

8-UNDER LEAGUE RULES

- Teams will bat the roster.
- Half innings are complete after 3 outs or 5 runs.
- Defense will have 9 players on the field. However, there will be no penalty for playing with 8 players. Teams with 7 players can play, however, the 8th player in the line-up will be an out.
- Each batter gets 3 swings or 5 pitches unless the last pitch is a foul ball. If a foul ball is hit, the at bat will continue.
- Bunting is not allowed.
- The infield fly rule will not be applied.
- Runners will not be allowed to advance after a dropped third strike.
- Stealing is not allowed.
- Designated players (DP) will not be allowed.
- Leading off is not allowed. Runners may not leave their base until the ball contacts the bat. This includes not allowing players to leave the base early anticipating bat/ball contact.
- The pitcher must stay in the pitcher's circle and behind or on the side of the coach until the ball contacts the bat. The pitcher may line up on either side of the pitching machine. However, absolutely no movement can be made by the pitcher which places them in front of the pitching machine and or coach prior to pitch.
- Prior to the pitch, the pitching coach must verbalize and check that the defense is in the ready position and ready for play to begin.
- Outfielders must start the play standing on the grass at the edge of the infield or deeper. They cannot move until the bat has contacted the ball. Players and runners will stop when:
 - A ball that never leaves the infield/dirt. Once a fielder has control of the ball the runners should stop at the next base. This encourages the infielder to throw the ball to the appropriate base without the fear of runners advancing to the next base because of an overthrow.
 - Ball fielded on the infield dirt, or the arc equals one (1) base per infield hit.
 - A ball hit to the outfield: If no outfielder has control of the ball the runners may continue to advance. Once the outfielder gains control of the ball and throws it toward the infield the runners will stop at the next base. Even if the ball doesn't make it to the "infield dirt" on the throw, the "release" of throwing the ball in is the attempt at making the correct play. Players must stop at the next base. Exception, the outfielder can carry the ball to the infield to make an out. The runners can keep advancing in this situation.