

Kimberly Park & Rec

Machine Pitch League Rules/Guidelines

- Regular games will be limited to 5 innings or 1 hour whichever is reached first. If a team is scheduled to play a double header, games will then be held to schedule times.
- No new inning will begin after this time limit expires. The last out of an inning will determine if a new inning can be started.
- Pitching will be done by machine and the machines will be set at a #3. A player catcher should be used as long as the player catcher doesn't slow down the game. A coach should back up the player catcher to speed up play if necessary. The player catcher should be early in the batting order to give them time to get into gear before each inning. (If we find that the players' safety is in question catching should be done by a coach.)
- Each batter will receive up to 6 pitches unless the batter strikes out swinging. (3 strikes and batter is considered out, if a player struggles with batting a 4th swing will be awarded. 4 swing maximum then the player is out, no exceptions.) If after six pitches the batter has not hit the ball, the batter will be considered out.
- When batting player is out they will go to their bench and the inning will end when the team reaches 3 outs OR 6 runs have been scored. Batting team players can run unlimited bases, however if the play is a result of an overthrown ball the runner may advance only 1 base.
- If a runner is hit by a fair batted ball they are considered out. When a runner is called out for being hit by a fair batted ball, the batter gets first base. All other runners remain at the base they held at the time of the pitch, unless forced to advance by the batter being awarded first base.
- The infield needs to be in regular fielding positions (catcher, pitcher, shortstop, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd basemen). The remaining player will be positioned in the outfield, no one sits out.
- Stealing bases or leading off a base is not allowed.
- If a hit ball strikes the pitching machine or is caught by the pitching coach the batting player is automatically rewarded a single. All players on base should advance 1 base.
- Rules can be modified if both coaches agree to the change(s) prior to the game.
- The dugout must be picked up when the game is complete.
- Weather cancellations, unless notified of cancellation by director everyone will show up at the park, and the decision to play will be determined at the time by the coaches. There will be no make-up games due to weather cancellations, unless agreed upon by coach and director.
- Practices can start approximately 3 weeks before the season begins. Coaches are encouraged to continue practices throughout the season. Practice time and days will be up to the coach to schedule. Coaches are allowed to hold practices prior to the game.
- This league will use soft core/safety baseballs for game play, not hard baseballs.
- Above all, **HAVE FUN!!!**