

➤ American (Coach Pitch)

- No advancement of runners on overthrown ball to any base except first.
- Encourage fielders to make plays to the bases, and not just turn and fire anywhere into the infield.
- Encourage sliding at home. Safety issue and rules specify that if the play is close, runner must slide.
- Encourage players to slide at all bases where the play will be close (except first).
- Safety bag at 1st. Orange for runner and white for fielder. Runner must touch orange side, unless there is no play at 1st and going for extra bases. No head first slides advancing into a base. Can dive back head first to last attained base if there is a play behind them.
- Ball hit to outfield, not caught. ON the return throw the Umpires stop the advancing runners when they see the ball cross into the infield or is thrown to a base. The throw to the base need not be caught. Just that a play was attempted. Does this mean that the outfield can throw to a base not occupied or to a base a runner is not attempting to gain? YES? They are throwing to the infield or a base. Once the ball is in the infield, the Umpire decides if a runner goes back, or has advanced far enough to get the next base. The infield is not where the shale and grass meet. It is the square inside the base lines. If the short stop fields the ball outside the baseline is this the outfield? Technically yes. If the short stop has the ball the base runner will not likely advance anyway, but if the short stop does not throw or holds the ball, the runner does have the right to go to the next base. Must coach players to throw the ball in right away. Umpires will decide when the ball crosses back into the infield and which bases the runners will be placed.
- Warning strike. Can be called at any point in the count. No walks, can hit, strike out or be called out on strikes. Be wary of too many 'courtesy strikes' prior to calling a warning strike. Game will drag on. Be consistent.
- The rover cannot start any pitch in the infield or on the shale (four outfielders).
- Coach Pitcher can move in from the 46' rubber to throw to batters who need the comfort. One idea is to allow the pitcher a cushion on which to rest one knee. That way the pitch is not coming down at the batter so much.
- No infield fly rule.
- 5 run maximum per inning.
- Last inning is an opening inning.
- Declare last inning before you start it.

- No inning can start after 8 PM.
- Mercy rule in effect, 10 run lead after 4 innings. 3 1/2 if home team ahead.
- Six inning games if time allows. Ties are allowed.
- Only one parent on the field at a time.
- Fair Play Rule – rotate positions based on need, ability and player desire. Teams should not always play their best players in the infield.
- Play players in all positions if they are comfortable and have the ability to play that position without being hurt. All players should have equal playing time. Have all players play each position in practice and discuss with player and their parents any concerns you may have with a player playing a particular position.
- No defaults, teams with less than 8 players can borrow from the opposing team and the score counts. May reschedule if you wish. Best to do it at the diamond so everyone knows.