

# Pipestone Youth Baseball

## Machine Pitch Rules

### Tournament Rules for 8 and Under

- A. Players must be 7 or 8 as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, of the current playing year.
- B. Bases will be 60 feet apart.
- C. Regular baseballs will be used.
- D. Games are 5 innings with no new inning starting after 1 hour 40 min.
- E. A minimum of 8 players is required to start a game. When batting with 8 players, the 9<sup>th</sup> position will be an out. Any fewer players require a forfeit. If you have fewer than 8 players you cannot use a player from another team.
- F. Outfielders will play in the grass. The Pipestone teams are comprised of 7 and 8 year old's who play in a recreational / instructional league, therefore up to 2 coaches may be on the field while their team is on defense. Try to remain on the edge of the infield / outfield.
- G. All players will bat in the same order for the entire game.
- H. 3 outs or 5 runs end a teams at bat. The last inning is the 5<sup>th</sup> remember the time limit, no new inning can start after 1 hour 40 min.
- I. The maximum number of players you can play with is 11. There will be 6 infielders and the remaining players will play outfield. Each player must play 1 inning in the outfield, and no more than 2 innings at any 1 position every game.
- J. A spring- loaded pitching machine will be used to pitch the baseball. Pitches shall be made with the desired result of providing strikes for the players to swing at.
- K. If a batter is hit by a pitch he is awarded first base.
- L. Each batter is allowed 6 pitches. After the 6<sup>th</sup> pitch if the batter does not foul the pitch off or hit the pitch the batter is out. If he fouls the pitch off he will continually get another one until he hits or misses the pitch. If he does not swing he is out.
- M. A defensive player shall play the pitcher position by standing next to the coach who is operating the machine. If a ball hits the machine it remains a

live ball. The defensive player must wear a helmet while playing this position.

- N. You may take a 2-step lead off after the ball has crossed the plate however no stealing is allowed.
- O. No bunting allowed.
- P. When the ball is hit to the outfield and then returned to the infield, once it touches the dirt the runners must stop at the base they are at.
- Q. Runners may not advance on any overthrow.
- R. After all 6 pitches have been pitched that is when the balls get brought back to the pitcher.
- S. Bat size may not exceed 29" in length and must be USA baseball certified.
- T. All runners should slide if there is a close play.
- U. Remember to have fun we are all trying to learn the game of baseball.

Be a good sport!