



## 2011 SPRING SEASON – AAA DIVISION RULES

<b>Official Game:</b>	6 innings or Time Limit (whichever comes first)
<b>Time Limit:</b>	No new inning can start after <b>65</b> minutes
<b>Pitching:</b>	Overhand coach pitch <b>from behind</b> the chalked stripe on the mound. Coaches are strongly encouraged to pitch from one knee.
<b>Batting:</b>	<b>Maximum of five runs or three outs, whichever comes first.</b>
<b>Substitution:</b>	10 defensive players. No child sits twice until everyone on the team has sat once.
<b>Scoring:</b>	No scores or standings are kept during regular season.
<b>Minimum Players:</b>	8 team players needed to start game (no catcher).
<b>Field Maintenance:</b>	Both teams are responsible for raking the infield, mound, home plate area and base paths.

### Offense

- An inning consists of five (5) runs or three outs, whichever comes first
- Each batter is given a maximum of five pitches (unless the fifth pitch is fouled off). After five pitches, the batter is called out.
- If a batted ball hits the adult pitcher, the ball is deemed a foul ball.
- **One base on an overthrow per play (i.e. if there's an overthrow at 1st and first then overthrows 2nd, the batter/runners can only advance to 2nd base).**
- No leadoffs or stealing.
- No infield fly rule.
- A runner may tag up on a fly ball to the outfield only. No tagging up on infield flies or pop-ups.
- A ball that is touched in foul territory is a foul ball no matter where the player stands.
- A batted ball that hits the coach who is pitching is a **foul ball**. Coach should attempt to get out of the way.
- If there are two outs and the catcher is on base, he/she must be substituted for by the player who made the last previous out to help speed up play.
- One offensive time-out per inning to be strictly enforced.
- If a player leaves for any reason other than a legitimate injury during the game, the next time up in the batting order, he/she shall be considered out. This can only occur once in the game.

### Defense

- 10 defensive players. No player may sit twice until every other player has sat once.
- 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 or ground ball and run to the base to force out or tag a runner. An outfielder must throw the ball to an infielder.
- There are 6 infield positions (P, C, 1B, 2B, 3B, SS) - all others are to play the outfield.
- The play is dead when the ball is **in the vicinity** of the pitcher and the pitcher has at least one foot within the pitching circle. Vicinity is a judgment call by the umpire and generally consists of the pitcher's head to the ground and within arms' reach (i.e., a catchable throw). All base runners return to the prior base or advance to the next base depending on whether or not they have crossed the hash mark at the time the ball reaches the vicinity of the pitcher (umpire's discretion).
- The catcher is NOT allowed to block home plate without the ball. There is no mandatory slide rule. If the catcher does not have the ball and is not blocking the plate, the runner does not have to slide.



### Coaches

- Maximum of four (4) adult coaches at least 18 years old are allowed in the dugout.
- Two (2) defensive coaches are allowed on the field in foul territory along the right and left field lines.
- One coach should stand behind the catcher to help retrieve balls and speed up play. That coach, however, may not talk to the batter or fielders – he or she is only there to help expedite play.
- Only managers may talk to the umpires. Managers may not argue or question an umpire's judgment call but may ask for time to discuss a rule interpretation. A ZERO tolerance policy exists with manager interactions with the umpire. Do not – under any circumstances -- raise your voice in speaking with them.
- Both teams are obligated to jointly handle post-game maintenance duties. See the ELL Handbook on the ELL website for instructions. Children/players shall NOT participate in field maintenance.

### Safety

- No on-deck batters allowed – ever!
- No child may hold a bat unless he/she is at the plate.
- All batters and runners must wear a batting helmet with a NOCSAE-approved face mask.
- **Players must use a 2011 Little League approved bat. All bats subject to the current Little League International moratorium on composite bats are prohibited.**

### Pitching

- Overhand coach pitch only. Absolutely no kid pitch.

*Last updated: February 27, 2011*