



Blazer Rookie League Rules Ages 9-12



1. We will use an 11-inch softball.
2. This is a player pitch format.
3. Walks are not allowed. In the event a count of 4 balls is reached the coach will come in continue with the same strike count to the batter. When coach pitches, a maximum of 2 bases is allowed by the batter and runners on base for any hit ball.
4. There will be a continuous batting order used. This means that every player will maintain their spot in the batting order regardless of whether or not they were in the field during a particular inning.
5. Teams will bat until the third out occurs or 5 runs are scored.
6. There are unlimited substitutions. Ten players will constitute a complete starting lineup. Games may be started or played with 7 players. At this age group 10 players is the maximum allowed in the field (4 outfield and 6 infield). Outfielders should be on the grass. Players sitting out in a particular inning will be inserted into the field during the next inning. No player will sit out two consecutive innings. Coaches should make every effort to ensure that the number of innings played during the season by each player is as equal as possible. We also do not want teams playing the same players at the same positions all year. Girls should play a minimum of 1 OF and 2 IF positions not including pitcher or catcher. Try to give everyone the opportunity to play pitcher or catcher but do not force them to play it. A pitcher should not pitch more than 2 innings in a game.
7. Bunting and slapping are not allowed.
8. Stealing is allowed off of 1st and 2nd base, Player does not leave the base until the ball crosses the plate. No additional base off overthrow when play made on runner stealing. Stealing of home is not allowed under any circumstance. 3 step lead allowed off of 3rd base. Player must be tagged in order to be out off of a steal or lead-off. You may only advance to home off 3rd base on a ball put in play with a hit.
9. Runners will be allowed 1 base when an over throw on a batted ball occurs. If ball stays in play, a play can be made on the runner. If a 2nd overthrow occurs, no additional base.
10. Once the ball is controlled by an infielder, runners should return to the base they came from unless they are 2/3 of the way or greater to the next base. Rule 9 applies if a play is made on the runner. If the infielder holds the ball or calls time apply the 1st part of rule 10.
11. A batter struck by a pitched ball awarded first base unless the player wants to continue batting. If she continues the hit by pitch would be considered a ball.
12. Pitching distance will be from 30' unless pitcher absolutely can't get the ball to home.
13. There is a one hour and 30 minute time limit for games. No new inning shall start unless the WHOLE inning can be completed in this time.
14. Coaches – prior to every game please talk with the umpire and the other team coach to make any modifications to the rules before the game begins. Please do not change the rules dramatically, this is to prepare the player for the next level.

Have fun!