

LAKE IN THE HILL YAA MIDGET BASEBALL RULES

Midget Baseball division is an instructional boys/girls baseball league. It is our desire that all players have an equal chance to develop and learn the basics of baseball while instilling a sense of sportsmanship and fair play. There should never be an argument/protest about a play from any coach or parent. If a problem arises, then please contact the league director

Batting

1. Each batter is entitled to five (5) pitched balls or swings from the T-stand per at bat.
2. The batter/coach must choose either pitched balls or T-stand for the entire at bat.
3. The batter should be allowed an additional pitch/swing if he/she fouls off the last attempt.
4. If the last swing is missed, then the at bat is over and the next batter takes their turn. (*However, there is not a team out recorded.*)
5. A coach/adult from the batting team will pitch to their team. Pitches may be over-hand or under-handed and the distance/speed is at the discretion of the pitcher. In no case, should the pitcher be closer than ten (10) feet from the plate.
6. There are no walks.
7. There is no intentional bunting allowed
8. Batted balls must hit at least 10 feet from home plate. A semi-circle approximately 10 feet from the plate should be chalked off to assist in determining live balls.
9. If a batted ball hits the coach pitcher, then the play is ruled dead and all runners including the batter are awarded one base.
10. Roster batting is required. If a player misses his turn at bat, then can either be placed in the rotation as soon as possible or bat at the end of the order. Coach/scorekeeper should inform the opposing team of any skipped/missing batters.
11. Each team bats until three (3) defensive outs are made in the field or nine (9) players have batted. The hitting team should announce when the ninth batter comes up in the inning and then two outs are considered to exist.
12. If a batter throws the bat more than 10 feet from home plate, then he should be warned by his coach.

Fielding

1. All players present play in the field each inning.
2. Coaches should strive to rotate players in the field, giving each an opportunity to play at each position throughout the year. *Of course, safety should always be considered and therefore it will be the coach's discretion as to which players play first base and pitcher.*
3. Seven players are positioned in the infield, (C, 1B, 2B, SS, 3B left & right pitchers)
4. Infielders should be positioned either in front or behind the base paths when runners are on base.
5. The remaining players are positioned in the outfield and should be in the grass unless on Sunset 7 where they should be positioned 15/20 feet behind the infielders.
6. No player should be within 5 feet of 2B while the opposing batter is swinging.
7. Pitchers should not be closer to batter than coach pitcher. Coach pitchers should help position and ready kids for the ball when possible (**especially when strong hitters are at bat**)
8. Three (3) defensive coaches are allowed on the field. One of these coaches should assist the catcher in order to speed up the game.

Base Running

1. No base runner shall be allowed to advance more than one (1) base after a traditional putout at first base or a force out a 2nd, 3rd or home plate.
2. No base runner shall be allowed to advance after a fly ball is caught.
3. No base runner shall advance on any overthrow.
4. No base runner shall advance further than the base he is moving toward or occupying after a ball, which is hit in the outfield is attempted to be thrown by the defensive player. The ball does not necessarily need to be in the possession of any fielder.
5. Baserunners can only advance as far as the batter advances.
6. No lead-offs.
7. The infield fly rule does not apply.
8. No base runner can collide with a fielder attempting to make a putout. If interference happens, the base runner should be called out.

General

1. Both base coaches and field coaches, including the coach pitcher will act as umpires. Any coach can make a call at any base, depending on the circumstance and line of sight. However, in any case of doubt, the following responsibilities shall prevail:
 - a) Play at 1st First Base Coach
 - b) Play at 2nd Closest Field Coach
 - c) Play at 3rd Third Base Coach
 - d) Play at Home Coach Pitcher
2. **Close plays will go to the defense.**
3. The game shall consist of five (5) innings.
4. No new inning shall begin one hour and thirty minutes after the game starting time.
5. Base distances are 50 feet.
6. The coach pitcher should not coach any base runner once the ball is hit. He may position the batter and encourage him before the ball is hit but all base runners should be taught and encouraged to listen to their first and third base coaches.
7. Official scores are not kept and standings are not tracked. However, each coach is given a scorebook at the beginning of the year and it is each coach's discretion how he uses the scorebook during the game. The main idea behind having the scorebooks is helping to track the batting order as well as follow the status and performance of each individual player.
8. The baseball or field maintenance director will determine unplayable fields or rainouts and update the hotline number one hour before scheduled games. If no cancellation is announced, then it is assumed that games will be played. Coaches should not take it upon themselves to cancel games.
9. Both teams are responsible for the followings setting up the bases and chalking the lines prior to the game, adding turface or quick dry to wet areas on the infield and putting away the bases, raking out chalk lines and cleaning dugout areas after the game.
10. The Home team should supply five (5) game balls.
11. Each team is responsible for cleaning their dugout at the end of each game. If another game follows, every attempt should be made to move the team and equipment away from the dugout area and clean the dugout as soon as possible.
12. In the event of a rainout, Scheduling Director will re-schedule the game into the first available scheduled rain date while making every attempt to not exceed 3 games per week for either team.
13. Throwing of equipment (in anger), name calling or other misconduct will not be tolerated. The offender should be removed from the game and made to sit on the bench. Repeated offenses will be reported to the league director immediately
14. All players and coaches will shake hands after each game