



MACHINE PITCH LEAGUE RULES

1. Teams must start the game with at least (8) players.
2. A game will consist of (6) innings or a 1 hour and 20 minute time limit, whichever comes first. No new inning will start after 1 hour and 20 minutes, tie games included.
3. In the event of inclement weather, (4) innings will constitute a complete game.
4. (3) Coaches are allowed on the field during offense; (1) on first, (1) pitching and (1) on third. All other coaches are required to be in the dugout.
5. (3) Defensive coaches are allowed on the field during defense; (2) in the outfield and (1) positioned behind home plate. The home plate coach will assist in tee removal, assist the catcher and call foul balls.
6. A coach will work pitching machine for his or her own team.
7. The back of the machine must be one foot in front of the pitching rubber.
8. The pitcher player position may play next to but not in front of the pitching machine until the ball is hit.
9. The coach operating the pitching machine must hold the ball up to show the defense that the ball is being pitched.
10. The pitching coach must avoid a hit ball and attempt to get out of the way so that the child playing the pitching position can field the ball. In the event it hits the pitching coach, the ball is still live and must be played. In the event the ball hits the pitching machine or the bucket of balls, the play is dead and the batter will receive first base. All other base runners will advance one base.
11. The ball shall be hit at least 15-feet in order to be considered a playable hit. If the ball lands on the 15-foot arc, the ball is in play. If an arc is not chalked, create one in the dirt that both teams can agree upon prior to the game starting.
12. Batters in the machine pitch league will get (5) pitches from the machine. After 5 pitches they then get one chance to hit off the tee. Any hit off the tee is a single regardless of an overthrow. Runners on base are also only allowed one base. If they swing and miss or the ball goes foul, the batter is out. If the batter knocks the ball off the tee while lining up their bat they get one chance to re-tee it to hit.

13. No half swings or bunts allowed.
14. If the batter throws the bat, they will receive (1) warning. If they throw the bat a second time, they will be called out.
15. The catcher must wear a helmet and a protective face mask.
16. (3) outs or (5) runs constitutes an inning.
17. All players play defense. All regular infield positions and the remaining players fill in the outfield. Outfielders must remain on the outfield grass or 20-feet behind the bases until the ball has been hit. Players playing outfield positions should not be playing infield positions.
18. First, second and third baseman should be within (3) to (5) feet of the base they are playing and cannot stand on it until the ball is hit.
19. Helmets are required for all batters and base runners.
20. When a ball is overthrown, runners may only advance (1) base. In the event of additional overthrown balls during the same play, the runners must remain on base and cannot advance. A player may not advance home on an overthrown ball.
21. Leading off bases is not allowed until the ball has crossed home plate, if a runner leads off early, they will be called out-no pitch.
22. Play continues until the defense stops the lead runner. (Ex: An outfielder throws the ball in to the infield and the shortstop has the ball and is holding it inside of the bases.) If base runners continue to advance, they will be instructed to go back to their original base. It is the batting coach's responsibility to instruct his base runners.
23. A single umpire is in charge of the game and his/her judgment calls will be final at the time of the call. Any disputes over the written rules of this league or the rules of baseball will be handled by a special meeting of the coaches involved and representatives of the board. No arguing of the rules during the game.
24. Shifting players around to play the batter is not allowed.
25. Players must be rotated between positions. Within the first (4) innings, players cannot play one position more than (2) innings and they have to play in the infield and outfield at least (1) inning. The catcher position is not considered as an infield position. Failure to rotate players accordingly will result in a forfeit.
26. Coaches are responsible for their actions, player conduct, and crowd control. Please lead by example, show good sportsmanship.