



## **Division Rules – 2023**

(as of 4/11/2023)

### **Instructional A Baseball**

1. All Instructional A games will consist of 5 innings or 1 1/2 hours of play, whichever comes first. If coaches feel a 6th inning of play can be completed within the 1 1/2 hour time frame, they may do so at their discretion.
2. All players at a game will bat each inning, regardless of the number of outs that are recorded.
3. In an effort to teach the game to players and to celebrate outs recorded in the field, if an out is made in the field, the runner will leave the base paths.
4. Coaches will pitch from a reasonable distance for each player. It's recommended that coaches pitch from one knee at a distance of approx. 35 feet for most players and standing from 35 feet for the most advanced players.
5. Each player will get a maximum of 8 pitches to hit at the beginning of the season and will hit off the tee after 8. By May 1st, each player will get 5 pitches, after which he/she will hit off a tee.
6. No extra bases can be taken on a hit or overthrow except for the last batter of the inning who may choose to take extra bases at his/her risk of being out.
7. Players are required to wear a helmet with a jaw guard when batting.
8. Score is not kept at the Instructional A Baseball level.
9. Season goals: Each player should be able to catch a ball, and each player should be able to make consistent contact when hitting.

## **Instructional AA Baseball (Second Year Instructional)**

1. All Instructional AA games will consist of 5 innings or 1.5 hours of play, whichever comes first. If coaches feel a 6th inning of play can be completed within the 1.5 hour time frame, they may do so at their discretion.
2. An inning will be concluded when either 3 outs are made or a team has batted through its batting order, whichever comes first. Batting order consists of all players at the games.
3. Each player will get 8 pitches max in the beginning of the season and will be out if he/she does not put the ball in play on the 8th pitch. This number will be lowered to 5 pitches by May 1st.
4. Games are either machine pitch **OR** coach-pitch from approximately 45 feet until May 1st.
5. One extra base may be taken on a hit to the OF or overthrow of a base. If a team is batting through the order, the last batter and all base runners may attempt extra bases at his/her risk.
6. Each child should attempt to play catcher at least one time in the season.
7. By early May, the 3rd inning of every game should be player-pitched. Pitchers should start at 35 feet, with a goal of throwing from 40 feet by the end of the season. Strikes and balls will be called at this point in time.
8. By the end of May, the 3rd and 4th inning of every game should be player-pitched.
9. A pitcher cannot face more than 4 batters per inning or throw more than 30 pitches, whichever comes first.
10. During player-pitched innings, there are 3 outs per inning with a maximum of 5 runs.
11. Players are required to wear a helmet with a jaw guard when batting.
12. Season goals: Each player should attempt to pitch at least once during the season. Half of the players per team be able to throw strikes consistently.
13. Score is not kept at the Instructional AA Baseball Level.

