

Rag-Ball Rules

Purpose: The purpose of rag ball is to begin developing the skills of fielding, throwing, and hitting. Coaches are encouraged to be enthusiastic and promote an atmosphere of cooperation, teamwork and **fun**.

1. General Rules

- 1.1. **Field:** Bases will be set at 60 ft
- 1.2. **Time Limit:** Time limit will be one hour (NO EXCEPTIONS)
- 1.3. **Playing Time:** All players will play the entire game
- 1.4. **Score:** Score will not be kept
- 1.5. **Half Innings:** Each half inning ends when all offensive players have batted once.
- 1.6. **Foul Arc:** No foul arc will be used

2. Offense

- 2.1. **Bats:** Any bat labeled 'T-Ball' will be allowed. If a bat is not labeled 'T-Ball' then it must have either the USA Bat Stamp or the USSSA 1.15BPF Stamp
- 2.2. **Bunting:** Bunting is not allowed at any time. Batter must take a full swing
- 2.3. **Batting:** The goal is to get the batters accustomed to hitting off the pitch rather than a tee.
 - 2.3.1. **First Half of the Season:** Batters may get either get three pitches and then as many attempts off the tee as required to hit the ball OR as many attempts off the tee as required to hit the ball
 - 2.3.2. **Second Half of the Season:** All batters will get three pitches and then as many attempts off the tee as required to hit the ball
- 2.4. **Base Running:** The goal is to teach the players the locations of the bases and the basics of the game
 - 2.4.1. **First Half of the Season:** Runners will advance one base at a time each time a hit is made.
 - 2.4.2. **Second Half of the Season:** Runners are not restricted to one base at a time but may be called out.
- 2.5. **Base Coaches:** The offensive team is allowed to have a base coach at every base. First and third base coaches will stand in their normal place. The coach at second base must stand behind the base and may not interfere with any play in the field.
- 2.6. **Outs:**
 - 2.6.1. **First Half of the Season:** The defense is encouraged to make a play that would be an out, but the offensive player will continue on the bases as if he were safe.
 - 2.6.2. **Second Half of the Season:** If the defense gets an offensive player out, that player will return to the dugout. However, three outs will not end the inning. Half inning will continue until all offensive players have batted.

3. Defense

- 3.1. **Pitcher:** There will be no player in the pitcher position
- 3.2. **Rotation:** Coaches are encouraged to rotate the players into different defensive positions each inning
- 3.3. **Infield/Outfield:** Infield will consist of a maximum of 5 infielders. The remaining players will be outfielders and must play on the edge of the infield grass
- 3.4. **Defensive Coaches/Parents:** The goal is to get the players used to being on the field on their own
 - 3.4.1. **First Half of the Season:** One parent per child is allowed on the field. Parents should not touch the ball or interfere with any play in the field.
 - 3.4.2. **Second Half of the Season:** Every attempt should be made to get all the parents off the field by the second half of the season. Two defensive coaches are allowed in the outfield behind the players and may not interfere with any play in the field.