



From the Little League Website:

“For 75 years, Little League® has established a proud, rich history in the hearts and minds of generations of Little Leaguers. Since its founding in 1939, Little League has nurtured the human spirit, and that is why it has been universally successful in cities and towns throughout the world.”

“The outcome of a game will never outlive the pride of belonging, the experience of playing, the friends and the fun. The essence of Little League is the people, their communities, and the everlasting bond between them.”

PHILOSOPHY

North Arlington Little League gives the children and adults who participate in our program an opportunity to learn the game of baseball, improve their skills, become a part of a close knit community, and play a game everyone can learn to love.

Different levels competition can become intense, exact score is kept between teams, and our pledge even has a line about striving to win. However, our league knows that the focus of North Arlington Little League is to provide more to our kids than just a winning season. At all levels during regular season play, our focus should include making sure we are complying with the little league rules and safety as well as giving every child an opportunity to play the game of baseball. All players should be given more occasions in each game than the Minimum Play Requirement outlined in the rules as well as playing multiple positions so they may learn the game of baseball.

While we understand the competitive nature of the sport, our league has an instructional and developmental focus that prepares our children for the next level of competition. Please take a moment to read these important local rules along with the Little League Rule Book to make sure you are doing your part to help these children grow.



NORTH ARLINGTON LITTLE LEAGUE
SPRING 2015 COACH PITCH RULES – CPI

THIS IS AN INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION

The primary goal of Coach Pitch is to provide a learning experience that is also fun. It is important that each player has the opportunity to learn and improve his or her skills in all the fundamentals of baseball (batting, throwing, fielding and base running) in each game and practice. Learning by doing is basic. Conventional baseball does not provide young people the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of baseball because the pitcher is unable to consistently get the ball in the strike zone.

Coach Pitch is designed to help boys and girls to become more comfortable with hitting a thrown ball. The Coach Pitch Division is to help players strengthen their basic skills of hitting, throwing, catching, and base running. Coach Pitch is the next level above T-Ball, players will continue to build on the basic skills to help them be prepared for the next level of Little League where the players will be pitching.

In summary, the managers and coaches in this division are in charge of teaching good sportsmanship and the basic skills of baseball to the All Stars of the future. At this age, knowing baseball strategy is not as important as being able to catch, throw, hit, and run the base paths in their proper sequence. Never lose sight of our basic goal of providing a learning experience that is fun.

NO SCORES OR STANDINGS ARE KEPT IN THIS DIVISION

A. STARTING THE GAME

Prior to the start of the game, both teams shall provide one (1) new game ball division appropriate baseball. Home team is responsible for providing the scorekeeper for purposes of tracking outs, number of pitches and runs per inning.

B. COMPLETING THE GAME

Coach Pitch will play a time limit of 1 hour and 15 minutes or a maximum of five (5) innings whichever comes first. No new inning may begin after 1 hour and 15 minutes; any inning started before the time limit expires shall be completed. A 10-run rule after 4 complete innings is in effect.



C. PLAYER SUBSTITUTION/MINIMUM PLAY

Each player on the active roster shall play a minimum of six defensive outs. If a game is completed in less than the stated number of innings and a player does not satisfy the minimum play requirements, the player must start the next game and fulfill any remaining minimum play requirements from the previous game in addition to the minimum play requirements of that game.

Free substitutions are allowed. Players must be rotated into the game so that they do not sit the bench more than 2 consecutive innings. **Each player may play no more than 2 innings at pitcher and first base combined in a game. Everyone plays at least one inning in the outfield and one inning in the infield per game.**

A permanent batting order of all players shall be made prior to the first game. Each team shall bat through its entire batting order in each game. (Continuous Batting Order)

D. GENERAL

THE MANAGER OF THE TEAM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THEIR PLAYERS, COACHES, AND PARENTS.

Each team is responsible for providing one umpire per game. The home team will furnish the plate umpire and the visitors will furnish the field umpire. The plate umpire is considered the “Umpire in Chief.”

<u>Base on balls</u>	there will be no walks in coach pitch.
<u>Infield fly</u>	Infield fly rule shall not be enforced.
<u>Pitch limit</u>	Each batter will be given six (6) pitches. In CPI the batter may swing at all pitches.
<u>Run limit</u>	A run limit of five (5) runs per inning will be enforced for each inning throughout the game. If more than five runs score on the final play of the half inning, only five runs will be recorded.
<u>Catcher’s equipment</u>	Catcher shall wear a helmet with attached mask with throat protector, a full length chest protector, and shin guards. The catcher may use a fielder’s glove.



Coaching staff

1 manager and 3 coaches are allowed in this division. An adult first and third base coach will be allowed. An adult must be in the dugout at all times.

Defensive players

Defensive players will be on the field consisting of 6 infielders and up to 4 outfielders for CPI. Outfield players must be in the outfield grass when the pitch is thrown. Also, the player-pitcher must have both feet on pitching line when the pitch is thrown.

Pitcher-fielder

The pitcher-fielder must start each play with BOTH feet on an imaginary line extended from the pitching rubber with at least one foot in the dirt of the mound until the ball reaches the batter. If the pitcher-fielder leaves too soon, it is a “no pitch” unless the batter puts the ball into play. After the play has stopped, the offensive coach has the option to accept the play or resume the at bat with the prior pitch regarded as no pitch. Since the pitcher fielder is just a fielder, rules governing pitchers will not be enforced.

Substitutions

Free substitutions will be allowed since all players bat, subject to minimum play rules. Any player may be put into or taken out of any defensive position once per inning. Players not starting may re-enter the game.

Baseball type

Only RIF Level 5 baseballs will be used in this division. One ball from each team is to be given to the Umpire-in-Chief prior to the start of the game.

Infield control

The intent of this rule is to limit excessive base running due to fielding errors while encouraging defensive players to make plays. Infield control occurs when a batted ball is controlled by a defensive player within the base box (an imaginary line between the bases and home plate). The defensive player does not have to be an infielder for this rule to apply, but any ball hit into the outfield and fielded by an outfielder must be thrown into the infield to another player to establish infield control. A defensive player must attempt a play, either by throwing the ball or making a running effort to a base to establish infield control. **Once infield control is established, it is not removed during the same play – i.e., a defensive player attempts a play on a runner after infield control is established, the runners may not then begin earning new bases on the play.**

With bases loaded, a pitcher-fielder may not make an unassisted force out at Home Plate by running with the ball and touching Home Plate; he



or she must attempt a throw in this case. A pitcher-field may make an unassisted out by tagging a runner.

Earned base

The base the batter/runner or runner has touched BEFORE infield control has been established.

Entitled base

Each base runner and the batter runner are initially entitled to the next base in front of them when play begins. During play, the base the runner is nearest to (or forced to) after infield control is established by the umpire, becomes the entitled base. Base runners are at risk to be put out until play is suspended by the Umpire-in-chief. Entitled bases are NOT automatically awarded if the runner elects not to continue to that base.

Overthrow

After a ball is overthrown into foul territory, infield control will be established after the ball is brought or thrown back into fair territory and is in control of a defensive player.

Unearned base

A base the batter/runner or runner advances to beyond the entitled base determined by the umpire when infield control is established. Base runners are at risk to be put out until time is called by the umpire. Unearned bases will be enforced AFTER play is dead. A runner who safely reaches an unearned base will be returned to the last earned base. Entitled and unearned bases are judgment calls by the umpires and all decisions are final.

Pitching coach

Shall deliver the ball from a standing, kneeling or squatting position no nearer than 25 feet from home plate. Use an overhand throw to deliver the ball, and exit fair territory to the first or third base side. He may become the third base coach (not first base) and avoid obstructing any offensive player or interfering with any defensive players. Little League rules for obstruction and interference will be enforced. Any batted ball which hits the pitching coach shall be declared a dead ball and no pitch. The pitching coach may not talk to or coach the batter once the ball is pitched.

Examples

BATTED BALL WITHIN THE INFIELD

Infield control is established as soon as an infielder has control of the ball after the first attempted defensive play. For example, runners at first and third and a ground ball is hit to short, who throws to second for the force. Infield control is established when the second baseman



catches the ball. Runners may advance to their entitled base under liability to be put out. Play is suspended after normal defensive play stops or all runners hold their entitled bases.

BATTED BALL IN THE OUT-FIELD

The batter/runner and base runners may advance at risk to be put out. Infield control is achieved when the ball is returned to within the base box (an imaginary square drawn between the 4 bases) and in control of a defensive player. Entitled bases have now been determined even if the defensive player elects to continue play. Once normal play has stopped, play is suspended. Any base runner that has advanced safely to any unearned base will be returned to their entitled base at this time.