

8 Year Old Rookie League Rules

Revised 04/17/2019

All [USSSA RULES](#) will be followed for league play with the following exceptions/additions:

1. Time limit of 1 hour or 5 innings. League games can end in a tie.
2. A runner cannot leave the base before the ball has been hit. If the runner leaves early, the umpire will call the runner out.
3. The infield fly rule is not in effect.
4. A team may score a maximum of 6 runs per inning.
5. A batter receives a maximum of (5) overhand or underhand pitches. A foul ball counts as a pitch. Batter is out after five pitches in the judgment of the umpire.
6. No bunting is allowed.
7. A thrown or hit ball striking the pitching coach is a dead ball. If the ball is a batted ball the batter will be awarded first base, base runners will advance only if forced.
8. No stealing is allowed at any time.
9. The catcher must make the play at home plate unless he is out of position attempting a play. Defensive obstruction will be called. The intent of this rule is for each player to learn his position.
10. Ten players will play in the field, with four outfielders. The fourth outfielder is not allowed to assume an infield position. All outfielders must stay be in the outfield grass.
11. Fair Ball Arc: There will be a 20' arc drawn from the back point of home plate, from 1st baseline to 3rd baseline in front of home plate. A batted ball must go past this line to be a fair ball.
12. Safety Arc: There will be a 30' arc drawn from the back point of home plate, from 1st baseline to 3rd baseline in front of home plate. Infielders must stay behind this line until the ball is hit.
13. The number of coaches allowed on the field (inside the fences and/or dug-outs) during the game must not exceed three (3); (4) if team is batting.
14. The positions coaches may occupy during the game will be:
 - A) One coach In the first and third base coaching boxes when their team is at bat, and one coach pitching to batter, the 4th coach must manage the dugout.
 - B) Only one coach allowed in the outfield when their team is on defense, allowing them to adjust, teach, and correct fundamental errors on-the-spot.
 - C) In the dug-out.
 - D) When his/her team is at bat, the pitching coach is allowed, if needed, to help his players prepare to bat and once the ball is hit the coach must get off the field past either foul line.
 - E) Coaches must stay inside the fences unless special situations require that they leave (i.e. Illness, injury, or personal or official business not related to the game in which they are involved). Under no circumstances will a coach be allowed to watch or coach the game from spectator areas of the park.

F) Coaches cannot touch a player at any time the ball is in play. This includes both offensive and defensive play. Penalties are as follows:

- 1) Defensive-Dead ball- Runners advance two bases.
- 2) Offensive-Dead ball- The runner is out.