

SMSC Coach Pitch Rules

Location: All games will be played at the Smoky Mountain Sports Complex in Elizabethton, TN
(Directions available at www.smokysports.com/directions.htm)

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Age Eligibility : May 1st of the current year is the age determining date.
A player is eligible to play in this division if they are 7 or 8 years old on that date.

Game Rules:

1. Bases - 60 feet.
2. All games will be 6 innings.
3. Fair Ball Arc - There will be a 20-foot arc drawn from the 1st base line to the 3rd base line in front of home plate. A ball must go past this line to be fair.
4. Safety Arc - There will be a 30-foot arc drawn from the 1st base line to the 3rd base line in front of home plate. Infielders must stay behind this line until the ball is hit.
5. A base runner is out for leaving the base before the ball is hit or reaches home plate. Stealing is not allowed.
6. 10 players play in the field with 4 outfielders. The 4th outfielder may not be allowed to assume an infield position. All outfielders must stay behind the base line.
7. The batting order shall constitute all players on the team roster at the beginning of the game. Late arrivals shall be inserted as the last batter. All players on the roster shall bat before returning to the top of the order.
8. A maximum of 7 runs per inning or 3 outs. **NO RUN LIMIT IN THE LAST INNING**
9. Free substitution on defense. Batting order must remain the same.
10. No bunting.
11. Defensive coaches are not allowed on the field of play and must coach from the dugout.
12. Umpires will call "Time-Out" or "Time" after every play and declare the ball dead. "Time-out" or "Time" should be called as soon as play has ceased and runners are not obviously advancing. "Time" does not have to be called by the participants.
13. Intentional walks are allowed.
14. Infield fly rule does not apply.
15. A full use catcher's helmet and mask are required.
16. Coach pitch only.
17. Pitching circle will be 10 feet in diameter with the front edge at 42 feet from the back of home plate.
18. A batter shall receive a maximum of 6 pitches or 3 swinging strikes.
19. The defensive player listed as pitcher cannot leave the pitching circle until the ball is hit.
20. In the event that a Pitching coach is hit by a batted ball:
 - A. If, in the umpire's judgment, the coach did not make a legitimate attempt to get out of the way, then the batter is declared out. No runners advance.
 - B. If, in the umpire's judgment, the coach did make a legitimate attempt to get out of the way, then the ball becomes dead and a no pitch is declared.
21. There will be a Pitcher line - A line drawn from the pitcher's circle to the fair ball arc.
 - A. The pitching coach must keep one foot on or straddle the pitcher's line.
 - B. The pitching coach cannot coach while in the pitching position either verbally or physically and once the ball has been hit, must position himself as not to be an obstruction to the defensive team on any play at all.

Slaughter Rule: Anytime a team is up by **15 runs after 3 complete innings, 2 ½ if the home team is ahead, or 10 runs after 4 complete innings, 3 ½ if the home team is ahead, the game shall be called.**