Rules Coach Pitch Baseball

Mountain Home Parks & Recreation Coach Pitch Baseball LEAGUE RULES:

- Games are 6 innings or 90 minutes of play. No game will end until the home team completes their half of an inning.
- Each team will provide an adult to umpire for the opposing team during the game.
- Each team may place up to **10** players on the field for defense. The infield should have one player per position with the remainder of the team placed in the outfield.
- Coaches are encouraged to allow players to play the catcher's position. A coach should be placed behind the catcher to help speed up the pace of play.
- A continuous batting order will be established by each manager. The batting order will not change during a game except due to player injury.
- A half Inning shall end after three (3) outs are recorded or after every batter in the order has batted.
- Batters may advance one base on hits to the infield.
- Batters may attempt to advance two bases (at their risk) on hits to the outfield.
- Base distances are 55 feet. Pitching distance is 35 feet.
- Batters are limited to 3 strikes (swinging).
- No advance on passed balls.
- The ball shall be considered dead and no runner may advance once the ball has been thrown to the pitcher and the pitcher has possession of the ball.
- The offense has two base coaches. The base coaches must stay in the coach's box.
- The defense may have coaches in the field, provided they do not interfere in play.
- Only adult coaches will pitch to their team. Managers should refrain from substituting specific parent coaches to pitch to their own child.
- No underhand pitching.
- No stealing.
- No leading off of base is allowed.
- No head first sliding.
- No hitting from a tee will be allowed during games.
- All players must stay in the dugout when not playing defense or up to bat. A coach should be in the dugout while the team is at bat.
- Absolutely NO player handles a bat unless walking to home plate to hit.
- Coaches should rotate players throughout the infield and outfield to gain playing experience.
- Catchers should wear protective gear.
- Official Little League soft baseball will be used.
- Bats must be Little League approved with a USA bat stamp.

SCORE
No official score will be kept for Coach Pitch.

UMPIRES
Each team will provide an adult to umpire behind home plate, for the opposing team, during the game.
One umpire can be used in the field for baseball and his/her decision is final.

GAMES
Games will consist of 6 innings or a 90 minute time limit- whichever is shorter.

BATTING ORDER
All players present at the game will be placed in the order in which they will hit. The batting order will remain constant throughout the game.

BATTING
Pitching will be done by an offensive team's coach. There will be a limit of 7 pitches per batter. If the 7th pitch is fouled, the batter gets one more pitch. If the 8th pitch is fouled, the batter is out. Each team will receive one warning concerning the slinging of bats. The second occurrence and any occurrence thereafter will result in the batter being called out. Only the batter is allowed out of the dugout area. The on deck batter must be ready with helmet on to take his turn at bat.

INNINGS
A half Inning shall end after three (3) outs are recorded or after every batter in the order has batted.

BASE RUNNING
A base runner may not leave the base until the ball has been hit. Batters may advance one base on hits to the infield. Batters may attempt to advance two bases (at their risk) on hits to the outfield. Base runners will be awarded one base on a ball that has left the field of play due to a defensive error.

DEAD BALL
The ball will be considered dead when the pitcher has control of the ball. If a batted ball hits the pitching coach, the ball will be declared dead and the batter will advance to first base.

DEFENSIVE POSITIONS
The defensive team will field 10 players using 6 infielders and 4 outfielders. Players are to rotate positions each inning and are encouraged not to play the same position twice in one game.

COACHING

The offensive team may have 3 coaches on the field; one coach at first base, one at third base and one as the pitcher. The defensive team may have 2 coaches in the outfield to encourage and instruct their players. Coaches may not play the ball.

CATCHERS

Coaches are encouraged to allow players to play the catcher's position, if they are comfortable. If they are not comfortable, an adult can catch but cannot play the ball. A coach should be placed behind a youth catcher to help speed up the pace of play.

EQUIPMENT

Parks and Rec will supply helmets, bats, baseballs and catcher's gear. Participants must provide their own glove. All batters must wear a helmet. It is recommended that all male players wear protective cups. Individuals will be allowed to use their own equipment if it meets the approved standards.

POST GAME ACTIVITIES

Both teams will line up to shake hands and offer congratulations for a good game at the end of each game.

SPECTATOR CONDUCT

Positive team support is encouraged. Offensive language or behavior will not be tolerated. Each coach is responsible for the conduct of all persons on his/her team, or supporting his/her team. Fans are encouraged to cheer, encourage, and support both teams. They are expected to be courteous and set a good example for the players.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Practices and games will be held if Parks and Rec deems that the conditions are satisfactory. If a coach cancels a game, you MUST notify Parks and Rec so we can disseminate that information to other teams and Parks and Rec personnel that will be working the games. Practices that are canceled will not be made up. Games that are canceled by coaches will need to be rescheduled by the coaches of the canceled game. If Parks and Rec staff cancels a game, it will be rescheduled by Parks and Rec.

*Please note that practices and games may be canceled on short notice due to severe weather.

In the case of inclement weather, 3 complete innings will count as a full game. Games that have not met this criteria will be rescheduled.