

8U 2015 Rules

- ✓ Basic Rules:
 - This is a non-competitive instructional league:
 - Combination of "Coach Pitch" & "Kid Pitch",
 - No league standings,
 - 90 minute game limit or 5 innings for weekday games; two hour game limit or 6 innings on weekends, if there is time to play another inning, the coaches may agree to keep playing.

- ✓ Pitching/Catching:
 - 3 innings kid pitch, 2 inning coach pitch. Coaches may agree before the game to alter this ratio.
 - A player may not pitch for more than one inning.
 - The pitchers shall pitch from the softball rubber - if a child is not able to throw that distance, they may move up an agreed upon distance, but it should be the goal to have every child pitch from the actual mound. Coaches will have to agree upon where their players will pitch from at Shady Grove.
 - A player may not catch for more than three innings,
 - Coaches may pitch if play is slow and/or there are not enough children to pitch.
 - A coach may or may not, if he chooses, be on the mound to assist the pitcher.
 - A coach should be behind the plate to assist the catcher.
 - After 4 walks or 2 hit batsmen by a player pitcher in an inning, the coach may take over.
 - For coach pitch - coaches will pitch to their own team.
 - The Coach for the team that is batting calls the balls and strikes, either from the mound or behind the plate - the strike zone should be generous, but fair, we want to teach the kids to swing the bat.

- ✓ Batting:
 - Every player will bat unless the fielding team achieves three outs. In other words, go through the lineup once. The inning is over if 3 outs are not achieved and every player has batted.
 - The coach will post a lineup and rotate batting order from game to game with the intention of giving all players a chance to bat up in the order,
 - One base on an overthrow,
 - Bunting is NOT allowed.
 - If a player throws a bat, a warning is issued. If it happens again, player is called out (coach must then work with player to ensure he knows why).
 - No sliding at first base,
 - No leads. A runner may not leave the base until the batter swings the bat,
 - A generous strike zone will be in place. This means we are expecting the boys to swing at pitches. This will ensure a faster pace of play and avoid a run up in scoring due to walks.

- ✓ Field

- Three outfielders - outfielders must start every pitch on the grass off of the infield dirt,
 - Five infielders (including the pitcher even during coach pitch)
 - Catcher
 - Players should be rotated between infield and outfield during each game
 - No player should sit on the bench for more than one inning,
 - A team may take the field with less than eight players in the event of a shortfall of players.
- ✓ **Miscellaneous:**
- Bring a water bottle,
 - Players will need a baseball glove,
 - Players must wear a cup,
 - Players may not sit on bench for more than one inning in a row unless he is being disciplined,
 - No stealing,
 - After a week or two of practice/games, please submit a list of players to the Commissioner that you believe are capable of playing up in the National League. Those players will be placed on a call-up list and provided to the National League Commissioner,
 - **MOST IMPORTANTLY, PLEASE REMEMBER THAT WE WANT THESE KIDS TO HAVE FUN!**