



2009 SPRING SEASON – ROOKIE DIVISION RULES

Official Game:	6 innings or Time Limit (whichever comes first)
Time Limit:	60 minutes (no new inning can start)
Pitching:	Batting tee only. NO EXCEPTIONS!
Batting:	One-half of the line-up (5 minimum) shall bat each inning, alternating each inning, regardless of the number of outs or runs.
Substitution:	Everyone plays. No one sits.
Scoring:	No score kept
Minimum Players:	7 team players needed to start game.
Field Maintenance:	Both teams are responsible for making sure all trash is picked up.

Offense

- Each batter hits off a batting tee. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- If a batter is unable to hit the ball after three swings, a coach should assist him or her until contact is made.
- Players called out **are not** removed from the base.
- Players do not advance on an overthrow.
- For the last batter in each inning – play the game as you would with the other batters. Do **NOT** have the last batter (and base runners) automatically run around all the bases unless the play is still live.

Defense

- All players play defense - no one sits out.
- Players **MUST ROTATE POSITIONS** on defense each inning and should alternate between infield and outfield. No exceptions except for safety (e.g., putting a kid at 1B who can't protect himself or herself).
- No outfielder may receive a fly ball or ground ball and run to the base for a force out or to tag a runner. An outfielder must throw the ball to an infielder.
- There are 5 infield positions (P 1B, 2B, 3B, SS) - all others play the outfield at least 15 feet beyond infield.
- Play is dead once the ball is returned to the infield area (no one need catch it). All players return or advance to the next base depending on whether or not they have reached halfway between the bases at the time the ball reaches the infield area.

Coaches

- Up to four coaches are allowed in Rookie Ball: 1B and 3B coaches, one bench coach (to help get the kids ready) and one additional coach to help the batter.
- Only two (2) defensive coaches are allowed on the field – both in the outfield.

Safety

- No on-deck batters allowed – ever!
- No child may hold a bat unless he/she is at the plate. Assign a bench coach or parent to ensure that players do not grab or swing a bat while waiting for their turn at the plate.
- All batters and runners must wear a batting helmet with a NOCSAE-approved face mask.

Pitching

- No pitching whatsoever. All kids must use the tee the entire season.