



## **Zeeland Little League Advanced Coach Pitch Baseball Rules**

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### **General Rules**

- A regulation game consists of four (4) innings.
  - A new inning may not start after 1 hour 15 minutes from the game start time.
  - A drop dead time is at 1 hour 30 minutes from the game start time.
  - If the game is tied after 4 or more complete innings, extra innings may be played so long as the time limits are still followed.
- There is no mercy or 10 run rule.

### **Offense Rules**

- Rocket batting rule, everyone bats.
- Offense team ends their 1/2 inning at bat after any of the following occur:
  - 3 outs are made or 5 runs are scored
- 5 run max per inning
- No walks or hit by pitch (more details under pitching rules)
- No stealing any base, including home, under any circumstance. This includes passed balls and wild pitches.
- Runners may only advance one base on overthrows that leave field of play.
- Runners may not advance once the pitcher is at the pitching rubber with the ball.
  - If the player is between bases when the pitcher has the ball on the mound, the runner may only advance to one of the bases the runner is between
- No on deck batters are allowed.
- The batter and all runners must be wearing a proper helmet

### **Coach Pitch Rules:**

- Bring a bucket full of balls to mound, and put an empty bucket at backstop
- Offensive coach is pitching to their team
- Pitches must be overhand from a minimum marked distance
- Hitter gets 3 swings on Coach pitches to put ball in play
  - Batter is OUT after 3 strikes (player is NOT out on a foul ball 3<sup>rd</sup> strike)
- No balls/strikes are called, but players are encouraged to swing the bat!
- No Walks or Hit By Pitch
- Coaches may pitch from any comfortable/safe distance per child
- Coaches cannot play the ball but may defend themselves
- Several coaches may pitch in one game
- Coach pitcher calls the outs and safes for their own team



## Defense Rules

- Teams may play 10 players in the field
  - 4 Outfielders (left field, left center, right center, right field)
  - 4 Infielders (third base, short stop, second base, first base)
  - 1 Pitcher
  - 1 Catcher
    - The catcher must be wearing a catcher's mask; the shin guards and chest protector are optional
    - The catcher will be positioned to the back side of the hitter and near the backstop per the diagram below
- A player may not sit on the bench for consecutive innings, and playing time in the field should be as equal as possible
- Free substitutions are allowed (meaning players may switch positions in the field and/or go from the bench to the field an unlimited amount of times)
- Coaches on the defensive team may station themselves in the field to help position their players and actively coach during the game

