



RULES
&
REGULATIONS

Coach Pitch

1st Grade Boys & Girls

Rules & Regulations

The Bethel Recreation Association – (1) providing opportunity, facilities and leadership for the youth of the Bethel School District and those that reside in its boundaries to play in a safe, organized recreation leagues during the Bethel School District calendar year and (2) promoting safety, good sportsmanship and fair play”.

Coach Pitch

1st Grade Boys & Girls Rules

RULE 1: PLAYERS, FIELD, EQUIPMENT & THE GAME

1. A team will be composed of first grade boys and first grade girls in the co-ed league.
2. When available, a team must field ten players.
3. A team unable to field a team of at least eight players at the start of the game will forfeit that game after a 10 minute period beyond the scheduled starting time.
4. Teams starting a game with less than ten players must insert late arrivals as soon as they show up, until all positions are filled. All players, regardless of numbers, must be inserted into the lineup. All players will bat in turn throughout the game.
5. All players arriving prior to the fifth inning must play at least two innings of the defense in a six-inning game. If the game is completed in less than six innings due to weather conditions or darkness, each player must play one inning in the field.
6. A 50-foot base line shall be used.
7. No metal cleats shall be allowed.
8. The infield fly rule shall not be in effect.
9. A 9-inch SAFETY ball # 1 shall be used.
10. Six innings shall constitute a regulation game.

EXCEPTIONS:

- A. A game "called" by the umpire due to rain, darkness and other warranting conditions. A "called" game is considered complete when the losing team has batted four times or the time limit has expired (no inning requirement).
 - B. No new inning may begin 1 hour & 15 minutes after the games scheduled start when playing the first game of a double header and after the actual start when playing the second game of a double header. *The game will end exactly after one hour and 30 minutes.*
11. A called game ending in a tie will remain a tie. Extra innings are allowed to break ties if the above conditions have been met.
 12. A team is allowed to score a maximum of five runs in any one inning until the sixth inning. There will be no limit after the fifth inning. This rule applies to games ending early due to weather, darkness or time limit.
 13. Official softball and little league baseball bats may be used.
 14. The National Federation of State High School Association Baseball Rules shall be used as a guideline for all other rules concerning how baseball is to be played.
 15. Any matter not covered in these rules shall be left to the discretion of the baseball commissioner.

RULE 2: BATTING & OFFENSE

1. A player who throws his bat or other equipment in a manner in which it may cause an injury shall be called out by the umpire. No runner may advance, it is a dead ball.
2. No stealing is allowed. Runners cannot leave until ball is hit.
3. Offensive players on the field of play must wear a batting helmet.
4. Participants not able to hit a pitched ball shall have the option of using a batting tee up to mid-point of the season (thru game # 5). After game # 5, no tees will be allowed, strictly coach pitch. In order to maximize time, batting tee hitters shall be placed consecutively, followed or proceed by participants hitting from coach pitched balls.

5. All players must bat in a continuous batting order. At no time will the batting order change. When players are unable to bat due to injury, leaving or other valid reasons the official scorekeeper must be notified. It then is not an out.
6. On an overthrow that leaves the field of play, 1st base, 3rd base and home, all runners will advance to the base they were running to only. The ball is considered a dead ball upon leaving the field of play. Runners on a base move up one base. Overthrow to first base moves the runner to second base and all other runners advance accordingly.
7. No bunting is allowed.
8. No sliding. Runner will be called out.
9. Bats:
Boys may use T-ball, Official Softball or Little League bats only.
Girls may use T-ball or Official Softball bats only.

RULE 3: PITCHING & DEFENSE

1. Seven infielders and three outfielders or six infielders and four outfielders shall be permitted.
2. The pitcher's rubber shall be a distance of 32 feet from the home plate and the defensive pitcher must be in contact with the rubber until the ball is released by the coach. Coach may move in as needed.
3. The coach or designee shall pitch a maximum of 6 pitches to his or her players. If after the 6th pitch a ball has not been hit fair the batter is out. The batter is up until she hits the ball fair or all the pitches have been pitched. No walks.
4. Catching position - at the first grade level, the catcher stands off to the side of the backstop and if it's a coach pitched ball, retrieves the ball if the pitched ball is not put into play. After the ball is put into play, the catcher moves to the position near or around home plate. At the first grade level, the catcher is issued a catcher's helmet and mask.
5. There shall be an unlimited re-entry rule for defensive positions.

EXCEPTIONS:

- A. A substitution may be made for any player at anytime during a time-out and the scorekeeper must be notified. A substituting player must stay at that position for at least one official at bat (a hit out, offensively or defensively).
- B. A player re-entering the game does not have to assume his former defensive position and/or replace that player who replaced him earlier.
6. A pitched ball that hits a batter is a ball.
7. If the coach intentionally causes interference with the defense while serving as a pitcher, the runner or batter will be declare out.
8. If the coach is accidentally struck by a batted ball the ball is considered to be a dead ball. The call is no pitch - replay.
9. An 8-foot circle around the pitching rubber will be used to help stop play. Runners must be half way to the next base in order to advance when the defense (any player) has possession of the ball the circle. The pitching coach cannot be in the circle during play. The Umpire has the final authority to stop play.