

2020 Coach Pitch Ground Rules for D2 9/10 Softball

All regular Little League pitching rules are in effect EXCEPT when the following situation occurs:

The current pitcher walks 2 consecutive batters and reaches a 4-ball count on the third batter...

A designated 'coach pitcher' from the hitting team enters the field of play to pitch to the current batter AND the pitcher remains on the field to field the position of pitcher. When the third consecutive walk occurs the count will be reset to 0 balls 0 strikes.

The 'coach' should be identified prior to the start of the game.

It would be preferred that this coach is not one of the base coaches so they may continue to coach the bases and hitter when/if the ball is put into play.

The 'coach' pitches to the batter while the pitcher fields the position. Balls and strikes are called. The current batter may NOT walk or be hit by pitch, but they may strike out.

After the batter puts the ball in play or strikes out, the regular pitcher returns to pitch to face the next batter, unless the third out is recorded.

The process begins again. If the pitcher walks 2 consecutive batters and reaches a 4-ball count on the third batter, the 'coach' enters the field to pitch again.

*If a batted ball strikes the 'coach' it will be considered a live ball and be played as such.

*The 'coach pitcher' is not allowed to coach the hitter—only the base coaches may coach the hitter.

*Stealing will NOT be in effect while a 'coach' is pitching and the ball will be considered 'dead' (i.e. no running on a ball that is not caught in return from the catcher) until it is put into play.

*Hit By Pitch is not a walk. It will be treated as a "neutral" which means it does not impact the walk count. Example: If you have walked first batter, hit the second batter with a pitch, and walk the third batter, you have two walks on you.

*Runners may advance on the 4th ball to the "third batter"- it is treated just like a normal pitch. It is when the coach is pitching that runners cannot advance.