



Valley Youth League Baseball Rules 7-8 Coach Pitch

The National Federation Rule Book will be used with the following amendments or additions

1. **SAFETY**- One major goal of the program is to create a safe environment for participants. Coaches need to teach all players the proper use of equipment and potential of harm when equipment is misused. Equipment should be placed and/or stored properly before a potentially harmful incident occurs.
2. **BASE DISTANCE**- The bases will be approximately set at 60 feet.
3. **THE BALL**- The only ball that is allowed to be used for practices and games is the ball that is given out by the Recreation Department.
4. **THE SCOREBOOK**- The home team will be responsible for the official scorekeeping.
5. **HITTING**- Batters are given a total of 6 hittable pitches each time at bat. After the sixth pitch, the batter will be declared out. No walks are allowed. Foul balls are counted toward the 6 total pitches. If the batter hits a foul ball on the 6th pitch, he player is declared out.
6. **INNINGS**- An offensive inning consists of six runs or three outs, whichever comes first. The inning will be over as soon as six runs are scored and no more than six runs can be scored per inning.
7. **GAME TIME**- Games will be one hour and fifteen minutes in length. No new inning will begin after one hour of play. Umpires will keep track of official game time. If there is a tie, and time limit has expired, one more complete inning will be played. If the game is still tied, the game will end as a tie.
8. **FORFEITS**- There will be no forfeits. Teams will play with the number of players that show up.
9. **PLAYERS ON THE FIELD**- Each team will have 10 defensive players in the field. Any additional players will remain on the bench until substituted in. There will be a player at the pitcher's position as well, off to the side of the coach.
10. **STEALING**- No leading off or base stealing is allowed.
11. **SHOES**- No metal or removable cleats are allowed.
12. **BATTING LINE-UPS**- All players on the roster will bat.
13. **OVERTHROWS**- Base runners will be allowed to advance one base on overthrows. The ball will be declared dead once it leaves the field of play.

14. **SLIDING-** Players are always encouraged to slide feet first on close plays. Although there is no mandatory slide rule, malicious play is left to the discretion of the umpire.
15. **INFIELD FLY RULE-** The infield fly rule is waived for this age division.
16. **DESIGNATED HITTER-** No designated hitter is allowed.
17. **SUBSTITUTES-** Any defensive player may be substituted at any time, but will stay in the same batting order for the entire game.
18. **HELP BEHIND THE PLATE-** Each team must supply a volunteer to stand behind the plate to help fetch balls and speed up the game. Any person under the age of 18 must wear a protective helmet for safety reasons.
19. **MISCELLANEOUS-** The Recreation Departments reserve the right to change any and all rules. The league supervisors, umpires, and scorekeepers will enforce all rules, regulations, and policies.