

2019 SFYBL Shetland Coach Pitch Division

Rules Highlights

Shetland Coach Pitch focuses on instruction of our beginner players while teaching basic fundamentals of baseball.

Eligibility:

5U DOB 9/1/2013 to 8/31/2014

6U DOB 9/1/2012 to 8/31/2013

7U DOB 9/1/2011 to 8/31/2012

Roster Size: Minimum 10 players
 Maximum 16 players

Forfeits: non appearance and/or not enough players

- 1st infraction: \$100

Playing field:

- If the field is not already set up, the home team is responsible for providing regulation bases
- Choice of dugouts is first come, first serve
- **38 ft** pitching distance, **50 ft** base paths

Game Length:

- 90 minutes
- A new inning cannot begin after 75 minutes of playing time

Mandatory Player Participation:

- Each player should play at least half a game
- No player may play the same position for more than 3 innings. All outfield positions count as one position.

Batting:

- Batting order is continuous and consists of all players in attendance.
- All hitters are required to wear a helmet. Every player up to bat, on deck, on base and any player being "pitcher"
- Each player will have a minimum of 2 turns at bat, but the game should not exceed 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- Each batter will receive a maximum of 10 pitches to put the ball into play. If a ball is not put into play, batter will use a "T" for up to 3 swings. If the batter is not able to put the ball into play, it is considered a "strike-out" and batter return to dugout.
- Once a team has batted through its line up once, the team batting will switch with the team in the field.
- Teams should bat the same number of batters. If a team has 11 batter and another has 16, the team with 11 can have 5 more batters go on their turn at bat.

Base Running:

- No leading off base or stealing. One foot must be on the bag until the ball is hit.
- Runners may advance only on a batted ball.
- Play stops when ball is returned to pitcher
- No dropped 3rd strike
- No head first sliding (automatic out)
- No player contact on the base paths (automatic out)

Fielding:

- Up to 12 defensive players may take the field at any one time.
- Set players at the normal infield positions with two “pitchers” on either side of the mound. The remaining players should be in the outfield, at least 12 feet out from the infield players. A catcher at this division is optional.
- After a ball is hit, the defensive player(s) must get the ball to the first baseman or one of the pitchers.
- Defensive coaches are allowed at first and third baseline/box.
- Additionally, two adult coaches may be stationed on the playing field, beyond the baselines, to provide verbal instructions to the defensive team.

General Playing Rules:

- Games are played with league provided game balls. Each team should provide new two balls at each game. To keep game going, we recommend Coach Pitching to have more balls in a bucket.
- Any Adult standing behind batter must wear protective mask and chest plate.
- A player catcher can be used provided the catcher is wearing protective gear and stands away from the plate while the batter is in the box.
- No posted standing or scores are kept. There is no official scorebook. Everyone wins.
- All games must start within 5 minutes of scheduled start time.
- Coaches are required to wear their coaches card/lanyard during every game and practice, plus proper athletic wear (this includes shoes).
- Coaches are allowed: in the dugout (this gives you an opportunity keep players engaged, keeping your lineup moving, teaching them how to keep score, etc.
- Defensive coaches are allowed at first and third baseline/box.
- Any player or Coach intentionally throwing equipment in anger, or using foul language will be subject to ejection from the game and potentially from SFYBL.
- No Parents or fans are allowed on the field of play at any time.
- At game time, rain delays or mid-game cancellations are made by both teams' Coaches discretion/agreement and will NOT be made up during the season. You must notify your division commissioner via email if this occurs.

Protective Gear:

- Helmets are required
- Athletic supportive cups are required for all players
- Any player in the position of catcher is required to wear protective catcher's gear.
- The following equipment is recommended:
 - protective product to protect heart
 - face mask to protect face (these can be attached to helmets)
 - mouth guards
 - sports goggles (to protect eyes from dirt/grass and artificial turf debris)