

Hemlock Youth Baseball and Softball

Rules: Coach Pitch Boys & Girls

The full roster batting order will be used each inning, regardless of the number of outs. During fielding time every player in excess of the norm may be utilized in the outfield only at their coach's discretion.

BOYS: A kid pitcher can pitch a maximum of 5 pitches per batter. When 3 balls have been thrown by the pitcher, the coach of the team batting takes over. There are no walks. The coach pitches **up to 4 pitches** to their own player. If the ball is not put into play, the batter is called out. No batters to be called out on "looking strikes"—only swinging ones – unless the kids are not swinging at all and is getting decent pitchers. **3 strikes are an Out.** When the player pitches, Balls and Strikes will be called. The coach calling Balls and Strikes is the coach of the kid batting. Keep in mind, **KEEP THE GAME MOVING!**

GIRLS: The coach pitches up to 7 pitches to their own player, if the ball is not put into play, the batter then hits off the tee. Later in the season the girls will then start pitching and the above rule applies for all kid pitching. Keep in mind, **KEEP THE GAME MOVING!**

All offensive players, including the on-deck batter, must wear helmets. Base runners removing helmets may be called out.

1 inning limit per pitcher

Pitching distance is 40 feet and bases are 50 feet or 60 feet.

Defensive pitcher must be within three (3) feet of the rubber until the ball is pitched. If needed, a team can play without a player in the defensive pitcher position.

If a batted ball hits an adult pitcher, it is considered a "No Pitch".

Only take one base on a hit unless it goes into the grass, the coaches need to use common sense on runner advancement. If a ball is hit hard through the infield gaps, or in the air to the outfield, the batter/runner may advance to 2nd base at his own risk.

No stealing of bases is allowed, runners can advance one base on overthrown balls.

When runners lead off before the pitch crosses the plate, umpires are to return the runner(s) to the base and there is no pitch. One warning per game. After which runner(s) will be called out.

If a batter gets hit when a player is pitching, they will take their base.

If a runner or batter is thrown out it will be considered an out and the player returns to the bench.

The infield fly rule does not apply.

Coaches or coach's assistants may coach the bases.

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All games shall have a 50-minute time limit. No extra innings played after the time limit; finish the inning you are in and that ends the game.

Maximum bat diameter is 2 ¼ inches. NO EXCEPTIONS.

All players must play six (6) defensive outs and cannot sit more than two (2) consecutive innings. Coaches are encouraged to use players at different positions depending on ability and game situations with this being a coaches' discretionary decision. Abuse of this rule could result in forfeit of the game. The only exception would be disciplinary action taken by the coach of one or both teams which must be mutually agreed before the game.

Girls:

When girls start pitching: "Wind-Mill" Rule -- No "Sling Shot" pitching motion allowed. When coaches are pitching, they do not need to windmill.

11-inch ball will be used.

Face masks are optional, parents' discretion.

HYB&S provides shirts and hats that the players keep at the end of the season. Baseball/softball pants are encouraged at this level but not required. Cleats are also optional. Leather ball gloves are required and expected to be provided by the parent. (If this cannot be fulfilled please contact a HYBS Board Member ASAP.) Helmets, bats and catching equipment is provided by the league but expected to be turned in at the end of the season. The player may bring his/her own equipment but the league is NOT responsible for it – please put a name on it!