



Ground Rules – What to Discuss

All age groups:

1. Introduce yourself to both coaches.
2. Verify the age of the teams.
3. Verify the pitching and base distance.
4. Make coaches aware of any time and run limitations.
5. If the fences are up, let managers know it is a ground rule double if the ball goes under or bounces over the fence.
6. Tell the managers how many innings a pitcher can pitch – if limited!
7. For 8U & 9U boys – NO leadoffs, they must hold to the base until the ball is hit.
8. Discuss infield fly rule and dropped 3rd strike rule.
9. Remind coaches to keep their dugout gates closed.
10. For baseball, mention the use of the double base at 1st.

Additional items for 7U & 8U Divisions:

1. Set up the pitching machine – inform the managers that once the speed is set they can not change it unless both managers agree and only at the start of a new inning.
2. Discuss calling balls and strikes. Let the managers decide how they want to play.
3. Inform the manager that they must adjust the pitching machine if a batted ball hits the machine or is pitching to high or low. The object is for the players to hit the ball. Managers should **not** adjust the machine for every batter.