

Rookie (Coach-Pitch) Rules - 2025

SCORE

No official score will be kept for this level.

UMPIRES

One umpire (a parent from the home team) will be used in the field, if available.

GAMES

Games will consist of 5 innings or a maximum of 90 minutes. The away team bats first.

BATTING ORDER

All players present at the game will be placed in the order in which they will hit. The batting order will remain constant throughout the game.

BATTING

- Pitching will be done by an offensive team's coach. The coach is not required to stand on the pitcher's mound to pitch but should be no closer than 30 feet from the batter. The pitching coach can kneel or stand. The coach should move out of the way of a hit ball so it can be fielded by a defensive player.
- There will be a limit of 7 pitches per batter. If the player hasn't hit the ball into fair territory after the seventh pitch, the coach will either soft toss the ball to the batter or place the ball on a tee for the player to hit.

INNINGS

One half-inning is over when the defensive team has accumulated 3 outs or all players in the batting order have had a turn to hit once during the half inning. A team's next at bat will resume with the batter that was next in line before the end of the prior inning. In the final inning, all batters in the lineup will bat regardless of how many outs made in the inning.

BASERUNNING

A base runner may not leave the base until the ball has been hit. Batters may advance one base on hits to the infield. Batters may attempt to advance two or more bases (at their risk) on hits to the outfield. Players may be awarded one base on a ball that has left the field of play due to a throwing or fielding error.

DEAD BALL

The ball will be considered dead, and runners may not advance further, when the pitching coach has control of the ball. If a batted ball hits the pitching coach, the ball will be declared dead and the batter will advance to first base.

DEFENSIVE POSITIONS

The defensive team will field a maximum of 12 players (6 infielders and 6 outfielders). Players are to rotate positions each inning and encouraged not to play the same position in consecutive innings.

The Catcher must wear appropriate catcher's gear to play the position and is recommended to use a catcher's mitt if available. A coach (from either team) should be placed behind the catcher to help retrieve balls speed up the pace of play.

Players who are in the pitchers position must have both feet on the dirt of the mound, and be behind the pitching rubber, before the ball is hit.

COACHING

The offensive team may have up to 3 coaches on the field; one coach at first base, one at third base and one as the pitcher. The defensive team may have 2 coaches in the outfield to encourage and instruct their players. Coaches may not play the ball.

EQUIPMENT

Each team must provide all its own equipment (bats, helmets etc.) including baseballs. Safe-t-Soft or other soft baseballs should be used.

OTHER

All players must stay in dugout area when not playing defense or up to bat. A coach should be in the dugout while the team is at bat.

Absolutely NO player handles a bat unless they are the on-deck hitter or are walking to home plate to hit.

POST GAME ACTIVITIES

Both teams will line up and shake hands after the game.

SPECTATOR CONDUCT

Positive team support is encouraged. Offensive language or behavior will not be tolerated. Each coach is responsible for the conduct of all persons on his/her team or supporting his/her team. Fans are encouraged to cheer, encourage, and support both teams. They are expected to be courteous and set a good example for the players.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the case of inclement weather, 3 complete innings will count as a full game. Games that have not met this criteria can be rescheduled.

Updated 5-21-25