



Coach's Guide – U9 Major



Set-up

- Games are 1 hour 45 minutes or 6 innings.
 - No inning starts after 7:45pm.
 - 90 seconds between innings.
 - Home team supplies the game balls (hardballs).
 - Bases are 60 feet.
 - Coaches meet before the game to:
 - Promote sportsmanship
 - Exchange batting orders including jersey numbers
 - Clarify rules, game length, pitching, and umpire responsibilities
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Coaching

- One coach may be on the field behind second base to help position players and advise fielders.
 - Coach will umpire from behind the mound when their team is on offense.
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Defense

- Players can pitch and catch in the same game.
 - Players may play a position twice in a game (except pitcher).
 - All players must play infield and outfield in all games.
 - Rover outfield position is used unless a team has fewer than 10 players.
 - Pitcher position is fielded by the player pitcher while the coach pitches.
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Pitching

- Pitchers throw from 40 to 44 feet and must pitch from the rubber.
- Pitchers receive up to 4 warm-up pitches between innings.

- First 2 weeks:
 - Coaches pitch the first 3 innings
 - Players pitch the remainder
 - After first 2 weeks:
 - Entire game is player pitching
 - Player Pitching limits:
 - 1 inning per game
 - 35 pitches per game
 - 50 pitches per week
 - Pitchers pitch to a 3-ball count:
 - At a 3-2 count, pitcher gets one more pitch
 - Coach then pitches up to 3 pitches
 - A pitcher is removed after 4 walks or 2 hit batters in an inning.
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Batting

- All players are in the batting order.
 - Batters hit by a player pitcher are awarded first base.
 - Batters hit by a coach pitcher are not awarded first base.
 - Umpire is the offensive team's coach pitching.
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Base Running

- No bunting, stealing, lead-offs, walks, or infield fly rule.
 - Base runners must stay on the base until the ball is hit.
 - Players may advance a maximum of 2 bases on a hit.
 - Base runners may advance 1 base on an overthrow to first base (infield only).
 - Base runners cannot advance on wild pitches or passed balls.
 - Sliding is permitted except into first base.
 - Catchers on base with 2 outs may be replaced with the last player out.
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Scoring

- Scores will be recorded.
- Five-run limit per inning; final inning is open (once through the order if 3 outs are not recorded).

- Maximum 10-run difference in a win to be recorded.

See DDMBA Recreation Rules for complete information.