



# Cheektowaga Youth Baseball

## 2020 5-6 Coach Pitch Division Rules

1. The intent of the coach pitch division is to transition the players to more traditional baseball rules while still providing them with a fun learning experience. While these additional rules may introduce a more competitive environment coaches are reminded to check their egos at the door. This game is for and about the players, not the adults.
2. All games will be 3 innings and score will not be kept. If less than 1 ¼ hours has elapsed, and upon agreement of both coaches, teams may play 1 (one) additional inning.
3. All games will be played on a sixty or sixty-five (60/65) foot diamond with a forty-six (46) foot pitching distance.
4. There will be no base on balls awarded.
5. Every child should play all positions to learn the game, keeping the safety of the player in mind at all times. No player may play the same position more than two innings in a game. All players should be given the opportunity to play infield and outfield during every game. The safety of the player is the only exception.
6. When any defensive player has **control of the ball in the infield**, play will stop. Runners are awarded the next base if the runner was half way or further and the next base is unoccupied when the play was stopped. If (2) two runners occupy the same base when the play was stopped, the trailing runner will be moved backward to the previous base if it was unoccupied. The lead runner will only be moved forward if the trailing runner cannot be moved backward. If more than one runner is on the same base. Each runner will be treated separately in determining their position when the play was stopped.
7. The Coach Pitcher shall stand at a distance of at least 25 to 30 feet and may pitch underhand or overhand. Coaches are encouraged to transition players to overhand as soon as possible to prepare them for play in the next division.
  - a. Each player will receive a **maximum of 5** pitches to hit the ball unless the normal three swing strikes occur first, at which time the batter will be declared out.
  - b. Players struggling to hit a coached pitched ball will be allowed to hit the ball from a Tee.
  - c. Pitches in excess of 5 may only be thrown in case of a foul ball.
8. If the batted or thrown ball strikes the coach pitcher or he otherwise inadvertently interferes with normal play, the ball is dead. The hit is considered a single and all runners will be advanced one base whether forced or not.
9. A coach from the defensive team should assist the catcher in retrieving pitches.
10. Each team will field 10 players, 4 must be in the outfield grass. Outfielders should be encouraged to throw the ball into the infield rather than running the ball in.
11. Coaches are encouraged to be in the outfield to assist the defensive players. The coach should not interfere with any play. If a coach inadvertently interferes with a play, the play is dead and all runners advance one base whether forced or not.
12. No advancement on an overthrow of any base. Encourage players to attempt to make a play on advancing runners without fear of giving up extra bases.
13. No stealing, No Leadoffs.
14. Bunting is not permitted.