**U9 FESTIVAL**
Rules Document

Yes, we know these are not the rules that you usually play with, but this event is designed to help players have fun and develop fundamental skills without competitive pressure, so please don't change the rules!

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| General Rules |
|  No protests or appeals are allowed. We want to keep these games moving and have some  fun! |
|  Do not keep score. Scores and standings will not be kept. |
|  There will be a Home Run Line marked by cones placed 25 feet behind 1st and 3rd base  and 35 feet behind 2nd base. If the ball crosses the Home Run Line in the air, it is  considered a home run. If the ball rolls over the Home Run Line on the ground, it is a  ground-rule double, and the batter gets to advance to 2nd base. |
|  We will be using 11” Rawlings Reduced Injury Factor Ball R10RYFLL. |
|  The Home Plate will be a 21” plate.  |
|  We recommend that each team have a maximum of 9 players per team. If you have less than 8 players you must ask to borrow from your opposing team to make 9. |
|  If you have more than 9 players on your team, players cannot sit more than one (1)  consecutive inning. |
|  Players can only play the same position in two (2) consecutive innings. |
|  The time limit of each game will be 1 hour and 15 minutes. |
|  There will be two (2) offensive conferences per inning and two (2) defensive  conferences per inning. |
|  1 coach from the defensive team will be allowed on the field to help players with positioning. |
|  To help speed up the game, the umpire can give the catcher a new ball on a pass ball situation, and have a coach retrieve the ball at the backstop (for safety). |

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| Offensive Rules |
|  A maximum of 9 players will bat per inning. If you have less than 9 players, each player  will bat one time per inning. When the last batter steps up to the plate for their at-bat,  coaches must announce their last batter to the umpire and to the defensive team. Each  half of the inning is over once the offensive side has batted through their batting order,  NOT after 3 outs. If a player gets out, they go to the bench like they normally would. |
|  The last batter must be different each inning. Remember to shuffle your batting order  so that you have a different last batter each inning! For each inning, rotate who is your  first batter as well so that you have a new first batter for each new inning. |
|  Players who arrive late will be placed last in the batting order of the inning they arrive. |
| þÿ There will be no bunting. |
|  Runners may leave the base when the ball has crossed the plate, but runners cannot steal. |
|  Sliding is allowed! |
|  Following a fair hit ball to the outfield, runners must STOP running when the ball is  returned to the infield. |
|  Runners cannot advance on any overthrow to a base that goes foul or that stays in fair  territory. Runners also cannot advance on a passed ball that goes behind the catcher. |
|  You can bring in a courtesy runner for the catcher regardless of the number of outs. |

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| Defensive Rules |
|  Since each half of the inning does not end after 3 outs, the defensive side should try  and get as many outs as possible! As previously stated, each half of the inning is over  once the offensive side has batted through their batting order. |
|  There will be no In Field Fly Rule. |
|  There will be a maximum of 9 players on the field to play defense. |
| * No player may sit more than one (1) consecutive inning.
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|  There will be unlimited defensive substitutions each inning, but not during each inning. In  other words, you can put a new group of fielders in different positions out in the field  to start your defensive side of the inning, but you cannot change players and positions  around during an inning. |
|  The player who is pitching to the opposing team will pitch until the batter receives 3  balls. Then, the hitter’s coach will come in to pitch and carry on the count. |
|  If the same pitcher hits two (2) batters in an inning, he/she will be removed for the rest  of the inning. |
|  There will be no intentional walks or unintentional walks. Batters will either hit the ball or  strike out. There will be no walks at all! |

There will be umpires at each game. Umpires will adhere
to the rules as outlined above. These rules will not be modified!