



Pee Wee-7 and 8 yr. old Rules

Parents, Coaches, Players, and Fans need to show good sportsmanship at all times. Do not taunt players, coaches, or other fans. The site supervisor will have the right to remove anyone that is acting inappropriately. Please remember this program is designed for maximum participation, instruction, and enjoyment of the players. Our goal is to make Mandan Baseball a positive experience for everyone.

No stealing. No leading off base. No Bunting

Coaches will want to develop pitchers and catchers throughout the season, but players will not be pitching in this league. Players do not walk. The pitching team's coach umpires the game from behind the pitcher. The strike zone will roughly be above the knees and below the top of the chest and as wide as the plate. This will help the pitchers and urge players to swing the bat. We want the game to move at a steady pace.

We don't want to set a bunch of limitations with coaches pitching as all coaches have different experience levels with their comfort level with pitching.

The main objective is to make sure the kids see as many strikes as possible as we are trying to develop the kid's confidence by swinging the bat. As well as learning what the strike zone is. Coaches should not be any closer than half-way between the mound and the batter's box. If they are closer than that we could potentially see a safety issue.

We want the kids to see the ball being pitched overhand. However, I am not opposed to coaches throwing from their knee. It still simulates an overhand pitch, plus it is closer to the kid's eye level and kids would have higher success with the pitches coming in closer to their eye level. If we have a coach that 6 feet tall or taller and standing and throwing overhand, the pitch release point would be at 7.5 feet or higher and that pitch will look high to the kids as opposed to an overhand pitch being released from a coach kneeling. Some coaches may not be able to throw strikes comfortably from their knees and other coaches may prefer to. It is the coach's decision.

Again, our objective is not to set rules and limits on how coaches are pitching to their kid, but more on the development on hitting a baseball. Being able to put the ball in play will teach them how to run the bases correctly and the team playing defense will learn where to throw the ball, and where to be defensively.

We strongly encourage all coaches to enforce those players only advance one base on overthrows. For example, there is a runner on first and the batter hits the ball and runs to first, if the ball is thrown to first base and is overthrown, the player can advance to the next base. The lead runner can only go to third and cannot advance past third until the next batter if there is a second overthrow. If the ball is again overthrown or underthrown or the defense misses it. The coach should stop the play and keep the player at second base, then resume play with the next batter. The objective is to have as many kids bat as possible and not take the bat out of kids hands. We don't want players to continue advancing to the next bases and all the way home when the ball continues to be overthrown. Our goal is to continue to teach and develop baseball skills and none of the kids learn anything when the ball is being thrown around in those situations.

All players are in the batting order. Players cannot sit for more than two innings. **10 PLAYERS WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE FIELD. 4 OUTFIELDERS.**

There is a 1-hour time limit on the games. Please encourage your kids to hustle onto and off the field between innings. The fielding team should never be waiting for the batting team to put a batter in the batter's box. This helps keep the pace of play moving and kids focused on the games. A suggestion when taking the field to have all the kids hustle out to the positions they played in the last inning and then move the kids around as they are on the field and ask the ones that are sitting to go back to the bench. If coaches can keep the batting orders similar from week to week it will give the kids the ability to learn their spot in the order and keep the pace of play moving along.

SAFETY Protective headgear must be worn at all times when hitting and running the bases.

Players will only strike out if they swing and miss. Coaches need to make sure the kids are swinging the bat to keep the game moving. At any time, a coach feels his kid has been at bat long enough he may call him out and move to the next batter.

If a coach hits a player, the player will not take the base.

No Metal cleats/spikes allowed.

Teams will only be allowed 5 runs per inning unless it's the last inning, (home and visitors). 10 run rule after 4 innings in Tournament only.

In the month of June players will get 4 strikes and in the month of July players will only get 3 strikes. Player will be held to one base at a time in the month of June. This allows each team to have as many kids bat as possible.

There is a mandatory slide rule in effect for close plays at the plate.

Objectives of Pee Wee Baseball

- Develop the kids for the next level of baseball
 - Players should know how to:
 - Throw and catch the ball
 - Know the positions
 - Catch a pop fly
 - Run the bases
 - Field a ground ball and throw to a specific target
 - Hit the ball from a coach pitching
- Coach the kids for their skill levels
- Structure and repetition are key at this level for the kids to develop the fundamental skill of baseball.
 - Practice batting (soft toss, cage work & hitting off a tee)
 - Fielding practice have kids practice at all positions
 - Have kids throw to other kids, not coaches when practicing fielding.
 - Have the kids play catch while warming up and see how many times they can throw the ball back and forth without the ball hitting the ground.
 - A structured practice should consist of: (Kids should not be standing around for long periods of time)
 - 30 mins of infield practice. Rotate kids through all positions while taking infield.
 - 30 mins of batting practice focused on stations to keep the kids engaged. 3+ batting stations works well.