

Mooreville JR Baseball & Softball League

Instructional Rules

2021 Revision

1. Games will consist of 4 complete innings or a 75-minute time limit, whichever comes first.
2. Complete innings consist of both teams batting half their lineup one inning and the other half the next inning. Same for innings 3 and 4.
3. Half the roster players will bat each inning.
4. All roster players present will play in a defensive position each inning. Players are to play in normal positions: catcher, pitcher's helper, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, shortstop, left field, left center, right center and right field. Extra players are to be in the outfield grass.
5. The offensive team will bat players in position 1 through X the first inning and reverse the batting order to X the next inning they bat.
6. All batters will attempt to hit 3 pitches from the coach. (baseball will be pitched in overhand motion, softball underhand) The ball will be placed on the T on home plate if pitched balls were missed. The batter has unlimited attempts to put the ball in play.
7. No player may field the same position twice in one game.
8. The defensive pitcher's helper must wear protective headgear. He/she must start play with both feet inside of the pitcher's circle. The center of the circle is the pitching rubber and the circle measures 32 feet in diameter. The defensive pitcher's helper must remain in the circle until the ball is hit.
9. Each team must provide a catcher with a batting helmet and must stand back from the tee. A catcher's mitt is not required.
10. Players will advance one base at a time.
11. Offensive coaches shall be limited to pitcher, first base coach and third base coach. Defensive coaches shall be limited to and positioned behind home plate, behind shortstop in the outfield and between first and second bases in the outfield.
12. The home team shall put down and line the diamond. The visiting team shall pick up the bases. Each team shall be responsible for raking the diamond after each game.
Each team will be responsible for removing all trash and equipment from their dugout after each game.
13. As no umpire will be provided for Instructional games until the final two games of the year, the coaches are responsible for making calls and following rules properly.

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14. All players will receive a participation trophy at the end of the season.

15. An "Incrediball" or "soft" hardball will be used for league play.

16. There will be no official score kept, therefore, there will only be winners.

17. ALL DECISIONS BY COACHES REGARDING GAMES AND PRACTICES SHOULD BE MADE BASED ON THIS DIVISION BEING AN AGE GROUP THAT IS TO LEARN ABOUT BASEBALL RATHER THAN ABOUT WINNING AND LOSING.

18. New rules for double-bases on first base:

- a) A batted ball that hits the white section of the double base shall be declared fair. A batted ball that hits the colored (orange or green) section shall be declared foul.
- b) Whenever a play is being made on the batter-runner, the defense must use the white section of the double first base. A play is being made on the batter-runner when he or she is attempting to reach first base while the defense is attempting to retire him/her.
- c) **The batter-runner must use the colored (orange or green) section on his/her first attempt to tag first base.** Exception: On extra-base hits or other balls hit to the outfield when there is no chance for a play to be made at the double first base, the runner may touch either the white or colored (orange or green) section of the base. Should, however, the batter-runner reach and go beyond first base, he/she can only return to the white section of the base.
- d) Use of the double first base does not change any other rule concerning Interference or Obstruction at first base. (An errant throw into the three-foot running lane could still result in an obstruction call. Also, the batter-runner must still avoid interference with the fielder attempting to field a batted ball.)

19. All baseball bats used in League/Division play must have the **USA or USSSA** stamp on it. Softball bats will say Official Softball.