



7-8 year old
Machine Pitch Baseball Rules

TIME LIMIT:

- 70 minutes
- There will be a ten-minute grace period allowed for the first game only.
- No NEW inning will start **once time limit has expired. An inning is official after the 3rd out in the bottom of the inning is recorded.**
- After 6 innings if there is no winner the game will be declared a tie. NO EXTRA INNINGS.

RUN RULES:

Innings: 5 runs per inning

Game: Mathematically eliminated

INNINGS: Game shall consist of Six (6) innings.

GOVERNING RULES

1. G.R.P.A. games in boys baseball at all levels of play are governed by the current rules and regulations of the Georgia High School Association Constitution and By - Laws with the exceptions as may be found in this set of local rules.
2. The National Federation (National Alliance) Edition of Baseball Rules Book is the official guide for G.R.P.A. and G.H.S.A. games with the exceptions as may be found in this set of local rules.
3. In the 7-8 year old Division all children will participate in every game **provided the child attends practice, conforms to team rules and presents no disciplinary problems. Disciplinary problems may sit out a complete game. The coach must list all appropriate information on his/her official batting order.** The Recreation Department must be notified of habitual disciplinary problems.

LENGTH OF GAMES

1. Game is official if four (4) innings have been played or three and a half (3 ½) if home team is ahead.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

1. A team must have seven (7) players to start or continue a game with the 8, and 9 spots counted as an out.
2. Any player arriving late may be added to the BOTTOM of the line-up. When a player is removed from the line-up for an injury (official must verify), it WILL NOT be an out when their turn comes up in the batting order. Any player removed from line-up will not be allowed to reenter the game.
3. **There will be NO INTENTIONAL walks.**
4. Speed up rule- at ANY time a team may use a courtesy runner for the catcher. The player used must be the one who made the last out. **THIS IS MANDATORY WITH TWO OUTS!!!**
5. Free defensive substitution is permitted. On defense no player can sit for more than 1 inning in a row. All players on the bench MUST go into the game. **In this league you will list and bat your entire roster.**
6. Four (4) outfielders will be allowed in the 7-8 year old League.
7. Pitching machine will do all pitching. Speed will be set at approx. 38 mph
8. No base on balls allowed. Count remains 3 and 2 until ball is hit or strike out occurs.
9. **If ball hits machine or the extension cord it will be ruled a dead ball and the batter will be awarded a single. Base runners will only advance if forced up.** A thrown ball that hits the machine will be ruled as a dead ball as if the ball went into dead ball territory.
10. Player in pitchers position must be within 6 feet of the pitchers plate and no closer than 46 feet of home plate.
11. **Bunting WILL NOT be allowed.**
12. **No “fake” bunting. If a batter shows bunt then swings an out will be called.**
13. **Base Stealing will NOT be allowed in the 7-8 year old league.**
14. Players must wear assigned uniform to play.
15. No new players will be added to a team with-in two (2) weeks of the post-season play-offs. Under extreme circumstances recreation department will make final ruling.
16. **Any team that falls to 10 or less players will be required to add a player from waiting list provided there is a waiting list and it is not within two weeks of the end of the season.** The recreation department will make the final ruling in all cases.
17. All games will be played as scheduled. There will be no changes or cancellations. Games not played will be considered a forfeit. Only rainouts will not be considered as forfeits. In case of excessive rainouts the Recreation Department will try to make-up as many games as time permits. This rule should not be a problem since all teams make the post-season play-offs.
18. **No infield before any games. No soft toss against fence.**
19. **No coaches will be allowed out of the dugout when their team is on defense.**

CHARGED CONFERENCES

1. Each team, when on offense may be granted not more than one (1) charged conference per inning to permit the coach or any of that teams members to confer with base runners and / or the batter. The umpire shall deny any subsequent offensive teams request for charged conferences.
2. Each team, when on defense will be granted 3 charged conferences per game. Time granted for injury will not count as charged conference.

EQUIPMENT

1. Shoes are mandatory for play in youth baseball games. Rubber-molded, cleated shoes are approved for use. Steel spikes are illegal.
2. All catchers must wear full protective equipment **including protective cup. Catcher will NOT be allowed to play without protective cup! You must have a catcher to start or continue a game.**
3. All players will be required to wear a protective batting helmet with a recreation department approved face shield/guard. This rule applies to the player while batting, running, coaching bases or while on deck. This is mandatory and not optional!!!
4. All bats must not exceed thirty-three (33") inches in length and two and one-quarter inches (2 ¼") in diameter.

CONDUCT

1. Any player, coach, manager, team scorekeeper or batboy disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct including abusive language is ineligible for further participation in the game in progress and may be dismissed from further competition by the Dalton Parks & Recreation Department.
2. Per G.H.S.A. and G.R.P.A. rules, any player or coach ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike behavior will be ineligible for their team's next game. Under special circumstances the rule may be waived by the Dalton Parks & Recreation Department.
3. **Any questions or problems with umpires or league officials will be handled in a calm and sportsmanlike manner.**
4. No use of tobacco in any form is permitted in the dugouts or on the playing field before, during or immediately after the game.

Any coach that forfeits a game during play, does not shake hands, or pulls their team off the field in protest of ANYTHING will be expelled from the league and may be banned from coaching in any aspect in all other recreation activities