

Instructional Divisional Rules

The instructional baseball league is non-competitive. The purpose of this program is to teach participants the fundamental skills needed to play baseball and start to learn good sportsmanship. During league play there will be no keeping of score other than to determine when the run limit for the inning has been reached. The league and coaches will not track wins and losses.

1. Eligibility - to play in the instructional league is determined by the players' age as of September 1st of the year. A player is eligible to play at grade level as long as they are not playing with younger children.

2. The Field of Play – Base distance shall be 50 foot base paths. The pitchers circle/mound shall be at 40 feet measured from home plate. All balls hit in fair territory are fair balls, and the catcher shall be instructed in practices and games to field the ball make a play (tag the runner or throw to first base).

3. Defensive Players – There shall be 10 defensive players in the field at a time. During league play, all players are to play a minimum of 3 defensive innings. The player playing the “pitcher” position must be positioned within 5 feet of the pitchers circle before the ball is put into play. This player is not to interfere with the coach pitching. There is to be 4 outfielders (Right, Right Center, Left Center and Left field). Outfielders must stay behind the infield baseline and are not to interfere with infield play. A catcher must have a mask and chest protector on when behind home plate. At no time is a coach to place more than 10 players in the field at a time. A player may not play more than two innings at one position.

4. Offensive Players – All players shall be eligible to bat. A late arrival is put at the end of the batting order. A player may advance one base unless the ball leaves the infield and must stop at the nearest base when the ball enters the infield.

5. Change of Inning – An inning shall end after 3 outs or 7 runs are scored.

6. Game Length – A complete game shall consist of 6 innings or 1&1/2 hour.

7. Batting – The first four weeks of the season all players will be pitched 5 pitches. If after 5 pitches the batter has not hit the ball, the player will hit from the batting T.

Beginning the fifth week of the season (Monday May 31 and thereafter), all players will be pitched 7 pitches. If after 7 pitches the batter has not hit the ball, the batter is out. A coach from the batting team shall pitch to their player, providing instruction during the player’s “at bat” This coach shall cry “Batter Up!” prior to allowing the batter to strike the ball and this is also to ensure the defense is ready. Player keeps hitting on 7th pitch foul ball.

8. Time Out – Time shall be called when an infield defensive player is attempting to throw the ball to the (player) pitcher. The play is to stop and the next batter is to be brought to the plate.

Other Rules:

- Home team supplies game balls.
- There is no leading off or stealing.
- There is no infield fly rule.
- There is to be 1st and 3rd base coaches only while their team is batting.
- The defensive team may have a maximum of 2 coaches in the outfield. These coaches are not to interfere with the progress of the ball.



“I didn’t really say everything I said.”

Yogi Berra