

## 8U TOURNAMENT RULES

### GAME PLAY RULES

1. Ten (10) players on the field (four outfielders) –NO ROVERS. A “conventional” infield and outfield shall be utilized. Outfielders must be positioned 10 feet or more from the infield dirt. A “conventional” outfield shall be utilized. The four (4) outfielders are to be positioned in an arc form.
  2. Teams may finish the game with 9 players in case of injury or illness.
  3. Fielders may be changed with free substitution.
  4. Sixty (60) foot bases.
  5. A continuous batting order must be used including all players present.
  6. All non-starters must play 6 defensive outs (they do not need to be consecutive). If the game is shortened by weather, mercy rule, or time, failure to do so shall not be a violation as long as the team has not taken the field for the 5th inning or later without using an available player
  7. Player playing the pitching position must be in circle and at least as close as the pitching rubber until ball is hit – Coach must remain behind 35 feet when pitching.
  8. Coaches pitch count- Maximum per batter 7 pitches.
  9. Foul on 7th pitch batter receives one (1) bonus pitch. If fouled, will continue to get a bonus pitch until the ball is hit into play, missed, or no swing is attempted.
  10. Batter is out if ball is not put into play after allotted pitches or after (3) strikes.
  11. **Possession Rule** - Possession is established when an infielder takes a throw from the outfield and has control of the ball in the infield as defined in rule 15 below, at which time the umpire will call possession.
    - a. The bases will be used to establish a player s position when the umpire rules possession.
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1. Once the umpire rules possession there will be no extra bases awarded on any kind of overthrow even if you are making a play on the runner.
  2. An outfielder who runs the ball into the infield will not be considered in possession. The ball must be in possession of an infielder.
  3. If the ball is thrown out of play from the outfield, the runner will be awarded the base he is going to and that is all. No extra bases will be awarded on an overthrow.
  4. The infield is considered the area between the foul lines and the perimeter of the outfield grass. A ball thrown from the outfield into the backstop area is not considered in the infield while in the possession of the catcher, unless the catcher brings the ball to home plate or in front of it.
  5. Runners can advance one base only on a ball that does not leave the infield and do not have to have both feet off the base before the ball is fielded as long as the runner begins to advance before second possession is established. Base runners can only advance one base on an infield hit and there are no extra bases on an overthrow in the infield.
  6. There is no tagging up on fly balls to the infield. Walks, hit batters, balks, bunts, base stealing are prohibited and the infield fly rule does not apply.
  7. No leading off. Base runner must remain in contact with the base until the pitched ball passes the plate or the ball is hit. (One team warning. Then runners are called out).
  8. NO STEALING.
  9. NO BUNTING.
  10. NO WALKS.

11. NO INFIELD FLY RULE.
12. If batter throws bat the team will be warned once. (Out will be recorded from that point on).
13. All runners MUST SLIDE or avoid contact on plays. No sliding head first, no hurdling, all contact must be avoided.
14. If any player has to leave the game for any reason other than illness/injury, that player's spot in the lineup is an automatic out when he comes up for the remainder of the game.
15. Defensive coaches are permitted along the outfield foul lines.
16. The pitching coach shall position himself as not to be an obstruction to the defensive team on any possible play once the ball has been hit.
17. All other Little League rules apply.
18. **The PITCHER-COACH shall not verbally or physically coach while in the pitching position. The umpire has the right to assign a batter-runner to a base if the pitcher-coach is in violation of this rule.**
19. 6 runs per inning or 10 batters except for the last inning.