

2019 FSA Baseball Rules: 7U and 8U Coach Pitch Divisions

Rev February 28, 2020

FSA Baseball is not currently affiliated with any organization (i.e. Little League Nations, etc.). However, Nations rules will serve as the primary set of rules for FSA Baseball except as modified herein. If no modification to the applicable rule is incorporated, the Nations rules will prevail.

ELIGIBILITY: This division will be restricted to players ages 8 and under. Players wishing to play up may do so one age level only.

RUN LIMITS: There will be a run limit of 5 runs per half inning.

GAME TIMES: Games are **75 minutes for 7U and 8U – no new inning will start after 70 minutes and we will revert back to last full completed inning at 80 minutes**

PLAYING FIELD: Rubber to home distance – 40 feet. Base to base distance – 60 feet

PLAYING RULES:

1. Coach Pitch teams will roster bat. Teams must have a minimum of eight players to start and finish a game, but **MUST** take an out for the ninth player. If the lineup drops below eight players other than for an illness or injury, the game is declared a suspended game and is not rescheduled. The suspended game is then ruled a forfeit and will be scored 1-0.
2. Teams can begin a game with eight (8) players but one player must be a pitcher and one player must be a catcher. Players arriving after the start of the game may be placed on the roster in the last batting position. If the late arriving player is the 9th player, an out will no longer be given for the 9th batting position.
3. If a player is unable to continue due to injury or illness, the team will not be penalized when it is the missing players turn to bat. His batting spot will be skipped over without penalty.
4. Each batter will be allowed Six (6) pitches or three (3) strikes. If a batter hits a foul ball on the sixth pitch, he will be allowed to continue batting until he does not make contact with the ball or puts the ball in play.
5. There is no bunting or soft swings. Penalty: The batter is called back to the plate, the ball is dead, no runners may advance and the pitch shall be considered a foul ball.
6. There will be no: 1) Base on Balls 2) Base Awards for Hit By Pitcher 3) Infield Fly Rule 4) Base Stealing 5) Bunting (players must take a full swing).
7. Runners may not leave their bases until the pitched ball crosses the front edge of home plate. A runner who leaves early will be declared out and the pitch will be called a no pitch.
8. Courtesy runners are allowed for the catcher only. The courtesy runner must be the player that recorded the last out for his team. Runner that comes off the field must play catcher the next inning.
9. A fair batted ball hitting a coach pitcher will be declared a foul ball if the umpire rules that the coach pitcher's contact with the ball was unintentional. If in the umpire's judgment a coach pitcher intentionally makes contact with a batted ball, the batter will be out and no runner can advance.
10. Umpires call time after every play and declare the ball dead. Time should be called as soon as all three of the following occur:

- a. The lead runner stops attempting to advance.
- b. The ball is in the possession of a fielder in the infield.
- c. No defensive play is imminent.

**Runners will return to the base which they are legally entitled.

“Time” does not have to be called by the defense for the purpose of this rule, nor will it be applied because a player calls “time”.

11. On a ball hit to the infield and then thrown to first base, the runner may advance no further than second base on an overthrow to first base. If the runner attempts to advance further than second base, they do so at their own peril, and if they are put out in such attempt, they will be out. If they advance at their own peril and advance, they will be placed back on second base after the play has stopped. Similarly, if a runner is at first base on a ball hit to the infield and thrown to first base, the runner on first base can advance no further than third base.
12. The coach pitcher will pitch from the rubber (pitch starts with one (1) foot touching the rubber) at 40 feet. The ball must be released while the pitcher still has one foot in contact with the rubber.
13. The coach pitcher is prohibited from coaching while in the pitching position either physically or verbally.
14. The coach pitcher must leave the infield after the ball is put in play by the batter. The coach pitcher should make every effort to leave the field away from the play. The coach pitcher is responsible for removing the bat from the field of play and keeping the on-deck batter from entering too soon.
15. Ten defensive players will be allowed on the field, with the tenth being a fourth outfielder. No more than 6 infielders will be allowed.
16. There is a circle drawn with a 10' diameter with the pitching rubber in the middle. This is a safety area for the player in the pitching position. The defensive player listed as the pitcher cannot leave the pitching circle until the ball is hit. At least one foot must be inside the circle prior to the ball being hit. 16. The player in the pitcher's position MUST wear a batters helmet while on defense.
17. The catcher shall be located in the catcher's box, no more than four (4) feet behind home plate. The catcher must wear all protective catchers gear INCLUDING A CUP. The catcher is allowed to catch with a fielder's glove.
18. No manager or coach shall be allowed to walk behind the infield area (home plate) to coach or position infielders, outfielders or runners. Their job is to retrieve the ball missed by the catcher to help speed up the game.
19. A game stopped prior to the completion of the 1st inning will be completely rescheduled as if it had never been played. A game stopped prior to the game being called complete (after the 1st inning) will be rescheduled and will resume play from where it was stopped. Score keepers and coaches will need to make note of batter and runners.
20. Substitute players – No player is allowed to sit out twice before all players sit out once.
21. TOURNAMENT BRACKET (ELIMINATION) RULES FOR TIE BREAKER a. During the bracket play of tournament (not pool play), if at the end of a game (innings) there is a tied score, the game will continue with California Rules; First extra inning, the last 2 batters from the previous inning will occupy 2nd base and 3rd base respectively. The batter of record for that

inning will be at bat with 1 out. After both visitor and home have batted, if no winner has been determined, the last 3 batters of previous inning (last 3 players in batting order) will be placed on base, batter of record will be at bat and 2 outs will be issued. Last scenario will continue until a winner has been determined.