

# Rookie Community Division House Rules



- **Pitch** – Coaches may pitch overhand or underhand to their players or use a pitching machine.
  - Each player is given 6 pitches.
  - If the player does not hit by the sixth pitch, the player will hit off the tee. The players are striving to be successful and we should always keep that in mind.
- **Bases** – are set at 45 feet. First base must have a safety base (orange and white).
- **Infield Positions** – There can be seven infield positions. The extra position being another shortstop between first and second base. This position is at the discretion of the coaches and discussed during the coaches meeting at the beginning of the game.
  - Be mindful of having your players play their infield position and not crowd the batter. This tends to pressure the younger players and may take their success away at the plate.
- **Positions** - Players have their favorite positions. They seem to be catcher, pitcher, first base, and any infield position. Rotate the positions; try to make sure each player has a turn during the season to play all of the most sought after positions. For example, in a three-inning game, a player will have played catcher, first base or pitcher once, an infield position (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, shortstop) and had a chance to play one of the outfield positions. Next game they would play another variation of those positions.
- **Plan** - Map out your players and positions before the game for the three innings. The organization will help you to be fair and quicken the change from batting to defense.
- **Assistant Coach** - Have assistant coaches in the field to help you.
- **Batting** - While batting have assistant coaches or parents keep track of the batting order, putting helmets on → crowd control.
  - Every player bats in the inning.
- **Score** - Keeping score is up to you. The kids will ask all the time → try to express the fun aspect → ask them if they feel like they are winning or are they having fun.
- **Equipment** - Batters must have a helmet and catchers must suit up in the provided catchers equipment (mask, helmet and face mask, chest protector, shin pads).
- **Game Schedule** - Make contact with opposing coach when you travel to ensure there is no confusion or schedule change.
  - If a scheduled game needs to be rescheduled in case of rain or other commitments, it is up to the coaches to reschedule.
  - Games are dependent upon sunlight and the time but there seems to be time enough for three innings → discuss with the other coach if there is time for more.
- **Coaches** - Please do not adjust, amend or modify any of the Rules.