

MARION COUNTY BASEBALL ASSOCIATION  
RULES FOR COACH PITCH LEAGUE 2008  
*As approved and adopted 2/10/08*

- 1) **46' Pitcher Rubber to Home plate. 7' radius circle around mound.** Player Pitcher stands in-line with the rubber, within the circle. **Coach can pitch anywhere INSIDE the circle.** Distance between bases 60 feet.
- 2) All games shall start no later than 6:15 p.m. (No lights) and no later than 8:30 p.m. (under lights).
- 3) The following time limits are to be imposed for games that are played back to back: For games starting at 5:00 p.m., no new inning can start after 6:45 p.m. For games starting at 7:00 p.m., no new inning can start after 8:45 p.m. For games starting at 9:00 p.m., no new inning can start after 10:45 p.m. The "start time" of the new inning begins at the time of the last out of the previous inning.
- 4) No stealing of bases is permitted. Advancement of runner is not permitted on throwback from catcher to pitcher.
- 5) When an overthrow occurs trying to force out the batter running to first base, even if the ball remains in play, ALL runners may advance only one base provided the errant throw is attempted to be returned directly to the "player-pitcher". However, all advances by the runners are done so at their own risk (advances are not automatic). *The intent of this rule is to encourage defensive players to make the correct plays, not throw routinely fielded balls immediately to the pitching circle to stop play.* **2004**
- 6) Failure to hit a fair ball in **5** pitches constitutes a strikeout. **2004**
- 7) The infield fly rule and the balk rule shall not apply.
- 8) A lineup card containing the name of players and subs must be completed by each team and exchanged with opposing coach prior to game.
- 9) Free substitution shall be observed on defensive positions. All team members present shall be in batting order.
- 10) Subs must play 6 defensive outs in a regulation 6-inning game.
- 11) The home team shall furnish the home plate umpire. The visiting team may furnish one base umpire if it wishes to do so. Additional umpires may be used by mutual consent of team managers. Umpires must be a minimum of 14 years old. Managers and/or coaches may not umpire a game in which their team is participating.

- 12) The batter's helmet is required. The base runners and base coaches may use the base runner's type helmet. The souvenir type plastic helmet is prohibited for any use. Metallic spikes on playing shoes are prohibited.
- 13) Bats shall be 2 1/4 inches or less in diameter at thickest part of barrel and 33 inches or less in length. Bats with double wall construction or containing titanium or titanium-composite are prohibited. All equipment must be checked and approved by umpire prior to the start of the game.
- 14) All players must wear a cap. The remainder of the uniform is optional, providing the player is dressed in reasonable attire. For example, cutoff shorts and muscle shirts are inappropriate.
- 15) The throat protector and catcher's helmet are required.
- 16) All players who warm up the pitcher at home plate must wear a mask.
- 17) A maximum of 8 runs may be scored during any half inning of a game. The offensive team's turn at bat is concluded after 3 putouts or after 8 runs have scored, whichever occurs first.
- 18) Coaches may **NOT** borrow players laterally from another Coach Pitch team. Coaches may borrow from a T-Ball team in an emergency. All the original roster players must be used before emergency players are used. The opposing coach must be notified of the situation before the game starts.
- 19) Adults are permitted to coach the bases.
- 20) A regulation game shall consist of 6 complete innings, except in the case of a called game where 4 complete innings shall constitute a complete game.
- 21) Tied games shall be settled by playing extra inning or innings.
- 22) The age limit shall be 7 and 8 years old, but not 9 before April 1. (2007)
- 23) Any team using a player over the age limit shall forfeit all wins acquired while that player was on the team roster. If age is questioned, satisfactory proof shall be furnished.
- 24) Profane language by players, coaches or umpires shall be strictly forbidden. Smoking is not permitted on the playing field or in dugouts.
- 25) Players and /or spectators are prohibited from standing within a 10-foot area extending behind the backstop. People in that area must be seated. Coaches and umpires need to enforce rule.

- 26) When the defensive player has position and possession of the ball, the runner must slide. If in the umpire's judgment, the runner does not slide, the runner shall be called out.
- 27) Game balls shall be provided by the home team.
- 28) Team rosters complete with birth dates must be submitted to the Marion County Baseball Association president and secretary 10 days before the first game of the season.
- 29) For a player to be eligible to play in the Marion County Baseball Association, the player must either be living in the school district or attending the school district by open-enrollment or tuition for the program they wish to participate in. Any exceptions **MUST** be approved by the Marion County Baseball Association.
- 30) Any person demonstrating unsportsmanlike conduct - such as slinging a bat, throwing equipment in anger, using abusive or profane language, or making unnecessary violent contact - shall be immediately ejected from the game and the confines of the ballpark.
- 31) Designated coaches in dugout area will consist of two base coaches and one scorekeeper
- 32) The defensive team shall consist of a pitcher (in addition to the coach pitching), catcher, four infielders and four outfielders.
- 33) Additions to rosters for new-move in residents may be made any time up to the calendar halfway point in the season. Any additions **MUST** be approved by Marion County Baseball Association.
- 34) Bunting is not permitted. Sliding is permissible.
- 35) A batted ball that touches the coach who is pitching shall be declared a dead ball. Play resumes at previous count on the batter and base runners must return to the base they were occupying prior to the dead ball.

- 36) Any time a thrown ball touches “coach-pitcher” the play is dead and runners cannot advance. After batted ball is in playing field the “coach-pitcher” should exit the playing field on the opposite side of the field. The “coach pitcher” may only return to the circle after the play is called dead.
- 37) A halfway mark must be placed on all base paths. Possession of ball by “player-pitcher” inside of circle stops play and all runners must return to previous base if not past the halfway mark when this occurs.
- 38) To speed up play, all defensive teams will abide by the following procedure: After the first inning there will be no fielding warm-up ball permitted in the infield or outfield. Pitchers will be permitted to throw five warm-up pitches in the first inning they pitch and only three warm-up pitches in subsequent innings.
- 39) If a regularly scheduled game cannot be played due to special circumstances(i.e. School & 4 H camps and activities) and the opposing team has been contacted at least 2 weeks prior to the scheduled game and has refused to rescheduled, rule # 40 on forfeits will be followed.
- 40) A forfeit is declared once the home team coach has contacted the visiting coach twice to no avail. Then the home team county representative has to contact the visiting coach with a third opportunity. If no game is rescheduled then the county representative has to notify the visiting county representative and the county president that the game is a forfeit. All rescheduled games must be played by one week of regular season end to accommodate seeding in the tournament.
- 41) Point system will be used to determine regular season standings and/or county championship.
- 2 points =====win
  - 1-1/22 points =tie
  - 1 point =====loss
  - 1 point =====non-played game
- Note: If two teams do not play county program representatives need to be contacted to settle disputes, problems or controversies. If needed, Marion County Baseball Association Board decisions are final. . **Team unable to reschedule will be charged -2 points.**
- 42) Rules not covered herein shall be stated in the Ohio High School Athletic Association rule book.