



## Top Prospects of the Carolinas 8U Coach Pitch Rules

Regulation Game is Six (6) Innings A.

Time Limits for Regular Tournament play games are One (1) hour and fifteen minutes. Championship games are One (1) hour and thirty minutes. When time limit expires, the inning that you are currently playing is the last inning.

Home Team: All pool games will be determined by a coin toss and will be the Official Scorebook. If there is any discrepancy in the score, the umpires will gather scorebooks along with the scorecard to determine the correct score.

Highest seed will have the choice to be home or visitor team in all bracket games.

If a team drops below 8 players for any reason, the game is ruled a forfeit by the site director.

The Adult Coach Pitcher must pitch to the Players. Teams may not change during an inning. Teams must complete the inning before making an Adult Coach Pitcher change. There will be NO WALKS in the Coach Pitch game. A circle of (16) feet will be used for Coach Pitch Only. The circle will be 8 feet from the 40 feet rubber in a circle.

If the Batter is Bunting, all players may charge at the time the batter shows bunt, including the coach/pitch athlete. 1 bunt per inning per team, no fake bunt swing away (see safety rules for penalty).

All players present in Uniform and in the Dugout, will be set in the Batting Order.

A team whose batter slings a bat will receive a warning (1 per team) on the First Incident. The second incident by ANY BATTER will be an Out and the ball is dead with no runner advancing.

Each batter is allowed FIVE (5) pitches or THREE (3) strikes. If a batter hits a foul ball on the FIFTH pitch, he or she is allowed to continue batting until he or she does not make contact with the ball or puts the ball in play.

All Coach Pitch Adult Pitchers must pitch overhand and is Limited to instructing the Batter ONLY. The Coach Pitch Adult MAY NOT instruct the base runners. Base Runners are to be instructed by the Base

Coaches ONLY. 1 warning per team and then Penalty is that a Coach Would Not Be Allowed to continue to Coach or Pitch and would be confined to the Dugout in Violation of this rule.

Base Coaches may not have any contact with base runners while the ball is alive and in play. The Penalty is that the runner is out.

Once the ball is batted, the Coach Pitch Adult Pitcher must avoid interference with play by moving to the nearest sideline until all play is dead. Any Delay, Interference or Obstruction by a Coach will be ruled upon by the Umpires. On Bunts Only, the Coach Pitch Adult Pitcher must take a knee in the pitcher circle. Penalty is that a Coach Would Not Be Allowed to continue to Coach or Pitch and would be confined to the Dugout in Violation of this rule. 1 warning per team.

Each team may only score a maximum of FIVE (5) runs for the first inning. In the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th innings, the lead team may always be able to score FIVE (5) runs even though the lead could be greater than FIVE (5) runs. The team that is behind when batting after the first complete inning may always be able to even up the score and score FIVE (5) additional runs. This applies to the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th innings only. The 6th inning or any additional innings played are Unlimited Scoring. Any International Tie Breaker (ITB) Inning are played with Unlimited Scoring.

A Fair Batted Ball that would hit the Adult Coach Pitch will be ruled a Dead Ball, a No Pitch. All players will go back to the base positions before the Pitch was made.

Bat Rule for 8u Coach Pitch. There are No Bat restrictions, but all bats must be stamped with a Bat Performance Factor (BPF) of 1.15 or have a USA Baseball logo to be Legal in all Top Prospects Baseball Events. Wooden Bats are always approved.

Courtesy runners are only allowed for the catcher of record but is not mandatory.

Runners may not leave their bases until the pitched ball crosses the front edge of home plate.

A runner who leaves early is declared out and the pitch is declared a NO pitch being an Immediate Dead Ball.

B. If bases are loaded with no outs and a runner leaves the base early, but the batter hits a single or better, the runner who left early is out and the pitch is declared a no pitch. No runs scored. Immediate Dead Ball.

Slide Rule A. Runners are NOT required to slide, but if they elect to slide, the slide must be legal.

B. A runner must slide directly into the base.

C. If a Tag Play is imminent, the runner should slide or seek to avoid contact.

D. Jumping or Hurdling over a player is not considered avoiding contact. Runner is OUT!

E. An imminent tag play requires possession of the ball by the defensive player.

F. A player may NOT initiate malicious contact. It is solely the umpire's judgment call that determines whether the contact is malicious.

## **9U 46' 65' MODIFIED BASES 10-FOOT LINE**

There will be a drawn 10-foot line placed 10-feet beyond first, second, and third bases.

The Base Runner can take a lead but must not be beyond the 10- foot line when the ball crosses the front of the plate.

The runner's feet must be stationary before the pitcher begins his delivery to the plate. The runner's allowed to steal after the ball crosses the plate.

If the runner gets a running start in an attempt to steal before the ball crosses the plate or is put in play, the runner shall be declared "out". (1 warning per team). PENALTY: Immediate Dead Ball. The base runner is "out" and removed from the bases. All other runners return to their time-of pitch base.