

Playing Rule

Baseball 8u



Machine Pitch

- A. Games will last 90 min. or six innings, whichever occurs first. No new inning will start with 5min or less left on the clock. (See OCAC Rule book Part II, Rule I, Sec 14h)
- B. Inning limits: Max 5 runs per inning or 3 outs whichever occurs first.
- C. A minimum of 8 players is required to start/continue a game.
- D. Teams will bat roster.
There will be a maximum of 5 pitches per batter. If the 5th pitch is fouled, the batter will continue to receive pitches and remain at bat as long as he/she continues to foul off pitches, reaches base or strikes out. If a batter “takes” the last pitch, they will be called out. After 3 strikes a batter is out regardless of pitch count.
Example: The batter receives his/her 5th pitch and fouls it off, he/she then receives the 6th pitch and fouls it off, the batter will receive a 7th pitch. If they do not swing at the 7th pitch, they will be considered out.
- E. No Bunting. **PENALTY:** Batter is out and ball is dead.
- F. Base runners may not leave the base until the ball is hit.
- G. Infield fly rule does not apply.
- H. Runners may advance at their own risk a maximum a one base on an overthrow regardless of the subsequent play.
EXAMPLE: Batter runner is trying to stretch a single into a double. The defense overthrows second base and the runner attempts to advance to third base. The defense overthrows third base. The runner may not advance and must stay at third base.
- I. Dead Ball.
 - 1. When batted ball touches pitching machine or generator.
EFFECT: Batter awarded 1st base all others advance if forced
 - 2. When the ball returned to pitcher (player) or reaches the vicinity of the pitcher. Runners will return the last base they had possession of.
- J. If the ball touches the coach, umpire or parent when it is hit it will be considered a live ball.
- K. Defensive positions.
 - 1. Free substitution on defense, batting order must remain the same
 - 2. 10 players max on field at any time. Teams are allowed 1 Pitcher, 1 Catcher and four infielders, all others must play outfield positions.
 - a. Pitcher must be in positioned to the first base side of the machine and is required to wear a facemask equipped helmet. (**Exception: Manager may place the pitcher 6ft behind and to the first base side of the coach feeding the machine without using a mask).**
- L. Coaching positions.
 - 1. Offense (4)
 - a. 1st base
 - b. 3rd base
 - c. Pitcher
 - d. Behind the plate to help catch balls and position the batter.
 - 2. Defense (1)
 - a. Coaches must be positioned in the outfield.
- M. Umpires will provide game balls. A machine-approved ball will be used.
 - 1. Pitching machine may be adjusted at the discretion of the umpire.
Pitching speed is to be set at “34” with the machine @ 35’
(Note: the speed setting is only a suggested starting point)
- N. The OCAC rulebook will govern any rules not covered here.
- O. See the OCAC COVID-19 guidelines for any temporary rule changes.