



## SUPERCUP 2023

### COACH PITCH BASEBALL RULES

#### 01. Pre-game.

Umpires and coaches from each team shall meet prior to the game to discuss the rules and any special circumstances, including any player's special circumstances.

#### 02. Equipment.

- A. Players may not wear metal spikes, plastic spikes are allowed. Only the toe protector can be attached to the shoes.
- B. Players may not wear metal, hard or abrasive jewelry or ornamentation anywhere on their head or body during practices or games.
- C. Catcher must wear a **complete catchers gear, including at least a mask with integrated or separate throat protector as well as a chest protector and leg guards** during practices, warm-ups and games.
- D. Double ear-flap helmets are obligatory for batters, runners and on-deck batters.
- E. All players (boys) have to wear an athletic supporter.

#### 03. Field

- A. The distance between the bases is 18.29 meters (60 feet)
- B. The pitching distance is within 10-14 meters (30–43 feet) from the top of the home plate. The Pitching Coach is allowed to have a knee of his throwing hand or his pivot foot placed on the mark 10 meters from the home plate.
- C. The minimum distance of the outfield fence from the home plate for an out-of-park homerun is 40 meters (122 feet).
- D. The pitcher's circle is 3 meters in diameter with a center 14,03 meters (46 feet) from the top of the home plate.

#### 04. Game.

- A. Games consist of **six innings**.
- B. Each inning shall consist of **5 runs or 3 outs**, whichever comes first.
- C. The sixth and any other following inning does not have the 5 runs limit and consists of 3 outs only.
- D. If the game is tied after 6 innings or the time limit, the game continues to the next inning, **no tie-break rule is applied**.

#### 06. Mercy Rule.

No Mercy Rule is applied.

#### 07. Offense.

- A. The batters are **hitting a live ball pitched by a Coach-pitcher**, who is a member of the team in offense or is nominated by the offensive team coach.
- B. Each batter will receive **5 pitches** at bat. If the batter fouls the 5th pitch, the batter may receive another pitch. If the batter hits the ball foul again, the batter may receive another pitch. If the batter swings at three pitches, he is out regardless of the total number of pitches.
- C. Because the batter is allowed to swing and miss more than three pitches, the **5-pitch count must be strictly enforced**. It is the duty of the coaches, including the opposing coach, to remind the Coach-Pitcher that he has thrown **4 pitches, and that the batter has only one remaining pitch**.



**D.** If the batter has not hit one of the 5 pitches into fair territory, and the last pitch was not fouled, then the **batter is out.**

**E.** A batter may not attempt to run to first base if the 5th or final **pitch is dropped.**

**F.** A **batter that is hit by a pitch** will not be awarded first base. If the batter is unable to continue due to injury, the team will move to the next batter in the order, with a new pitch count.

**G.** A hit that is tagged or remains within the quarter-circle sector 7,6 meters (25 feet) from the top of the home plate is called a foul ball.

**Exception:** In case that the **pitcher** or the **catcher** fields a ground ball within the a.m. sector and consequently puts out a runner or a running batter before he safely reaches the next base, this out counts, ball remains in play and the game proceeds.

**H. Base stealing** is not allowed.

**I.** The batters must not leave the bases until the ball is hit.

**J.** If the batter leaves the base early, the play continues.

**K.** If an out is made on a runner leaving the base early, the play counts.

**L.** If the ball is hit, some of the runners leaves the base early and is not put out, the umpire will make, after the play, such decisions to eliminate the influence of early leaving of the base.

**M.** A base **runner may not advance** to the next base after the **ball is controlled by the pitcher in pitcher's circle:** All base runners must remain on their current base, or go back to the last base they touched. Following throw to the coach-pitcher is not a part of the play. The runner is allowed to finish his continuous run to the next base that was started prior to the receipt of the ball by the pitcher in his circle.

*Interpretation: It is in the spirit of the game that advancing to another base should be a result of a continuous game situation and not a form of "hidden delayed steal" or invoking a run-down situation.*

*In this sense a following rule will be applied:*

*If an infielder has possession of the ball in the infield (in fair territory), he can request "time" by raising both hands above their head. By doing so the umpire can call time at that moment and determine where the base runners go based upon the situation and positions of the players. If the infielder wishes to make a play in the infield they simply make the play and do not raise their hands asking for "time" to be called. A fielder may not say "time", they must only raise their hands (NO EXCEPTIONS).*

*Umpires should, without hesitation, call a "Time" as soon as they recognize that a continuous play is finished.*

**N.** "Slap swings", half swings etc. or bunts are not allowed, a foul-ball is called.

## **08. Defense.**

**A.** The participant playing the position of the Pitcher shall begin each play with at least one foot on the pitcher's mound to one side of the adult pitcher.

**B.** The Infield Fly Rule is **not applicable.**

**C.** The pitcher (not the coach-pitcher) must stay in the pitcher's circle while the pitch is made.

## **09. Coach-pitcher**

**A.** The **Coach-Pitcher** must pitch from a **standing or one knee down** position, using an **overhand** pitching motion.

**B.** The Coach-pitcher may not be involved intentionally in any play (hit, throw). In case this happens, the ball is dead and the umpire will call out(s) and/or give bases to the runners to eliminate such an action.

**C.** If the hit is not intentionally touched by the Pitch-coach, a foul ball is called.

**D.** In case a thrown ball unintentionally hits the Coach-pitcher, the ball remains in play.

**E.** The Coach-pitcher is not allowed to coach the offense, but is allowed to communicate with the batter, prior to the pitch.

**F.** The Umpire is allowed to induce replacement of the Coach-pitcher, in justifiable situations.

**G.** The Coach-pitcher can be replaced during the game, nevertheless the Umpire could prevent this in a case, that these replacements are disturbing smoothness of the game.



## **10. Rules of Baseball.**

Other than the rules above, the **generally accepted rules of baseball apply.**

For actual and more information, videos, photos etc. go to <http://supercup.baseball.cz/> .

*By own hand*

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