

## DIVISION RULES MINOR A DIVISION (AGE 8-9)

**PURPOSE** – To provide a learning & instructional experience for young boys who have a limited knowledge of baseball.

**FIELD SIZE** – Base paths 55 FT. Pitcher's plate 42 FT. from back of home plate. Outfield fence 140 FT. from back of home plate.

**SCORE & STANDINGS** – There are no standings kept or scores put in the newspaper. **ALL COACHES FROM THE HOME TEAMS** are expected to complete a press release about the games. **DO NOT PUBLISH THE SCORE.**

**BATTERS** – 10 batters per ½ inning or 3 outs, whichever occurs first. Play ends after the 10<sup>th</sup> batter attains the NATURAL ending of the play. **NO ON-DECK BATTER!!!**

**OFFENSIVE TEAM** – All players present at the game are in the batting order (mix it up).

**DEFENSIVE TEAM** – 9 players in the field. Alternate the boys to different positions and teach them how to play the positions. No player should sit more than 1 inning at a time. Defensive Substitution is unlimited.

**BASE RUNNERS** – ALL base runners must stay in contact with the base until the pitched ball reaches the batter.

- NO Stealing
- NO Walks
- NO Bunts, ½ swings or swinging bunts
- NO Advances on overthrows

**LENGTH OF GAME** – All games will be 6 innings in length or until dark prohibits play from continuing. Saturday games will be 6 innings or 2 hours in length, whichever occurs first.

**PITCHING** – ALL pitching will be performed by a machine. The machine speed is to be set at 35 MPH, and is to remain at the set speed throughout the game. The only adjustments to be made are for the alignment of the machine. NO adjustments are to be made to accommodate any specific player. Players may move within the batter's box to adjust to the machine. A coach from the team batting will tend to the machine and will serve as umpire.

**PITCHES** – Each batter will receive 5 “good” pitches per at-bat. There will be no walks. If a batter does not put the ball fairly in play within the allotted 5 pitches, the at-bat will be counted as a strike out and the next batter in the order will bat.

**COACHES DEFENSE** – ONLY 2 position coaches will be allowed on the field of play. These coaches are to be positioned in left-centerfield and right-center field and are encouraged to provide instruction to the defensive players. These coaches are also free to assist the offensive base runners as they see fit. All teams should work toward being able to remove these coaches from the field by the midway point of the season.

**COACHES OFFENSE** – The offensive team will be allowed to use up to 4 coaches during the game. These coaches should be positioned as follows:

- First Base Coaches Box
- Third Base Coaches Box
- Pitcher's Mound
- Home Plate

**COACHES NOTE** – NO ADULTS, OTHER THAN THOSE MENTIONED ABOVE, ARE ALLOWED ON THE FIELD OF PLAY DURING THE GAME.