

# Coach Pitch Baseball Rules

# 7 & 8-Year-Olds

### Field Dimensions

• Bases will be 55 feet apart.

#### Player Attire

• Players must wear a uniform; T-shirt & baseball cap provided by WFC. Teams that desire to wear matching pants may do so. Tennis shoes are required and cleats are optional. No jewelry may be worn during games. Batters and base runners must wear a helmet.

## Scoring

- We will not keep an official score.
- Teams can only score a maximum of 6 runs during their time at bat.

### Game Play

- The batter will get up to 6 pitches/attempts to get a hit. After the 6<sup>th</sup> pitch, the batter will be called "out." If the player hits a "foul ball" on the 6<sup>th</sup> pitch, they will be allowed to attempt one more hit.
- There will also be a four-foot "dead zone" in front of home plate. If the ball is hit in this zone, it will be considered a "foul ball." Bunting is not permitted.
- One coach will pitch to the hitter from the pitching line. The coach can move 10 feet closer to the batter if the player is having difficulty hitting the ball.
- If a ball hits the coach or the bucket it will be considered a single and the ball is dead.
- Players cannot throw the bat. If a bat is thrown, the player will receive a "warning". On the second offense, the umpire will call the player, "out."
- If the ball is overthrown to a baseman, players will only be allowed to advance 1 base.
- Three outs will end an inning.
- Coaches must rotate their batting order so that every player may get a chance to lead off at least once during the season.

- No stealing or leading off. Players must remain in contact with the base until the ball is in play.
- The play will be considered, "dead" when the ball is thrown to the pitcher. In this event, players will no longer be able to advance bases.
- If the ball is hit over the heads of the outfielders the umpire will call a ground-rule double and each player will advance two bases. All batted balls are live until there is an out, or the ball is thrown back to the pitcher.

#### Pitching

- Coaches may pitch underhand or overhand.
- Pitcher's rubber will be 35 feet from home plate

### **Field Positions**

- A traditional infield will be enforced (1<sup>st</sup> base, 2<sup>nd</sup> base, short-stop, 3<sup>rd</sup> base, and pitcher) with one exception, a player can be placed between 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> base. There will be no catcher. The remaining players must be dispersed throughout the outfield.
- Defensive players may not block the running path of a base runner.
- All players must get the opportunity to play infield & outfield positions during the season. Players must rotate between in and outfield for each game.

### Other Important Information

- Only 2 coaches are allowed in the outfield for the team on defense. The team on offense may have traditional  $1^{st}$  &  $3^{rd}$  base coaches.
- The WFC will provide Safe-T balls for practices and games.
- All games will have a 60-minute time limit.
- The decision of game cancellations will be made by 3:00 p.m.
- Makeup games will only be rescheduled if there is time and field space available.