Pony “Coach Pitch” Division GUIDELINES

There are no official league rules for the Pony “Coach Pitch” Division. This document will serve as guidelines for the Pony Coach Pitch level of play. The coaches can review these guidelines prior to the game and can modify, on a limited basis, upon mutual consent.

The Pony Coach Pitch level is structured as a clinical league, and its primary objective is to further educate children in the basics of baseball and to prepare them for the next level of competition.

1. There are no standings or playoffs. Scores are not sent to MSA to track records. Umpires are not used in Pony Coach Pitch Level.
2. Coach from offensive team will pitch. The offensive team will also have a Coach behind home plate to retrieve the ball and throw it back to the coach who is pitching. The Pitching Coach may also keep a bucket of balls by the pitcher’s mound to speed up the game. ***Under no circumstances will a child ever pitch at this level, even “if agreed to by both teams”.***
3. A Pony player will play the position of pitcher and will be positioned next to the pitching coach.
4. All players will be in the lineup to hit. Coaches are encouraged to move players around to various positions during the game. Coaches may put their entire roster on the field so that there are no players sitting on the bench.
5. The batter will be allowed 5 swinging strikes and balls will not be counted. If the batter is not swinging at strikes, he will be warned and the next pitch in the strike zone and not swung at, will be counted as a strike. After 5 strikes, the batter’s next swing will be off a tee.
6. NO Bunting.
7. The team at bat will be allowed 3 outs (strikeouts will not count). After 3 outs, the bases will be cleared; however, the offensive team will continue to bat until the remaining players on their roster bat for that inning. This is done to reduce the time it takes to switch players on and off the field.
8. Play will stop when the ball is thrown into the vicinity of the pitching coach.
9. A coach is allowed to stop the game for instructional purposes.
10. The offensive team can have a maximum of 4 coaches on the field: Pitcher, behind catcher, 1st and 3rd base coaches.
11. 3 defensive coaches are allowed on the field and must stand in the outfield.
12. Feet First Sliding is allowed for plays at 2nd base, 3rd base, and home plate.
13. Base Runners can advance 1 base on an overthrow, at the base runner’s risk, and only on plays to 1st base.
14. Baseball is MacGregor #56 Official Tee Ball.