



## GBS Coach Pitch (7U & 8U) Tournament Rules

All teams must check in at Tournament Office before their first game and must have insurance and rosters on file before starting play.

1. All teams must check in with tournament director & provide a team roster and copy of insurance before first pool game. Team roster must consist of player's first and last name as well as jersey number.
2. Home team will be determined by coin flip in pool play. In bracket play, home team is higher seed. Dugouts are first come, first serve. Home team will be the official scorekeeper. Visiting team works the scoreboard.
3. A team must start with a minimum of 8 players but can finish with less, taking outs in the vacant batting order positions up to the 9th batting position.
4. Pool Play and Bracket Play game time limits will be 1 hour and 15 minutes with maximum 6 innings in length. Run rules will be in effect.
5. Run rules:
  - 15 after 3rd inning
  - 10 after 4th inning
  - 6 after 5th inning
6. Offensive team may score a maximum of 5 runs per half inning.
7. Games in Pool Play can end in a tie.
8. Championship Games cannot end in a tie and there is no "California Tie-Breaker"
9. Each team MUST bat their entire roster.

10. If a player leaves during the game due to injury or illness, no out shall be recorded (just skip his turn in the batting order) unless at such time the total number of players is less than 9, then an out shall be recorded when the missing players turn at bat occurs.
11. Ten (10) players maximum on the field defensively. The 4 outfielders must remain in the outfield and cannot play in the infield. Rovers or “stacking players” is not allowed.
12. The player pitcher must keep one foot near the pitching circle until the ball is hit & be behind the pitching rubber when the Coach Pitcher pitches the ball.  
PENALTY: First offense warning by umpire; additional offenses batter awarded an additional pitch or first base in the event the batter hits a fair ball.
13. Batter shall receive 6 pitches or three strikes. A foul ball (not caught) on the sixth pitch shall not be counted as a swing. The batter will continue to bat on a sixth pitch foul ball until such time that ball is put into play or the batter swings and misses. The batter will be declared to be out on a foul tip that is caught by the catcher for “strike three.”
14. There will be no: Base on Balls, Base awards for Hit by Pitch, Infield Fly Rule, Base Stealing or Bunting (Players must take a full swing.)
15. A batted ball that strikes the coach pitcher shall be considered a “Dead Ball, Foul Ball” If a coach pitcher intentionally interferes with a batted ball, the ball is dead and the batter shall be declared out. In either case, no runners shall advance.
16. A courtesy runner will be allowed for the catcher. The player eligible as the courtesy runner shall be the last batted out. You may run for the catcher anytime.
17. Coach must pitch from a standing position and must remain on the pitching mound with one foot on the pitching rubber. Once a player hits the baseball, the coach pitcher **MUST LEAVE THE PLAYING FIELD** until play has stopped and time is out. PENALTY: First offense = warning by umpire; Second offense = coach pitcher must be replaced.
18. A coach pitcher is not allowed to instruct the batter or runners in any manner.

19. Stoppage of Play – the umpire shall declare “TIME” when the following conditions — in his/her mind — have been satisfied: the ball is returned to the infield; the ball is in control of an infielder; the lead runner has stopped running, hesitated, or broken stride. **RUNNERS ARE NOT TO BAIT FIELDERS INTO RUNNING AT THEM OR THROWING BEHIND THEM.**
20. The runner shall not leave the base until the ball is batted and considered in play. Any runner that leaves the base early shall be declared out.
21. No defensive coaches will be permitted on the field at any time; they must remain in the dugout area.
22. No pre-game warm up is allowed on the Infield. Teams may warm-up before game time in the outfield or in designated warm-up areas.

## **SPECIAL NOTES**

1. Coaches shall confine, with the exception of a third base, first base and one other coach, themselves to the dugout. The coach not occupying the first or third base coach’s box shall remain in the area immediately outside the dugout. Roaming up and down the foul lines is not allowed.
2. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their coaching staff and the parents and relatives of their players. Unsportsmanlike conduct, in the umpire’s judgment, shall be warned against one time. Should it continue, the umpire in charge, is given authority to resolve the problem if he deems the situation unsportsmanlike.
3. All teams must be prepared to play 15 minutes before their **GAME START TIME**. The umpires will be instructed to start games early if the field is clear and ready for play.
4. Major League Baseball and USSSA rules will apply, unless otherwise noted above.
5. No defensive timeouts will be called.
6. A player who slides head first into home during a play at the plate shall be determined out.