

# ***Spring 2021 Rules – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Modified Kid Pitch***

## **1. FIELD DIMENSIONS**

- a. Bases – 60 feet
- b. Pitching plate – 35 feet

## **2. INNING LIMIT – 7 innings**

## **3. TIME LIMIT – 80 minutes**

## **4. BALL SIZE – 11-inch hard ball**

## **5. EXTRA INNINGS – in post season tournaments only**

## **6. INNING RUN RULE – 5 runs max**

## **7. GAME ENDING RUN RULE – N/A**

## **8. BUNTING – not allowed**

## **9. STEALING – not allowed**

## **10. DROPPED 3<sup>rd</sup> strike – batter is out**

## **11. INFIELD FLY RULE – not in effect**

## **12. PITCHING** - The kid-pitcher will pitch to the batter until 4 balls (or 3 strikes) are called by the umpire. If the batter receives a count of 4 balls, an offensive coach will pitch the remaining pitch count to that batter.

1. If the pitch count is 4-0, the coach will pitch up to three (3) pitches.
2. If the pitch count is 4-1, the coach will pitch up to two (2) pitches.
3. If the pitch count is 4-2, the coach will pitch only one (1) pitch.
4. If the last pitch results in a foul ball, the batter will continue to bat (there is no limit on the number of foul balls).
5. The kid-pitcher can start with one or both feet on the rubber.
6. The Coach Pitcher must start with at least one foot on the pitching rubber.
7. If the ball is hit during Coach Pitching, the coach-pitcher must make his/her way off the field as quickly as possible and/or in a direction that will not affect the play. If the coach obstructs the play of the defense or in any way interferes with the defensive play, the batted ball will be declared a “NO PITCH”. The batter will then resume with the same count as before the original pitch and all base runners will return to their point of origin.
8. The coach-pitcher may not instruct or direct any opposing players in any way while on the playing field. An offending coach-pitcher will be given one warning, and then removed after repeated infractions.

- A. Pitching Limits** - No player shall pitch more than 3 innings per game. A pitcher may not pitch more than two innings out of the first four innings of the game and cannot pitch 3 consecutive innings. Delivery of one legal pitch shall constitute having pitched one full inning.

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- B. Pitcher Warmups** - Pitchers are allowed one minute or a maximum of 3 warm up pitches. This includes pitching changes in the middle of an inning.
- C. Max number of batters hit** by pitch before pitcher must be removed is 3

## **13. STOPPING OF PLAY**

The following two (2) scenarios STOP the play by the defense:

1. The pitcher has control of the ball with both feet inside the pitching circle.
2. Ball is controlled by an Infield defensive player in front of the lead base runner. Lead runner must be stopped to have time called.

\*A runner in motion when the play is stopped can continue to the next base at her own risk, meaning the Pitcher can still attempt a defensive play if the runner is in motion. If no attempt is made to get her out, she cannot advance past the next base. If an attempt is made to get the advancing runner, the play is live again and the stoppage of play rule resets.

**14. ADVANCE ON AN OVERTHROW** On an overthrow to a base, a runner may advance to the next base at her own risk. If the defensive team attempts to throw out the runner advancing to the next base after an overthrow occurs and another overthrow occurs, the runner may advance to the subsequent base at her own risk. Under no circumstances can a runner advance more than one base on one overthrow. If the defense does not attempt to throw out the runner advancing on an overthrow, the play is stopped. An overthrow to the pitcher is treated the same as an overthrow to a base IF it is the first overthrow on a given play. Otherwise, an overthrow to the pitcher is a dead ball, not an attempt on the play.

**15. PINCH RUNNERS** – Not allowed, except for injury or catcher. See Softball General Rules 6.6

**16. BACK UP CATCHER** - A coach from the defensive team can act as a backup catcher in order to speed up the game. The adult backup catcher may not coach or instruct any player for any reason. The adult backup catcher is prohibited from discussing plays or calls with the umpires. The umpire has the discretion to send the parent to the bleachers at any time.

**17. BUNTING** - Bunting and Fake Bunting is not allowed. Slapping is allowed.