



## **USSSA 8U - Coach Pitch Tournament Rules-Addendum:**

- Teams may use a maximum of 10 defensive players. Four outfielders must be 10 feet behind the base path.
- May bat entire lineup, with free defensive substitution.
- **No bunting, slapping, or base stealing.**
- Catcher must squat behind home plate in full gear.
- Maximum of 5 runs per inning. **Note for POOL PLAY only: If we get to the final inning and the losing team is behind by more than the 5-run cap, they do still have the *option* to complete their turn at bat. This is to give them a chance to get the 5 runs which can affect tie-breaks and seeding. In bracket play, the game will be over at that point.**
- 5 pitches or 3 strikes – Player may continue to bat if they continue to foul off pitches.
- No infield fly rule will be in effect.
- Defensive players must be 35+ feet from batter (behind the pitching plate).
- Play is stopped when the progress of the lead runner is stopped.
- The pitcher must have one foot in circle even or behind the pitching coach.
- It is highly **recommended that** pitchers and infielders wear face guards (masks). If face guards(masks) have a plastic eye visor, it must be clear so the players eyes can be seen. No smoked or reflective visors are permitted.
- The game length will be 1 hour 10 min or 6 innings.
- Base length will be 60 feet.
- Pitching rubber set at 35 feet. **Coach must have one foot on rubber when pitching.**
- The base runner shall not leave the base until the pitched ball crosses the plate.
- If a thrown ball hits the pitching coach, it is considered a live ball, unless the umpire determined the coach intentionally interfered. If the umpire feels it was intentional, it will be a dead ball and the play is repeated (do-over).
- If the Pitching Coach is hit with a ball leaving the bat, all runners will return to their previous base and the batter will bat again (do-over).
- Defensive coaches may take a position in the outfield in **foul territory** in accordance with the USSSA Rule book.
- Run rule that will be in effect for all games:
  - 12 runs after 3 completed innings.
  - 10 runs after 4 completed innings.
  - 8 runs after 5 completed innings.