

## 2008 USFA Rules Revisions

### 8-Under (Coach Pitch) Rules

1. 8 runs or 3 outs per ½ inning. Following the 3<sup>rd</sup> out or 8<sup>th</sup> run scored, all play is stopped so as to prevent injury.
2. There will be 10 defensive players allowed on the field. There must be no more than 6 infielders. The outfielders must play at least 10 feet beyond the bases.
3. 5 pitches or 3 swings, 5<sup>th</sup> and consecutive fouls will not be counted against the 5 pitch count.
4. If coach is hit by pitch, dead ball and batter runner gets first, no one can move up unless forced.
5. The Coach-Pitcher may pitch at any distance inside the 8 ft pitching circle and within the boundaries of the 24 inch pitching rubber. To clarify, the Coach-Pitcher must be touching or be directly in front of the pitching rubber and use a straight ahead pitching approach. Coach-Pitchers may not pitch from either side of the pitching rubber so as to gain the advantage of a directional hit.

**Penalty:** if at any time prior to release of the ball, the Coach-Pitcher steps outside of the pitching circle or is outside the imaginary 24 inch pitching rubber boundaries, a strike will be called on the batter.

6. While the ball is in play, all runners are free to advance at their own risk. Play is stopped on defense by stopping the lead runner. Once the lead runner has been stopped, the ball is no longer in play, the ball is thrown to the pitchers circle and no runner may advance.

**Example #1:** Runner “A” is at 2<sup>nd</sup> base when the batter (Runner “B”) hits the ball. Runner “A” then runs and reaches third base safely, while the ball is fielded and is thrown to the 3<sup>rd</sup> baseman who now possesses the ball and is capable of tagging Runner “A”

out if she was to attempt to advance. The Umpire declares play stopped. The ball is then thrown to the pitching circle and Runner "B" is halted at 1<sup>st</sup> base.

**Example #2:** Using the same scenario as Example #1, Runner "A" is at 2<sup>nd</sup> base when the batter (Runner "B") hits the ball. Runner "A" however is tagged out prior to reaching 3<sup>rd</sup> base. In this scenario, the ball is not dead, but rather Runner "B" would now become the lead runner and may continue to advance at her own risk until she is declared out or her progress is stopped by the defense, resulting in the umpire stopping play and the ball being thrown to the pitching circle.

7. Balls must be an approved. (COR 0.47-11 inch. Optic yellow)
8. Two coaches can stand in the outfield in fouled ball area only.  
one on each side.(left side and right side)
9. Girls can leave the base when the coach releases the pitch.
10. Run rule is 12 after 3, 10 after 4, 8 after 5.
11. Unlimited amount of players on roster.
12. Can bat up to 12 players. Line-up may consist of 10 players  
with up to 2 EP's
13. Dead ball if Pitcher-coach is hit by pitch or interferes with  
the play
14. No stealing, Bunting or Slapping
15. There will be no "Infield Fly Rule" for 8-Under