

**Sports America L.L.C.**  
**Machine Pitch Rules**  
**Revised April 28, 2016**

1. No Intentional Walks.
2. Maximum of seven (7) runs per inning.
3. A fifteen-run spread after three innings or a ten-run spread after four innings constitutes an official game. All games are 6-inning games. No new inning will start after 1 hour and 15 minutes.
4. Ten (10) defensive players shall play in the field with four (4) outfielders. The fourth (4th) outfielder shall not assume an infield position. All outfielders shall stay behind the baselines.
5. Pitching Machine: The front leg(s) shall be set at a distance of forty-two (42) feet from the rear point of home plate. Recommended pitching machine speeds:
  - 36 M.P.H. – 39 M.P.H. out of the machine for the 7U age division.
  - 39 M.P.H. – 42 M.P.H. out of the machine for the 8U age division.
6. Defensive coaches shall not be allowed on the field of play and shall coach from the dugout.
7. The Infield Fly Rule shall not be in effect at any time.
8. The batting order shall constitute all present players on the team roster at the beginning of the game. Late arrivals shall be inserted at the bottom of the batting order. All players on the roster shall bat before returning to the top of the batting order. Teams may start a game with eight (8) players. The ninth (9th) & tenth (10th) positions in the batting order will be declared an out each turn at bat.
9. A ninth (9th) & tenth (10th) player and all subsequent players may be added to the bottom of the batting line-up as soon as they become available.
10. Runners shall not lead-off or steal bases. A runner is out for leaving the base before the ball is hit or reaches home plate.
11. Ball is considered DEAD and time is called when the umpire determines the ball is controlled by an infielder.
12. An out will be recorded if a player is unable to bat. This includes injury. The batter may return to bat at any time. He must only bat in the proper place of the original batting order.
13. Free substitution. Substitutions can only be made between innings except for an injured player. Batting order cannot change.
14. NO bunting. No Fake bunting. Player will be out if he squares to bunt.
15. Coaches will be required to pitch (machine) to their own team.
16. If a batted ball hits the machine it is a dead ball and the batter is awarded 1<sup>st</sup> with all others on base advancing one base.
17. Each batter will receive 5 pitches or 3 swinging strikes. The batter is still up to bat regardless of how many times they foul off the ball on the fifth pitch.
18. A courtesy runner for catcher of record only the previous inning may be used. The courtesy runner shall be the player that made the previous out. If no outs have been recorded in the game, the courtesy runner shall be the previous batter not on base. If the team batting has not played defense yet and a courtesy runner is used for a player, the player that was run for must assume the catching position the next inning. This scenario only applies in the first inning for the visiting team.

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**The following general information shall be adhered to during this tournament.**

1. No batting practice is permitted at the complex. No soft toss is permitted outside the field and balls must not be hit into the fences. All warm-ups must be confined to on field space only. Do not swing bats or throw balls in the common areas.
2. No baiting of umpires, profanity, or abusive language will be tolerated.
3. The Tournament Rules Committee will settle all protests at the time of occurrence. All protest must accompany \$100 cash Protest Fee.
4. Any person/player ejected must leave the park immediately and may be prevented from coaching, participating or watch the next game that team plays. Depending on the violation the person/player ejected may not be able to return to the tournament.
5. **Trophies will be awarded to the first-place team and the second-place teams and their players immediately following the game. Following the game empty the dugout and come to the award ceremony prior to your team meeting.**
6. Game balls will be provided. Two (2) per game. The teams are responsible for chasing down foul balls and getting them back in the field of play.
7. Each team will be responsible for providing a scorekeeper. The home team's scorebook shall be the official book.
8. Refreshments are available at the concession stands for all games played at the complex. No bottled or canned beverages are permitted into the complex. No alcoholic beverages of any kind are permitted on the premises including parking lot.

Method for determining pool winners in the event of a tie.

1. In the event two teams are tied for a pool winner position with a 3-1 or 2-1 record; the team, which won the head-to-head game, will be the division winner.
2. In the event three teams are tied for a division winner with a 3-1, 2-1 or 1-1 record, the team which allowed the fewest runs against the other teams it is tied with shall be the division winner. If the tie has still not been resolved, run differential shall be used.

All rules are subject to Sanctioning Body and may change at any time with the final say at the discretion of the Tournament Rules Committee.