



## *COWAN BASEBALL/SOFTBALL LEAGUE*

### 9U RULES

1. Each team will consist of 7 through 9 year olds .Players may not turn 10 prior to April 30th. No replacement player will be allowed without the approval of the League Board. Ineligible players will result in game forfeit.
2. Bases are to be 60 ft., pitchers mound at forty-six (46) feet.
3. Each team will be assigned an equal number of players, as near as possible.
4. Each team has a Head Coach. The Head Coach may choose one assistant coach prior to team selection. After team selection, the Head Coach may have an unlimited number of assistant coaches after team selection.
5. Each team will field 10 players and bat all players. The six infielders will play the standard infield positions. Infielder playing the pitcher position is to play even with or behind the pitching machine. Four (4) players are to be in the outfield.
6. All batters must wear a batting helmet while batting and while running the bases. Any batter or runner who intentionally shakes or knock off their helmet will be called out. Helmets will be provided by the league.
7. A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher when there are two (2) outs. The runner/catcher must have caught the previous inning. The courtesy runner will be the player that made the second out of that inning. No courtesy runner will be used in the last inning.
8. Infield fly rule does not apply.
9. No lead offs. Steals are not allowed until the ball crosses the plate.  
NO STEALING HOME. The player leaving early will be called out. Runners may tag up and run on a caught fly ball.
10. Defensive player must stop the lead runner to stop play. Fielding the ball and holding it up in the air to show the umpire you have the ball will not stop play. Example: If you have a runner on first when the next batter is up, you must stop the player in the lead (the one leaving first) to stop the play. You can make a play at first for a force out, but the runner leaving first may continue to run until you have stopped him by either tagging him out or by holding him on base.
11. The catcher must take a catcher's crouch position behind the plate. Catchers must wear a mask, chest protector, and leg guards, all provided by the League. A regulation cup must be worn. A regulation cup is highly recommended for all players.
12. Game will consist of 3 innings of child pitch and 2 innings of pitching machine.
13. Batter gets strike allotment then coach is allowed to use the pitching machine for remainder of count. 2 practices pitches to sight in machine each time it's used (1 to sight in and 1 practice) No walks and no strikeout on foul ball.
14. Outfielder must stay in the outfield during the inning. They may not enter the dirt area of the infield once an inning has started. Outfielders must be positioned in the grass area during the pitch, but may advance to the dirt area to make a defensive play.
15. Any player on the team roster may pitch.
16. A 9 & Under league pitcher may pitch a maximum of 1 innings (3 outs) per game.
17. Drop third (3<sup>rd</sup>) strike is NOT in effect. No Balks.
18. When a pitcher gains possession of the ball and is on the rubber, all runners must return to their base immediately after the lead runner is stopped. (Coaches are not considered pitchers and are not to be catching the ball) Any runner failing to do so in this situation will be declared out.
19. 3 outs constitutes an inning.
20. Pitching a player too many innings in a game will result in an automatic forfeit.
21. Starting Pitcher – on third (3<sup>rd</sup>) mound conference is removed, any other pitcher on second (2<sup>nd</sup>) mound conference is removed.
22. Any rule not covered here will come from the Rules of Baseball.