

## **CBFO LEAGUE RULES**

### **4/7 Competitive League**

1-All players will play on defense but only 6 will be allowed in the infield (in front of the base lines). Other players must be behind the base line or in the grass. At no time should defensive players be allowed to stand in the base path. The team in the field may have a maximum of two coaches in the field; coaches must stay in the grass and may not at any time touch a player, verbal instruction only.

2-All players will bat and will not deviate from the batting order. If a player does not bat, the team will be assessed an OUT (except in the case of a medical issue agreed upon by coaches from both teams).

3-Batters will get 5 pitches from the coach and then will hit off of the tee. There will be no strikeouts. The umpire will have the discretion to allow additional pitches (foul ball on last pitch).

4-When a ball is hit fair, runners may advance until a fielder attempts to throw the ball back to the pitchers circle (any attempt to throw is considered an attempt to throw toward the pitchers circle – i.e. the ball may only go one foot). Once the throw is attempted, the umpire should declare a dead ball. Once the play is called dead by the umpire, runners who have passed a base must return to the passed base (without jeopardy of being put out). Base Runners may only advance to one base in front of the base reached by the batter (Base Made plus 1). Base Runners may only advance one base on a ball thrown out of play. Umpire may ask any player to return to the previous base if it is felt that base was not earned by the base runner.

5-Games will last 3 innings. The first 2 innings will be capped at 5 runs, the last inning will be open. If the game is tied after 3 innings the game will continue in extra innings until there is a winner. The international tiebreaker rule will be used. Games will last 1 hour 15 minutes.

**6-All players must be in uniform with shirt tucked in pants; hats (visors) are optional.** Players must wear rubber cleats or tennis shoes. All jewelry must be removed. In the case of newly pierced ears, they must be covered with a Band-Aid or tape with padding placed over the post of the earring. These situations should be brought to the attention of the umpire and must meet with Umpire approval.

7-No Stealing of bases, **no lead off is allowed from any base, runners may not leave the base until the ball is hit.** Sliding will not be taught or promoted in the 5-7 League, but is allowed.

8-Verbal Instruction ONLY, at no time is a Coach or Parent to physically touch or move a player. An exception will be made for batting instruction where safety is a concern.

9-Home Team to provide a New Ball (no writing on it) for play. Home Team to provide a Score BookKeeper. Visitor Team to provide a Concession Stand Worker.

10-A fair ball is a hit ball that goes in front of the plate and between the base lines. An arc will be drawn (field crew using chalk or by the umpire in the dirt) at approximately 4' from the plate; which will serve as a fair ball distance line. This arc distance may be evaluated during the season and changes may be made with All Coach's and Umpire Agreement. The umpire will make a dead ball call should the hit ball not go beyond the drawn 4' arc line.

11-Coach's to pitch underhand from between the white lines in front of pitchers mound, one line to be located 24' from the home plate and the other at 27' from the home plate. Coaches should pitch a flat pitch, arc should be minimized. Coaches to play the Catching Position. Two girls are allowed in the Pitching Position, one on the right of the Pitching Coach and one on the left, both should start play with one foot on the white pitchers circle line (exception may come from the umpire depending on the field, in such an instance, the umpire will draw lines in the dirt to designate the starting position of the pitchers)..