

Coach Pitch Rules

Players should arrive at the field about 5:30 pm. Coaches should run some basic drills for 20-25 minutes. Games will begin about 6:00 pm and run for about an hour. Every child gets to hit and then teams switch and the other team bats through their order. All kids get a single advancing 1 base at a time and the last hitter gets to hit the GRAND SLAM! Each game is roughly 3-4 innings – mutually decided by the coaches depending on time (a hard stop at 7:00 pm).

The most important things are: SAFETY & HAVING FUN.

Each player will have the option between coach pitch or a tee. If they are not having success with a live pitch after a certain number of pitches (i.e. 5), a coach should bring the tee back and ask them to hit from the tee. If a coach throws too many pitches to a player, it can eventually become a safety issue and a kid playing in the field becomes less focused on the game and the waiting around doesn't make the game as fun. Coaches need to agree on the number of pitches thrown for each player – suggest five.

For all levels/leagues, please follow these safety rules:

1. Only 1 bat is allowed out of the equipment bag and NO ONE SHOULD SWING unless a coach is supervising. Kids will bring their own bats, so please be prepared to take control of them until game time.
2. Rotate batting order so that every child has equal opportunity to hit last.
3. Each player bats once each inning. Once all players have batted on a team, the teams switch batting and fielding.
4. Coaches are involved in the pitching and a maximum 5 pitch count per batter (then the batter will utilize the tee. Each team will be pitched to by their own coach, in most circumstances.
5. If the fielding team records an out, the batter or base runner will return to the bench. It is our goal to teach coach pitch players the rules of the field and base running. Should the fielding team record three outs in the same inning, the bases will be cleared of runners.
6. There is a maximum base advancement of one base on a fielder's overthrow, or when a ball hit to the outfield is returned to the infield.
7. All kids must be sitting in a designated team area when their team is hitting. The only kids that should be standing are those on base and the ONE child hitting. We do not want a child walking into a bat being swung or tossed.
8. No throwing bats or helmets. Please try to teach the kids to drop the bat (not throw) after they hit. And, when the inning is over, have them jog in and place the equipment in their bench area, get their hats and gloves and jog out to the field.
9. Coaches are expected to rotate all players through all fielding positions during each game (with the exception of catcher). No child will be forced to play catcher if they do not wish.
10. No leading or base stealing.

11. No inning starts after 7:00 p.m. on a school night. The games must stop 10 minutes prior to the start of the next scheduled game.
12. Each team supplies one game ball.
13. It is the responsibility of all coaches to provide a safe, enjoyable baseball experience for all players. If you see something that is unsafe, fix it before continuing with the game or practice.
14. All players are required to wear a protective cup.
15. While in the dugout, no climbing on the benches or fences AND no player may have a bat in their hand at any time except when preparing to leave the dugout for their turn at bat. This is a real safety issue and must be constantly monitored by coaches. 'One bat rule'
16. There is no official score keeping or standings.
17. No "pig-piling". Try to teach the kids to spread out and only field balls that are hit at them or 1 step to either side. We try to have them envision bowling lanes between them and home plate – if a ball is in their bowling lane then they may field it. Also, teach them to talk – say "I got it!" and communicate. One player will field the ball and throw to first base.
18. **ABSOLUTELY NO PHYSICAL OR VERBAL ABUSE** will be tolerated from one player to another. If there are any issues, please communicate immediately to League VP, Renée Daniels, who will further communicate with the league and the parents as appropriate.

Rainout Policy

Each team should have a plan to communicate in the event of inclement weather. Set up an email list and a phone call chain with your parents. Or, you can check the little league website at www.gnlgittleleague.com. Coaches need to communicate to their teams on how players will be informed of a cancellation. It is strongly recommended that a player/contact list be set up for each team in order for everyone to be notified on a timely basis.

Your Child

If your child has any allergies, health issues, etc., please let one of their coaches know. We can not supply medication for any child. Also, if anyone needs any special attention (i.e. shyness, etc.), please let us know – we will be sure to make it fun and comfortable for everyone!

Team mottos

1. Be safe
2. Have fun
3. Do your best
4. Be a good sport & teammate

If you have any questions, please contact:

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207-

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