

MAALL/Morris Plains A Division Regular Season Rules:

General:

- Games are set to be 4 innings or no more than 75 minutes
- The 1st inning will only use the tee (no coach pitch)
- Games scores will not be kept
- At least 5 players are required to start a game. There shouldn't be a need to borrow players as few kids will be expected to hit to the OF. Either the infielders can chase the balls or the coaches can assist.
- Cups and Heart Guards are not mandatory but are **Strongly Encouraged**.

Fielding:

- Every player should play at least 1 inning of infield and 1 inning of outfield regardless of skill. However, if a player demonstrates that he/she cannot pay attention and may be at risk for getting hurt in the infield, the player should only be assigned to the outfield.
- There is no catcher position.
- Players playing the pitcher position should stand at least 5 steps behind the coach and to either side of the mound (this is to ensure that the player's vision is not impeded and that the pitching rubber is not directly in front of the player creating a potential dangerous hop)
- Whenever possible, for safety reasons, only 1st basemen who can get his/her glove up to protect themselves should be assigned to play the position. Kids who don't pay attention or are unable to follow a ball with his/her glove are in danger of getting hurt by a throw.

Batting:

- All players should wear helmets when they get to the bench for safety reasons and so they are ready to hit.
- Every batter hits once per inning.
- There is **No On-Deck Circle!** No player may swing a bat in or around dugout.
- The hitting team should keep all bats on the field side of the fence. This ensures no kids are swinging bats before they are due up and allows kids to get to the plate faster for hitting.
- Coaches pitch to his/her own team (preferably from a knee to maintain similar eye level with the batter).
- Distances from which coaches pitch to players should vary based upon skill level of the player
- Players get 6 swings before the batting tee is utilized.
- If a batter makes an out, he is removed the bases and should return to the dugout.

Base Running:

- Play ends when coach pitcher has possession and is on/near the mound.
- Base runners may advance 1 base only on any overthrow.
- Base runners must return to previous base if not more than half way to the next base when play ends. Determined by coaches.
- Coaches should only have players advance more than 1 base when a ball is hit well to the OF and gets past an outfielder (i.e. a ground ball to the pitcher where there is no play to first shouldn't result in a player running to second or third).
- There is no stealing.