

# Mississippi Valley Boys Baseball

## Coach Pitch

### Ages 8U Coed\*

Players cannot be 7\*9 before May 1<sup>st</sup> cutoff date, with the exception of girls cannot be 10 before January 1<sup>st</sup> cutoff date. *\*Amendment February 20, 2014*

1. Regular baseball will be used for game play.

*\*Amendment February 20, 2014: Boys and girls will use a baseball during game play.*

2. Time limit will be 5 innings or 1½ hour time limit during regular season. No time limit during tournament play.

3. Base distance will be 60 feet and 35 feet for pitching rubber.

4. No walks.

5. 3 ~~strikes~~\* swinging strikes or 7 ~~pitches~~\* hittable pitches to be judged by the umpire. Normal foul ball rule is still in effect. *\*Amendment February 20, 2014*

6. The batter is out on a dropped third strike, with no runner advancement.

7. No lead-offs or stealing.

8. If a runner has passed the half way mark between bases and is making an attempt to advance when the play stops, the runner will be awarded the next base. If the runner has not passed the halfway mark, the runner must go back to the last base touched. It will be the umpire's judgement.

9. A play is over when the ball is under control and in the possession of someone on the infield (infield is considered the base line).

10. A team cannot score more than six runs in an inning.

11. The team's coach will do the pitching.

~~*\*Amendments April 21, 2018: Pitchers must throw over-handed to the batter for girls and boys.*~~

*\*Amendment April 20, 2023: Pitcher must throw over-handed to boys. Pitcher may throw under-handed or over-handed to girls.*

12. The infield fly rule does not apply.

13. Ten Players are allowed, the tenth player being an outfielder.

14. Free substitution is used when batting all players on the bench. When doing so you may sub in and out on the playing field at any time with no restrictions, except the batting order has to stay the same throughout the game. This usually requires an injured player to be counted as an out if they come to bat and are not able to bat. This is sometimes waived at certain ages and can be waived by opposing coach if they wish. Both teams do not have to use this in the same game, one could only bat nine and the other use free substitution for example.

15. A team can play with less than 9 players but must have at least 7 to play. If a team plays less than 9 players, that team with less than 9 players will be required to take an out for each of the missing players. EX: If one team has 9 players and the 2<sup>nd</sup> team has only 7 players, the team with the 7 players will be required to take two outs in the batting order. If you choose to bat all and one leaves the game injured, you must take an out for that at bat.

16. If agreed upon by both coaches (the umpire must be present for the agreement), a team will be allowed to play with 4 players in the outfielder positions, making a total of 10 players on the field. However, the commissioners will enforce a 9-player rule only.
17. MSV Rules are to be kept in the concession stand at every ball field in the league as well as each town organization is to supply each coach with a set of the rules for his/her age group to be kept in the coaches' possession for game time use if necessary.
18. No pre-game warm-up allowed on the field after actual game time. Game time is game time.
19. Coaches from both teams and the umpire shall have a meeting prior to each game starting to discuss current rules and agree how to handle a situation where the rules are not clear.
20. Per Babe Ruth Rules, each player in every game must have one at bat and one inning on the field. One inning is considered 3 outs in the field and 1 time of batting.
21. No game shall end in a tie. If there is a tie at the end of regulation time, then a modified international tie breaker rule will apply. The batter that made the last out the inning prior will be put on 2<sup>nd</sup> base with one out and the game will resume until the tie is broken.
22. If a game is stopped prior to finished regulation time for whatever reason, even if agreed upon by both coaches and the umpire, then both teams will be required to take a loss unless the coaches agree to finish the game another time in which case there would then be a winner and a loser.
23. Umpires for all the season games should be umpires familiar with the rules, both MSV rules and Babe Ruth rules. These umpires do not have to be licensed umpires for regular season games nor tournament games. However, for tournaments, the host team is to consult the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams' coaches to verify if there are any problems with the umpires the host tournament director has selected. If there is a problem and it cannot be worked out between the host director and the coaches, then the host director will turn the decision over to the commissioners as to whether as umpire can be used or not for the tournament.