 2nd trip will have the pitcher immediately removed from the mound.

At the discretion of the umpire, if the catcher is a runner with 2 outs, a runner may be substituted for the catcher. The substitute runner should be the player who has made the last out.

SLIDING INTO BASE

No player shall initiate "malicious contact". The question of "malicious contact" is the umpire's judgment. If the defensive player is obstructing the runner (judgment by umpire), contact by runner is not illegal unless "malicious". "Malicious" would be considered in the umpire's judgment if the runner deliberately or intentionally runs into the fielder to break up play, or cause harm to the fielder.

5Th/6TH GRADE GIRLS

PUTTING THE BALL IN PLAY

The ball becomes in play when it is struck by a batter or when it is thrown to fielder in an attempt to put out a runner.

DEAD BALL

The ball is dead when the pitcher has control of the all and one foot on the pitchers plate or when the umpire calls time.

BATTING

Bunting is permitted.

There is an infield fly rule.

Balls and strikes are called.

LEADING AND STEALING

The runner is out when the runner leaves the base before the ball reaches the plate.

Runners may only attempt to advance on a wild pitch, passed ball, or direct play on a runner by a fielder (catcher, pitcher, etc.)

In an effort to speed up the game, a catcher will not be charged with a passed ball when he fails to hold or to control a legally pitched ball which travels no more than a 5ft. radius from home plate. The umpire shall have full discretion to determine such, and in such case display the time signal to alert the base-runner not to attempt to steal.

PITCHING POSITION AND DELIVERY

The pitcher shall deliver the ball underhanded (fast pitch)

The pitcher removed from the mound may not pitch again in that game.
The coach may visit the pitcher at the mound during the inning. A 2nd trip will have the pitcher immediately removed from the mound.

SLIDING INTO BASE

No player shall initiate "malicious contact". The question of "malicious contact" is the umpire's judgment. If the defensive player is obstructing the runner (judgment by umpire), contact by runner is not illegal unless "malicious". "Malicious" would be considered in the umpire's judgment if the runner deliberately or intentionally runs into the fielder to break up play, or cause harm to the fielder.