

2009 ROOKIES RULES (8 year olds)

PITCHING:

Pitchers should be used for the first 4 innings of the game.

Beginning with the 5th inning, managers/coaches shall pitch to their hitters. The manager will throw no more than 6 total pitches. If on the 6th pitch, the batter has not hit the ball, the batter will be called out. This rule is only in effect from the 5th inning on.

Pitchers will throw no more than 25 pitches per game. **NO EXCEPTIONS**

The same pitcher cannot throw more than 2 innings in a game.

For the first 4 innings, Pitchers will throw no more than 4 pitches per batter. **No exceptions**

If the batter has not put the ball in play on the 4th pitch, the manager of the hitting team will assume pitching to that specific batter. The pitcher will play that position until the batter has completed his at bat. If the manager comes in to pitch, the batter will be permitted only 5 additional pitches from the manager. If he does not hit the ball, he will be called out. **No Exceptions**.

You must limit the amount of pitching changes to 3 per inning. Minimizing pitching changes will keep the game moving.

Pitchers should throw from approx. 42 feet.

No bases on balls – However if the manager comes in to pitch, the batter will be limited to 5 additional pitches. If the hitter does not put the ball in play after the 3rd pitch, he will be out.

There will be strikeouts if the batter swings and misses the 3rd strike, as the pitcher shall be rewarded for this effort. Hitters shall not be called out on strikes, except as provided below.

Balls/strikes will be called by the manager/coach of the pitching team

HITTERS:

Managers must emphasize to their players to swing the bat. Batters should not wait for the coach to come in and pitch to him.

If the batter does not swing the bat on **2 consecutive called 3rd strikes**, the batter will be called out. For example, if the batter has 2 strikes on him, and he looks at a 3rd strike (without swinging the bat), he will get one additional strike. If he looks at another called strike, he will be called out. **No Exceptions**.

There will be strikeouts if the batter swings and misses the 3rd strike, as the pitcher shall be rewarded for this effort. Hitters shall not be called out on strikes, (**except for the above exception**)

Please encourage your players to swing the bat.

Balls/strikes will be called by the manager/coach of the pitching team.

CATCHERS:

Catchers will be utilized (a protective cup must be worn at all times)

Managers must teach catchers the proper positioning behind the plate. It is not acceptable to have catchers squat behind home plate and not know that they must attempt to catch the pitched ball. It is not the responsibility of the coach standing behind home plate to retrieve every ball.

BASE RUNNING:

No stealing or advancing will be permitted. **A coach of the team on defense will stay behind the catcher and assist on pass balls.**

Base runners may only advance on a batted ball.

BATTING ORDER:

Teams must bat their full roster in rotation.

INNINGS:

A half-inning is over when 3 outs are made or the team hitting has batted around. Games shall go a maximum of six innings or 2 hours in length.

PLAYING TIME:

No player will sit more than 1 inning at a time. In other words, every other inning defensive changes should be made.

Only 9 players will play on the field at a time.

OTHER:

No bunting, but players should be taught how to bunt.

No score will be kept

No official umpires will be used. **The Hitting team's coach will call balls/strikes and base outs. The coach will call strikes from the pitchers mound.**

Home team supplies the baseballs

Both teams are responsible for getting the field prepared to play. **It is the responsibility of the managers to notify me that supplies are running low. Please make sure there is sufficient lime, racks, etc in the shed.**

Field Managers:

Only 3 manager/coaches permitted on the field. Dugout / 1stbase / 3rd Base- **NO EXCEPTIONS**

The manager/coach within the pitcher's circle **MUST NOT** coach his base-runners while on the field. This leads to confusion for the team playing defense.

Players shall play as many positions as possible! All players need to learn the three outfield positions and as many infield positions as they can.

2009 ROOKIES BASEBALL

- Commissioner: Tony Ray
 - anthonyray1@comcast.net
 - cell: 973-809-1478
- April 4 is opening day & picture day
- 9 teams, 16 game schedule
 - Schedule for entire year` is available at GVAAbaseball.com
 - Click “Schedules”, on left
 - At top, choose division - Rookies and team
 - Average of 1 game during week and 1 on Sat
 - Sat games: 9a, 11:30, 2p, 4:30p
 - Games are 2:00 hours long
 - Games will be played at Kresson Field #3 & Lindenwold Field
 - Rainouts can be played on Sunday & any day Kresson Field is available – rainouts for games where your team is playing a Lindenwold team should be rescheduled at Lindenwold
 - Managers come to an agreement about whether or not a game should be canceled due to poor weather/field conditions
 - Managers decide when to make-up the rainouts
 - Managers must contact Tony Ray for field availability, for make-up games
- Uniforms will be given out to managers in March
- Equipment (catcher’s gear, batting helmets) will be given out to managers in March
- Rawlings Level 5 baseballs