



Coach's Guide – U9 Minor



Set-up

- Games are 1.5 hours or 5 innings, with the final open inning starting prior to 7:35pm for 6:05pm games.
 - 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

- Two coaches may be positioned behind Short Stop and Second base to assist the fielders.
 - Offensive team's coach is on the mound.
 - Defensive team's coach is behind home plate to assist the catcher and confirm the pitching count; the pitching coach has the final say.
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Defense

- Players may pitch and catch in the same game.
 - Players cannot play any position more than once per game except catcher (2 innings).
 - Rover outfield position is to be played unless a team has less than 10 players.
 - Pitcher position is fielded by the player pitcher while the coach pitches.
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Pitching

- Pitchers pitch from 40 to 44 feet.
- Pitchers pitch to a 3 ball count then the coach throws a maximum of 3 pitches.
- Pitchers receive up to 5 warm-up pitches within 90 seconds between innings.

- A pitcher that hits 3 batters in an inning must be removed.
 - Pitchers may wear a pitching facemask.
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Batting

- All players are in the batting order.
 - Batters hit against player pitching to a 3 ball count, then coach throws a maximum of 3 pitches.
 - Batters can strike out on 3 strikes from the player pitcher.
 - Batters hit by a player pitch are awarded first base or may continue if unhurt.
 - Batters hit by a coach pitch 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 keep their foot on the base until the ball is hit.
 - Players may advance:
 - 2 bases on a hit to the outfield in the air
 - 1 base on a hit to the infield
 - Base runners cannot advance on overthrows.
 - Catchers on base with 2 outs may be replaced with the player who was last out.
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Scoring

- Scores will be recorded.
- Four-run limit per inning; final inning is open (once through the order if 3 outs are not recorded).
- No more than a 10 run difference to be recorded s in a win.

See DDMBA Recreation Rules for complete information.