

Division 4 - Coach Pitch: Rules & Guidelines

6 – 8 yrs (must be 6 by June 18)

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.

Div. 4 Coach Pitch	6 – 8 yrs (must be 6 by June 18)
Practice & Play	Tue. & Thu. evenings June 18 – August 8
Number of players on a team	11
Coach Pitch	No tees. First ½ of the season is coach-pitch. Second ½ of season is kid-pitch.
Age-Appropriate Rules	No score is kept. Outs are recorded. “Out” players return to the dugout. Inning ends after 3 outs or 8 batters.
League Provides Age-Appropriate Equipment	RIF baseballs, youth aluminum or metal bats (no composites)
Parent Provides	Glove & batting helmet are required.
League Provides Uniform	League t-shirt and baseball cap.
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.)

Additional safety rules for Coach Pitch

- Closed-toed shoes only; no sandals.
- Player’s must be taught to slide safely, feet first.
- Head first sliding is prohibited.
- Players must be taught to avoid collisions. (*i.e. It is **not** age-appropriate to try to knock the ball loose by running into or over an opponent 😊*)
- Batting helmets required when hitting, base running, or on deck, during practices & games.
- Catchers must be wear full protective gear. (League provides 1 set per team)
- The on deck batter is responsible for moving the bat out of the way before a runner crosses plate.

More Coach Pitch Guidelines on next page

Div. 4 Coach Pitch Game Guidelines

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

Batting

- Batting team has a parent volunteer “base coach” at 1st & 3rd base.
- Players may be thrown out, tagged out, or fly out. Base coaches make the safe/out calls.
- No base stealing or leading off.
- Out players must return to their dugout.
- No score is kept, but outs are recorded and 3 outs end the inning.
- Inning ends when 3 outs have been recorded OR when 8 players have been to bat; whichever comes first.
- Batting order must remain the same throughout the game.

Pitching

- We DO NOT call balls & strikes. Batters “strike out” if they fail to hit; there are no “walks”.
- **First Half of Season:** Batting team’s coach/ asst. pitches (overhand or underhand). If a batter fails to hit after 5 pitches from their coach, they “strike out.”
- **Second Half of Season:** Opposing player pitches. If a batter fails to hit after 5 pitches, the batter’s coach steps in and throws two more pitches. If they still fail to hit, they are “out”.

On Defense (in the field)

- Defensive team provides one coach at home plate to asst. catcher with gear, to call “outs” at the plate, and to call “time” on the field. No other defensive coaches on the field.
- All players on the field positioned in an arc on infield & outfield.
 - 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.
- When a fielder has possession of the ball on the infield, they may choose to raise their hands above their head and call to the coach at home plate for “time”. Baserunners must stop at the base to which they are advancing when “time” is called.
- Inning ends when 3 outs or recorded OR when 8 players have batted.

Div. 4 Coach Pitch for 6 – 8 yrs. (must be 6 by June 18)

Aluminum/ Metal Youth Bats (no composites). RIF baseballs. Throw-down bases

50’ base paths / 10’ Foul Line arc/ 40’ pitching rubber, 12’ pitch circle

70 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.

Thank you for being part of our league!