



7 - 9 Year Old Kid Pitch Rules

The purpose of the NYS 7 - 9 year old Kid Pitch League is to provide a fun, non-competitive environment for developing fundamental baseball skills. Players should receive positive reinforcement and be encouraged to do their best. Standings and scores are not recorded.

A. Code of Conduct: Coaches are responsible for their team's players, parents, and spectator conduct at all times. Players, parents, or spectators who are unruly will be warned by the coach and may be asked to leave the game area if necessary. Repeated offenses may result in player suspension.

B. Rosters: Each team will have a minimum of 9 players and a maximum of 15 players.

C. Mandatory Play: No minimum amount of players is required to play a game. NO Forfeits.

D. Field Dimensions: Bases are approximately 60 feet apart. Pitchers must pitch from a distance of approximately 40 feet (depending on size of field) from home plate.

E. Uniform: An NYS administered or approved jersey and hat must be worn during the game.

F. Time Limits: Games will have a time limit of 1 hour and forty-five minutes or 5 innings, whichever comes first. NO new inning will be started after one hour and thirty minutes. NO extra innings in cases where the score is tied after the allotted time limits.

G. Field Assignments: The home team is listed first on the schedule and will occupy the third base side of the field. The visiting team will bat first.

H. Standings and Score: Standings and scores are kept.

I. Umpire/Official: NYS will provide one umpire for each game.

J. Managers/Coaches: First and Third base coaches can be utilized by the offensive team, but MUST be adults. In addition, an adult coach MUST be in the bench area at all times when players are present.

K. Players: Players may not wear jewelry, rings, watches, pins, or other metallic objects.

L. Equipment:

- Only Little League approved bats with barrels under 2 ¼ inch may be used (NO big barrel bats).
- Regular baseballs are utilized.

Effective with Fall 2018, NYS has adopted the USABat standard. Solid, one piece wood bats are approved for use under USABat with or without the USA Baseball Certification Mark. Multi-piece and composite wood bats must feature the USA Baseball Certification Mark to be approved for play. All new bats that bear the USABat licensing mark will be permissible for play. To check on eligibility of older model bats, an approved list can be found at <https://usabat.com/>

M. Defensive Rules of Play (Fielding):

- Ten players are allowed to play on defense. Teams may play with four outfielders.
- Fielders may not block base paths without possession of the ball.
- No balks will be called.
- Infield fly rule is in effect.

N. Offensive Rules of Play (Batting):

- A continuous batting order will be used. Any player arriving after a game has begun should be inserted in the batting order in the last batting position.
- On deck batter **MUST** stay in on deck area and all players on the batting team must stay in bench area.
- The batter may not attempt to advance to first base on a dropped third strike.
- Bunting and soft swings are allowed.
- Stealing is allowed. No leading off of any base. The base runner may not leave the base until the pitched ball crosses home plate. If a player leaves early and is thrown out, he is out. If he is safe, he must return to the previous base. The second offense by the same player in same inning will result in an automatic out. If the ball is hit, the defensive team has the option of the result of the play or a dead ball and runner returns and hitter hits again. If ball is not hit, result of pitch (ball or strike) will count.
- Sliding is allowed. It is the base runner's responsibility to avoid contact with the fielder with the ball. Runner must slide when there is a play at a base, excluding running through first base. Intentionally running into a fielder, including the catcher who has possession of the ball will result in ejection from the game.
- A base runner may advance one base on a wild pitch or passed ball. The base runner may not steal home on any play between the pitcher and catcher (including a passed ball or wild pitch). Stealing home is not allowed. Runner on third base must be forced home by a walk, hit by pitch, or advance on a hit ball.
- Runners may advance only one base on an overthrow (that means the runner gets the base they are advancing too, plus they can try for the next one at their own risk). If a play is made on an advancing runner after the overthrow and another overthrow occurs, the runner may again try to advance to the next base at his own risk. If a play is not made on the advancing runner after the overthrow, the runner must stop after one base. Once the ball is thrown back to the pitcher by the catcher or at the conclusion of a play, at the umpire's judgment, all base runners must return to the previous base if they are not at least halfway to the next base.
- Courtesy runners are allowed for pitcher or catcher at any time, but the runner must be the player that made the last out.
- No team may increase their lead by more than five runs.
- When participating in a NYS baseball or softball event, there are 3 ways to end an at bat.
 - Increase a lead by five runs. This does not apply in the first inning.
 - Bat through your entire lineup once.
 - Three outs.