

MCLL 2021 – Boys Pitching Machine Rules

- 1. Batting**-each batter gets 6 pitches. If he/she misses the 6th pitch their out. If he/she fouls off the last pitch he/she will get an additional pitch.
- 2. Batting Lineup**- Continuous batting order. If a player shows up late they will be placed at the bottom of the batting order. If a player leaves the game early, his spot is skipped over in the lineup. It is an automatic out, unless there is an injury or sickness.
- 3. 3 outs or 5 run max rule**- Teams can only score 5 runs per inning. After the 5th run is scored, ball is dead and defense will come off the field. There is not unlimited runs in the last inning, since last inning cannot be determined, based on time limit.
- 4. Overthrows**- In Marine City (because they don't have fences on all fields), overthrow lines will be marked at 20 ft. from the baselines. Balls that are thrown past the line will be considered a dead ball and the runner will advance one base. If the ball is overthrown and stays between the field of play and the overthrow line, the runner can advance.
- 5. Control rule**- Runners may advance as many bases as they can until the ball is on the infield and under control. Once the defense has control, runners may not advance. At the point that the ball is under control, the runners go to the nearest bag. They must be more than half way to advance to the next base. If an attempt to throw out at the base, runners can advance on overthrows. In control is holding the ball without attempting to make a play while on the infield. Umpire will make final call on "in control" rule.
- 6. On field coaches**- Allow 2 defensive coaches standing in the outfield, and one offensive coach who feeds the ball in the pitching machine
- 7. Rotating players**- No team will sit a player for more than one inning in a row, unless an injury, sickness, or behavioral issue exists.
- 8. Play with 10 defensive players** - 4 of the players must be outfielders.
- 9. Pitcher**- must keep foot in 10 foot radius circle around mound, and pitcher must wear a helmet with a face guard.
- 10. Catchers**- Catchers are a mandatory position to fill. Balls pitched and not put into play will be placed behind catcher until next batter.
- 11. Game Times**- Games are to start at scheduled time. Teams should have eight players to start the game. Teams will have 10 minutes after start time to achieve eight players. If you have less than eight players the game is a forfeit. The game should be played under forfeiture and needed players can be added to play the game from the opposing team or non-playing pitching machine team.
- 12. Time limits**- Games are 6 innings or 2 hours, whichever occurs first. No inning can start after 2 hours has elapsed.
- 13. Pitching Machine**- If a batted ball hits the machine, runner automatically advances to first. Other runners advance only if they are forced.
- 14. Pitching Machine speed** - Baseball 35-38 mph at 46 ft.
- 15. Weather**- Home coach should make the call to the visiting coach if weather or field is bad. The call should be made as early as possible. Players, umpire in charge, and concession coordinator need to be notified if there is a cancellation.

16. Field care - Home team readies the field (rake, chalk, bases out, sets machine up) Visiting team cleans up (check dugouts for trash or left behind articles, put away bases, take garbage from trash cans to the dumpster). When playing a different league team at home, you have the responsibility for both home and visitor.

17. General- There needs to be one adult in the dugout at all times. This can be the team mom. Please make sure all adults volunteering have submitted volunteer applications so the proper background checks are performed.

18. Batters- Batters cannot take practice swings while waiting their turn to bat - there are no on-deck areas. For liability reasons, Little League rulings, and just general safety concerns this is not allowed. Practice swings can be done outside of the batter's box when their turn to bat.

19. Additional rules- Where not state above, rules will follow as outlined in the 2018 Little League Baseball Rulebook.