



DIXIE YOUTH BASEBALL Inc.
National Championship Series
COACH PITCH RULES¹
League Age 7 & 8

IMPORTANT!! The 2008 Dixie Youth Official Rules and Regulations rules will be the basic set of rules for the National Coach Pitch Championship Series with the exception of the rules listed below.

(a) Playing Field:

- 1) All National Championship Series games will be played on a regulation field with 60' bases and a 200' outfield fence..
- 2) A 12 ft. diameter circle will be used for the pitching mound if there is no regulation mound on the field..

(b) Coaches:

- 1) Three adult coaches will be allowed on the playing field at one time (two base coaches and one coach pitcher). The fourth adult coach must remain in the dugout at all times with the players. Only four adult coaches may be listed on the tournament team affidavit.
- 3) Coaches cannot go outside the playing field without the permission of the umpire. Coaches will be removed from the game for violation.

(c) Umpires:

- 1) At least 3 umpires will be used for each Championship Series game
- 2) The home plate umpire will be in the normal position behind home plate and shall call balls and strikes but there will be no walks.

(d) General Rules:

- (1) There must be a minimum of 11- player rosters and a maximum of 13 player rosters on a tournament team. A team will be required to start a tournament with the number of players listed on the tournament team affidavit at the credentials meeting for each level of tournament play.
- (2) The infield fly rule is not applied.
- (3) Bunting is allowed.
- (4) A regulation game shall be (6) innings with no time limit.
- (5) There will be a 7 run per inning run limit for all 6 innings.

(e) Dead Ball-Special Rules

The ball is dead when:

- (1) An umpire shall call time and the ball will be dead when play comes to a natural halt (approximately 3 seconds) and base runners are making no attempt to advance. Any runner who is off base when time is called will return to the last base occupied.
- (2) The catcher retrieves a pitched ball before it leaves the arc behind home plate. The ball shall remain dead on the throw back to the pitcher.

- (3). A pitched ball hits a batter. No pitch shall be declared and the batter will continue his time at bat.
- (4) Whenever time is called and the ball is dead, the only way to put the ball back into play is with a pitch. (Exception: The umpire shall allow an appeal on a runner during a dead ball. If the appeal occurs after time is called the umpire shall give the ball to the pitcher to make the appeal.)
- (5) If a batted ball accidentally hits a **Coach Pitcher**, the ball is dead and it will be a no pitch.

(f) OFFENSE

(1) All players on a team will bat in a continuous batting order. Players arriving late will be entered at the end of the batting order. A player that gets sick and goes back into the game will bat in the same place in the batting order as when they left the game. Each player must play three (3) defensive outs. Refer to the DYB Official Rules & Regulations, Page 94, Regulation IX, (C), DEFENSIVE PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS, for scorer and coaches responsibilities and the **Penalty for violation of this rule.**

Base Running:

- (2) No base stealing is allowed.
- (3) Runners may advance when:
 - (a) A pitched ball is hit in fair territory.
 - (b) The catcher throws the ball to any base after a pitch including a passed ball. The ball is alive and runners may advance.

(g) DEFENSE

- (1) Free substitution will be allowed on defense.
- (2) A helmet with facemask may be worn by the player pitcher while playing the pitching position.
- (3) Teams on defense will use a total of ten (10) players in the field, including the catcher and four (4) outfielders. A game will be a forfeit if a team cannot field nine (9) players. Outfielders must be on outfield grass on a regulation 60' base playing field.
- (4) The catcher may use a fielders' glove or catchers' mitt. The catcher must be in the squat position when the ball is pitched.

Pitching:

- (5) An adult coach of the team batting will pitch to his/her team. Once a coach starts an inning as pitcher he/she must finish the inning pitching. A coach can return as pitcher in another inning.
- (6) The defensive team will place a player in the designated circle at the pitcher position. The player pitcher must have one foot inside the dirt area of a regulation pitcher's mound, must stand in position on either side of the coach pitcher, must not interfere with the **Coach Pitcher**, and must not leave the circle until the ball is released by the coach pitcher. **Penalty – The offensive coach has the option of accepting a hit or taking a no pitch.**
- (7) Pitches shall be thrown over hand or under hand with one foot on the pitching rubber.
- (8) The **Coach Pitcher** shall exit the playing field behind the runner, or away from any play on the field when the ball is hit into fair play.
- (9) A player removed from the pitcher position may return to the pitcher position in the same game.
- (10)The **Coach Pitcher** may coach or position the batter only. He/She cannot coach runners. A warning will be given for 1st offense and he/she will be removed from the mound on the 2nd offense.