

CONWAY YOUTH BASEBALL RULES

BUDDY LEAGUE

REVISED 3/5/19

1. USSSA rules will be followed unless otherwise stated. www.arkansasusssa.com
2. All bats must have USSSA stamp on the bat.
3. **We want to encourage sportsmanship in every game. Teach players the correct way to play the game and do not purposely run up the score on another team. Make sure players and coaches shake hands after each game. No negative or inappropriate behavior or language will be tolerated.**
4. **We will not tolerate foul language or abusive behavior towards the kids, umpires, scorekeepers, or any employee of the parks and recreation. First offense will result in ejection from the field area.**
5. Ejection from a game for a player or coach means that person or persons must exit to the parking lot
6. If a player is injured/sick during the game and has to leave, no out will be recorded. Once the player is out, he cannot return to the lineup.
7. No player can sit on the bench for more than 1 inning per game.
8. Coin flip will determine home and visitor.
9. If a player's age is in question, the parent or legal guardian must submit the birth certificate to the Conway Parks and Recreation Department. The player is not allowed to play until this requirement is met. If found that the player is playing in the wrong league, the player will be suspended for the remainder of the season.
10. Buddy League is for 7 and 8 year olds only.
11. All players will bat in rotation.
12. A team will be permitted to play regardless of how many players they have available. If a team has only 8 players, they will be required to take an OUT in the 9th batting position. If a team has fewer than 8 players, the game will be played. However, it will be listed as a loss for the team with less than 8 players.
13. This is a coach pitch league.
14. Players will get 5 pitches or 3 swings to put the ball in fair play. A batter cannot be called out on fouls unless it is on the 5th pitch.
15. Fair Ball Arc: there shall be a 20 foot arc drawn from 1st baseline to 3rd baseline in front of home plate. Any ball that does not reach the fair ball arc will be called foul.
16. Pitchers Line: There shall be a line drawn at 30ft and 42ft. The coach can pitch anywhere in between those lines.
17. The pitching coach shall keep one foot on or straddle the pitcher's line. The pitching coach's body cannot go past the line. Must pitch overhand.
18. Pitching coach shall position himself as not to be an obstruction to the defensive team on any possible play once the ball has been hit.
19. Only 2 coaches are allowed outside the dugout during the game. All others must be inside dugout. Coaches must stay general area of dugout when team is in the field and in coaching boxes when team is batting.
20. 10 players will play defense. 4 players must be positioned in the outfield grass. There is only (1) pitcher in Buddy League. Pitcher must have at least one foot in the dirt upon the pitch. Doesn't matter how far up or back, as long as one foot is in the dirt.
21. A Catcher must be behind the plate, inside the catcher's box, in catching position.
22. If a batted ball hits the pitching coach it is a dead ball with everyone advancing one base.
23. Once the ball reaches the pitcher on the infield grass and a pitcher has possession of the ball, it is then the judgment of the umpire to whether the pitcher is making an attempt or the play is to be called dead. Umpire reserves the right to call any play dead if no play is being attempted.
24. "Time" does not have to be called by the defense for the purpose of the rule.
25. We will be installing a line halfway between first and second, second and third, and third and home. This line will help enable the umpire to make a more consistent call while taking a lot of judgment out of the way.
26. A base runner will only be allowed one (1) base on a passed ball in force out situations.
27. One hour time limit or six innings.
28. No leading off or stealing of bases, No intentional walks or bunting, No infield fly rule.
29. Players are only allowed to warm up in the warm up area. They do not need to warm up on the sides of the dugouts or along sidewalks.
30. Shirts will be tucked in and hats must be facing forward.
31. Six runs max an inning or three outs.
32. Catchers must wear a protective cup.
33. Catcher may be pinch ran for by the player making the last out. Catcher must have caught previous inning.
34. Only the batter and the on deck batter allowed outside the dugout.
35. Run Rule – After 4 completed innings, if a team is up by 13 or more runs the game will be called.
36. Slide rule is in effect. Umpire has the discretion to call someone out for not sliding. This is a judgment call and will be final. This does not mean they have to slide. This means in an attempt to avoid a tag they can slide within reason to avoid contact.
37. Only the head coach can approach the umpire about a call in a respectful manner. The coach that does the coin toss is considered the head coach.

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38. At no point should anyone but the head coach or umpire approach the scorekeeper about the score. Parents, spectators, or other coaches do not need to be at the score stand. If there is an issue, the head coach needs to take it to the umpire.
39. If at any time there is a ruling call that is questioned, the head coach should respectfully ask the umpire to see if the UIC is available to resolve this issue.
40. No jewelry unless health related and then it must be taped down.
41. No metal cleats will be allowed.
42. No soft toss allowed into the fence.
43. No drinking allowed in the park.
44. All City of Conway parks are tobacco-free facilities.
45. No dogs allowed.
46. Games will be delayed or called when lightening is within 10 miles of the park. If multiple delays occur, games will be called. If not an official game, the remaining part of the game will be made-up.
47. Line up must be turned in 10 minutes before scheduled game time.
48. Skates, Bikes, Scooters, or any other recreational wheeled equipment are not permitted inside the Complex.
49. Parks and Recreation will provide an official scorekeeper.
50. Parks and Recreation reserves the right to change rules as needed.

Rainout line is 513-3591. For viewing of schedules, scores, and standings visit us at www.conwayparks.com