

# COACH-PITCH GROUND RULES

## OBJECTIVES

The main focus of the managers, coaches and parents in this division is to teach the fundamental skills of baseball and provide all the players with an opportunity to learn all positions, skills, good sportsmanship, and the rules of the game in a safe, positive and fun environment.

## GENERAL RULES

1. Players who attend practice must play a minimum of half the game in the field. Each team will employ a continuous batting order of all players able to play in the game. Once the batting order is established, no changes are allowed except for deletion of players unable to continue play in or removed from the game.
2. If a batter is injured during an at-bat and can not continue the at-bat, **the next batter in the lineup** comes up and **continues** the at bat. He does so with inherit ball/strike count. Furthermore, when it is time for that player who was injured to bat again and he is still unable to do so, he is skipped, disregarding any batting out of order rule.
3. The manager is responsible for the conduct of his/her team's players, spectators and coaches. The manager should ensure that any person placed on the field as an assistant coach, first, third or pitching coach is aware of all the rules, all the requirements of proper instruction and displays good sportsmanship at all times. Parents of the players should be made aware of the rules and be instructed that they should conduct themselves properly at all times. Questions concerning rules, calls, etc. should first be addressed to their team manager and then the managers discuss and resolve any issues.
4. The first and third base coaches shall make the safe/out calls at those bases. The defensive fielding coach shall make all calls at second base. The coach/pitcher shall make the call at home plate. We know there will be mistakes and that there will be disagreements with some calls. Let's strive to always present a positive role model for those for whom this League exists. For any game in which an umpire is present, the umpire's decision is final.
5. Any game that is halted due to weather and has completed one full inning will be continued from that point until the game is complete. There will be no ending of the game in the bottom half of an inning if the home team is ahead since the score is not kept - finish the inning!
6. The regular season shall be played in an **instructional** format. Winning games should not be the goal. None of the regular season games are played for any standings or season records. That is, the scores of the games and the team's won-loss records shall not be kept.
7. First and third base coaches are to help "police" the base paths. They should notify the defensive coach of any impending obstruction of the base paths. Defensive coaches should be aware that the base coaches will be helping to keep infielders out of the base lines and should not be offended by another coach should he/she point out this type of situation. It should be noted that standing in the base path is not a violation of any rule, however, impeding a base runner from advancing to a base is. Therefore, this rule should apply primarily to a first baseman who positions himself in the base path with a base runner at first base, or a fielder who continually fails to clear the base path causing base runners to go around

him/her. It should be noted that if a fielder is in the act of fielding a batted ball, the base runner must avoid the fielder.

8. All other Little League rules apply. Refer to the Little League rulebook for any situation that may arise.