

## Division 3 - Modified Pitch: Rules & Guidelines

5 – 6 yrs (must be 5 by June 17)

### *Our League Goals:*

- *To help players develop basic sports skills and positive social skills in a fun and safe manner.*
- *To have all the adults working together for the benefit of all the children.*
- *To build community spirit and friendships among local families.*

***“All Adults Working Together for the Benefit of All the Children”***



These safety rules apply to all divisions:



- Safety #1** Player’s parent or guardian must be present at all games & practices.
- Safety #2** Parents and coaches must teach bat safety rules at practice.
- Safety #3** Players must attend two full practices before participating in their first game.
- Safety #4** No children or adults may climb fences or backstops.
- Safety #5** If you hear thunder or see lightning, take shelter in your car or in a building.

<b>Div. 3 Mod Pitch</b>	<b>5 - 6yrs (must be 5 by June 17)</b>
Number of players on a team	10-11
Modified	First ½ of the season players hit off the tee; Second half of season is coach-pitch. All players bat each inning.
Age Appropriate Rules	No score is kept. “Out” players return to dugout. Inning ends when all players have batted.
Age Appropriate Equipment	Safety soft tee balls, official tee-ball bats.
Parent provides	Glove & batting helmet are required.
League Provides	League t-shirt and baseball cap
Practice & Play	Mon & Wed evenings June 17 – August 7
Volunteer Coaches	Application, screening & background check required.

**No Rainouts** We encourage a team activity, & some play at the park even if it’s wet outside. (Exception: Coaches may choose to cancel; they must notify their players & the league office.)

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Safety #2 Parents and coaches must teach bat safety rules at practice.

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**Additional safety rules for Modified**

- Closed-toed shoes only; no sandals.
- Batting helmets required during practices & games when hitting, base running, on deck.
- No child plays the catcher position in Modified.
- Children should be taught to avoid collisions.
- The coach positioned at home plate is responsible for moving the bat and/or tee out of the way before a runner crosses the plate.

Modified Game Guidelines on next page

### Div. 3 Modified Game Guidelines

No parents on the field unless they are a designated coach, pitcher, or catcher per rules below.

#### Batting

- Batting team has a parent volunteer “base coach” at 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> base.
- Players may be thrown out, tagged out, or fly out. Base coaches make the safe/out calls.
- Out players must return to their dugout.
- No outs are recorded (i.e. 3 outs does NOT end the inning.)
- Inning ends when everyone has batted once.
- Coaches may mix up the batting order each inning if they’d like.
- **First Half of Season:** Player’s hit off the tee. Batting team coach is stationed at the plate, sets the ball on the tee for the player, and plays “catcher”.
- **Second Half of the Season:** Batting team’s coach/ asst. pitches (overhand or underhand). Defensive team coach plays “catcher”. We **do not** call “balls” & “strikes” If a batter fails to hit after 3 pitches from their coach, the tee is immediately set up for the batter to hit from.

#### On Defense (in the field)

- One defensive team coach may be in the outfield to direct players, but may not touch players or the ball.
- All players on the field positioned in an arc on infield & outfield.
  - Player in pitching circle (for fielding only).
  - Extra players in outfield.
  - Outfield players must be off the infield and in the grass.
  - Defensive players may not stand in the path of the base runner.
- Fielders may catch a fly ball, throw to base, or tag to get outs. Out players to dugout.
- Defense may call “time” when “pitcher” has control of the ball in the pitching circle; when time is called base runners must stop at the base they are advancing to.
- Inning ends when batting team has completed their line-up.
- **Second Half of the Season:** Defensive team’s coach play’s “catcher” during second half of season (when the batting’s team coach is pitching.)

Div. 3 Modified for 5 - 6 yrs (must be 5 by June 17)

Regulation Tee Ball, Bats, Safety Tee-Balls; Tee; Throw-down bases

50’ base paths / 10’ Foul Line arc/ 35’ pitching rubber, 12’ pitch circle

60 minutes max. Do not start another half inning, even if home team didn’t get last at bats.

#### All games are listed on schedule as (Visitor v Home)

Home Team starts in field; Visitors start batting.

Visitors take 1st base side “dugout”; Home takes 3rd base side dugout.

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