

BVBA Machine Pitch Rules

- A. Players must be 7 or 8 as of August 31 of the current season.
- B. Bases will be fifty-five (55) feet apart.
- C. Regular baseballs will be used.
- D. Games are five (5) innings with no new inning after 1 hour 15 minutes.
- E. A minimum of eight (8) players is required to start a game. Any fewer players will require a “forfeit”. (Play should be continued using a combination of both teams if possible.)
- F. Outfielders must play on the outfield grass prior to the ball being put into play. Replay if an out is made and outfielders were not in the correct position when the ball was hit.
- G. Coaches may coach from coaching boxes at 1st and 3rd while on offense and two coaches may stand in the outfield while on defense.
- H. ALL players will bat in the same order for the entire game.
- I. Three (3) outs or five (5) runs end a team’s turn on offense.
- J. All Players will play on the field at all times. There will be six (6) infielders and the remaining players will play outfield. Each player will play 2 innings in the infield (P-1-2-3-SS-C) and 2 innings in the outfield for every 4 innings of a game (if possible). Coaches should try to move players to new positions each inning. This is designed to keep all kids involved in the game.
- K. A pitching machine will be used to pitch the baseball. Pitches shall be made with the desired result of providing strikes for players to swing at.
- L. Each batter is allowed (5) pitched or swinging strikes. If after 5 strikes there is not a hit, the batter will receive a sixth pitch. If the batter does not hit the sixth pitch, it shall constitute an out. If the sixth pitch is fouled the player will be given additional pitches as long as they continue to foul.
- M. A defensive player shall stand next to the coach who is loading the pitching machine and will field all hit balls. If a batted ball hits the pitcher (coach) or the machine, and doesn't roll past the machine, it will be considered a dead ball and the hitter will continue their at bat with the same count. If a ball is thrown and hits the machine the runners cannot advance.
- N. Batter must have both feet in the batter’s box.
- O. NO bunting allowed.
- P. There is a (2) two base maximum unless there is a home run hit over the fence (where applicable)
- Q. When a ball is in the outfield and then returned to the infield and controlled by an infielder, runners cannot advance another base. Base coaches should use their best judgment to give the fielders a fair chance to make a play. Also, conservative base coaching will allow more kids the chance to hit.
- R. Players may not leave the base until the ball is hit.
- S. Runners cannot advance on an overthrow!
- T. A player may not intentionally create contact with another player at any time. If the defensive player has the ball and a play is being made, the offensive player must either slide or make every effort to avoid contact with the defensive player. Should a player run over or crash into another player, he or she will be called out and possibly removed from the game if the opposing coach feels that there was intent to injure. If a defensive player is in the base path without the ball and makes contact with, or impedes the path of the offensive player, interference may be called on the defensive player. Any runner obstructing a throw to attempt a double play will result in a double play being called.
- U. Bat size may not exceed 29” in length and 2 ¼” in diameter.
- V. Please make sure that players, coaches and fans have fun at every game!!!!!!

