



## U8 Coach Pitch - In House League

**Grade at registration** – 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, (older 2<sup>nd</sup> graders may opt to play up)

*\*Teams are announced at the end of April/early May.*

**Goal:** Our goal is to have fun while adding more elements to their game for continued development.

- Focuses should be on expanding knowledge of hitting, base running, throwing, defense
- Introduction to the basics of pitching and catching.
- Once the team has been introduced to the proper catching mechanics, a player may choose to catch during a game, and must wear a catcher's helmet and chest protector.

**League:** this is primarily an in-house league. *\*Some possible participation from close neighboring communities. Travel would be very minimal.*

**Season:** Mid May-July. Coaches may opt for additional practices at the teams discretion and field availability.

**Field Location:** Legion Park, Brooklyn

**Coaches:** Parent volunteer coaches

**Equipment needed:**

1. Glove
2. Softball/soccer cleats are recommended
3. Helmets and bats available to use if you don't have your own
4. \*Balls are provided (10" softie softball)

**Game length:** 60 minutes

**Hitting:** 5 pitches, if no hit, then hit off the tee. No walks

**Pitching:** Coach or Assistant coach will pitch, and the coaches are also the "umps"  
*(close call/tie goes to the runner)*

**Rules:**

- Must wear a helmet to bat and run the bases
- If a player gets out, they go back to the dugout, (a change from tball, as we want to promote progression in learning the rules of the game.)
- Play stops when the ball gets back to the pitcher
- Inning ends with 3 outs or once through the batting order
- Batting order stays the same for the whole game (but should change game to game)

**Fielding:** players shouldn't play the outfield two innings in a row if possible, rotate positions each inning. Can play with 4 in the outfield, and 1 player at the pitchers position as the coach pitching will not field the ball.

*\*Coaches are allowed on the field for defensive assistance and coaching.*