

8-Year-Old League

LTRC 8 YO League – This League is an introduction to competitive baseball. Outs and runs will be counted and each game will have a winner and a loser. Coaches will focus on teaching all the fundamentals of baseball, the rules of baseball and the team concepts of both winning and losing. Players will pitch and play catcher, play in real positions and balls and strikes will be called and counted by the batting teams coach. Teams will only get 3 outs per inning or 5 runs max before taking the field again.

Schedule – Tuesday games with an occasional Saturday game and practices on Saturday afternoons.

Team Maximums- 65 players for 5 teams (13 per team)

Format – 5 Innings/2 hours/field time limits/darkness with 3 innings being a complete game or 2.5 if home team is winning. There are 3 outs per team per inning (or 5 runs max, all innings). Playoffs to be determined.

Pitching – Players Pitch. Coaches call balls and strikes. After three strikes the batter is out. Hit batter does take first. If a player walks three batters in an inning, in the same inning, he/she will be removed from pitching in that inning and the batting teams coach takes over as the pitcher for the remainder of the inning. A pitcher hitting two batters in an inning is removed and cannot return in that game as a pitcher, and the batting teams coach takes over as the pitcher for the remainder of the inning. At the point that there are no more pitchers or the game is desired to be moved along more quickly the hitting team coach then pitches. Strikes are still called whenever a coach is pitching but balls do not count. Maximum of 40 pitches or 3 innings whichever comes first.

Catching – There will be a catcher. He must wear a cup. It is recommended that the coach inform the 2-3 players that might be catching before the game so it is ensured they wear a cup.

Fielders – There will be 10 total fielders playing the following positions: P, C, 1B, 2B, SS, 3B, RF, RCF, LCF, LF. Players should rotate between outfield and infield positions. Coaches should have the fielding lineup made before each inning so quick direction can be given. There is no infield fly rule. Outfielders must start each pitch on the outfield grass.

Batting – The lineup is made and each player bats in that order throughout game. There is no bunting. If a player throws a bat the coach or opposing coach warns both teams. The next thrown bat results in an out.

Base Running – No leading, stealing or advancing on a wild pitch. Players should be taught to avoid collisions. Runners can advance base(s) until a fielder has thrown the ball to a base or the pitcher. The runners cannot advance on an errant throw or if an outfielder is just holding the ball. A runner should only score from 2nd on a batted ball that reaches the outfield. This is real baseball and a player needs to control the ball, make a decision and throw the ball to stop the runners.

Be kind to each other as the only winner of this league are the players themselves!!!!