

**Bridge City Little League
SIX-YEAR-OLD BOYS MINOR COACH PITCH
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

FUNCTIONAL PURPOSE OF THE COACH PITCH PROGRAM

The Bridge City Little League Coach Pitch program is a tool by which young men can make the first transition from Tee Ball to Baseball. They can continue to practice and develop baseball skills at an early age, with maximum enjoyment.

MANAGERS/COACHES

The manager must approach Coach Pitch with the attitude of helping young men in the learning process of Baseball, not the winning and losing. It is up to the manager/coach to instill the same attitude in the parents of the young men. A maximum of **five (5) runs** will be scored in any inning. **There will be score keeping, only determining when five (5) runs have been scored. No running score, or total score, will be kept.** There will be no winners or losers declared. The scoreboard will not be used. The managers/coaches will also be responsible for the conduct of their fans, and the assistants on the team.

GAMES AND PRACTICE

There will be a one **(1) hour and fifteen (15) minute time limit**. At the end of the time limit, the play will stop immediately. Play the entire time limit, with no regard to innings, or which team is batting. The maximum number of active days is set at 5 times a week after games begin, with a minimum of 4 active days.

UMPIRES

Parents and/or fans will be used. The home team will be responsible for the plate umpire while the visiting team will be responsible for the first and third base umpires. Training, for volunteers, will be available through the league.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **Age:** 6-year-old boys.
2. **Scorekeeping:** **There will be scorekeeping, only to determine when five (5) runs have been scored. No running score, or total score, will be kept.** The scoreboard will not be used. The home team will furnish a person to keep the run sheet, and they will sit at the score table, or behind home plate.
3. **Dress:** T shirt and cap will be provided by the league and considered the **official league uniform**. Any player not in **official league uniform** will not be allowed to play. The player will provide shoes and pants. No jewelry will be allowed in a game. (The exception will be needed medical information). Shirts will be tucked in at all times.
4. **Boundaries:** Same as parent Little League. The home team coaches will be responsible for marking all field lines prior to the game. The visiting team should help prepare the field.
5. **Assignment of Players:** President of the League, Vice-President of Coach Pitch, and the Player Agent will assign players to teams.
6. **Teams:** Roster of teams should not exceed 12 players. New players will be placed on a team in the order that each team is drawn.
7. **Number of Players:** Defensive team: **ten (10) players**. Offensive team: all players present for the game. The number of players on each team does not have to be the same.
8. **Defense:** No player will be withheld from any game because of non-participation in practice or previous games. Defensive team: ten (10) players. Only six (6) in the infield. Infielders must play normal positions (first, second, shortstop, third, pitcher, catcher). Infielders may be positioned **no more than two (2) feet in front of the baselines** before the ball is struck.

Four (4) defensive outfielders must be positioned no closer than twenty (20) feet behind the baselines.

9. **There will be free substitutions** at the end of each inning. **ANY PLAYER THAT WAS NOT IN THE FIELD THE PREVIOUS INNING MUST PLAY A DEFENSIVE POSITION THE NEXT INNING.**
10. **Offense:** All Players are listed in order they are to bat and each batter will bat in a rotation sequence. The batting order will include all players present for the game, and will be followed with no regard to which team members are playing defense. No swinging of bats in the dugout or on-deck will be allowed
11. **Pitching: the coach may pitch the ball overhand or underhand.** Use the pitching style that best suits the child batting. The player who occupies the defensive position of pitcher must keep both feet in the pitchers' circle until the ball is hit. The adult pitcher must pitch from 30 ft. **The adult pitcher will have 5 balls in his position, and the catcher will not return balls until 5 are pitched.**
12. **Base running:** The runner must stay in contact with the base until the ball crosses the plate. All runners must stop at third, and the next batter must knock them in. When players have advanced as far as possible without being put out, and the ball has been returned to the possession of the pitcher (child) in the circle, the umpire will call "time". When a player is put out, or retired, they will return to the dugout immediately. When all defensive players are in the proper positions, the umpire will call "play ball" and the next batter takes a turn at bat. **RUNNERS MAY NOT STEAL!!!**
13. **Side Retired:** When the batting team makes three (3) outs, or five (5) runs are scored, the side is retired. The next batter in the batting order will start the next inning.
14. **Bases:** Bases will be 60 feet apart.
15. **Foul:** Same as conventional Baseball and Softball with the exception that if the ball fails to travel 15 feet from home plate in fair territory, it is counted as a foul ball.
16. **Strikeout: A batter will be allowed five (5) pitches or three (3) strikes.** The batter must hit one of the five (5) pitches, or the batter shall be called out (**EXCEPTION:** Foul ball on third swing—Batter will bat until hitting the ball fair or striking out).
17. **Hitting:** The batter will not be allowed to bunt.
18. **Coaching:** First and third base coaches will be allowed. The defensive team may have one coach in the outfield. No coaches will be allowed in the infield at any time.
19. **Regulation Game:** One (1) hour and fifteen (15) minutes. **Play the entire time limit** with no regard to which team is batting at the end of the game. Rainouts will not be rescheduled.
20. **Schedules:** First team listed on the schedule will be the visiting team, and will occupy the first base dugout. All games will be played according to the schedule. Any exceptions will have to be with the approval of the Coach Pitch VP or Player agent. Interleague play will not be permitted.
21. **Protest:** Protests will not permitted in Coach Pitch league.
22. Managers/Coaches will be responsible for the actions of his fans and their assistants.

23. Each team should be ready to leave the dug out immediately after the game. Hold your team meeting at a different location.
24. It will be illegal to jump a defensive player attempting to make a tag.
25. Safety bases – **The orange base is used for the runner going to first only.** Once the runner is safe at first, the orange base is no longer in play. It is never used for a defensive play.
26. If a manager/coach is ejected from the last game of the season, the suspension will be enforced on the first two games of the following season
27. **THERE WILL BE NO SOFT TOSS ALLOWED INTO ANY FENCING AT BCLL.**