

**East Daviess County Rookie
8 and under
2017 General Rules**

1. Each team should field ten (10) players. A game may not be started with less than (9) players. Every player bats in rotation. Four (4) defensive players in outfield.
2. An inning will consist of three (3) outs or five (5) runs.
3. Every player must play in each game a minimum of 2 complete innings. You must always bat your entire line up; no on-deck batters, players should remain in dugout till their at bat.
4. Pitching machine speeds will be set at 38 M.P.H. One (1) alignment of machine per team per inning. Release point of ball from machine will be set above pitching rubber. Only adult coach will operate pitching machine.
 - a. If the batted ball hits the pitching machine or coach, the ball is dead. Award one base to the batter runner. All forced base runners will advance one base.
 - b. Pitching coach must make every reasonable effort to avoid interfering with the play once the batter hits the ball. Coach must stay behind the pitching machine. Interference may be called if, in umpire's judgment, the coach fails to make this effort. If interference is called batter runner is out and runners return to previous bases.
 - c. Pitching coach may instruct the batter. Pitching coach may not instruct base-runners (responsibility of base coaches); no touching base runners, automatic out. The umpire will first issue a warning, and thereafter disqualify the coach.
 - d. Pitching coach may not shout instructions to defensive players. In this event the umpire will disqualify the coach.
 - e. A six (6) foot radius half circle starting from the pitching rubber and proceeding back behind the pitching rubber will be drawn with chalk. Pitch-player must be behind or to the side of the pitching machine with at least one (1) foot in the half circle, until ball has reached the plate.
 - f. Non-digital readout pitching machines will need to be calibrated.
5. Bunting is not allowed. If in the opinion of the umpire a child did attempt to bunt, the child is called out regardless of the count on the batter.
6. Plate umpires call strikes on foul balls and missing swings only. No called strikes or walks are allowed. Players may strike out. Home plate umpire calls foul balls unless he calls on base umpire to help.
7. A limit of six (6) pitches will be delivered to the batter. If on the 6th pitch the batter fouls the ball, the batter will continue hitting until the batter fails to make contact with the pitch or hits a fair ball. A caught foul tip on 6th pitch is out.
8. All male players should wear athletic supporters. Male catchers must wear full gear to include protective cup, long model chest protector. Female catchers must wear long or short model chest protectors. All catchers must wear a mask with dangling type throat protector and a catcher's helmet. Sub runner may be used only for the catcher or an injured or sick runner. **MUST USE LAST RECORDED OUT.**

9. Runners may advance only after batter hits a playable ball. No stealing. Runner leaving base early before ball is hit must return to the base or may only advance if ball is hit and will only be 1 base ahead of the hitter.
10. Only umpire will call time. Defense may appeal for time when defense stops the advance of lead runner.
 - a. Home team furnishes plate umpire. The plate umpire calls third and home plate, keeps track of strikes. Visiting team furnishes field umpire (calls 1st base and 2nd base).
 - b. No paid umpires until tournament play.
11. Two (2) Adult coaches for both offense and defense, not including pitching coach.
12. No infield fly rule.
13. Home team will furnish three (3) balls in good condition for game. Both head coaches must approve balls.
14. Pitching machine coach will use three (3) balls. Plate umpire will assist in returning balls to pitching coach.
15. Four (4) innings makes a complete game. **Game time limit is no new inning after 1 hour and 30 minutes from official start time.** Inning is completed immediately after the third out at the bottom of the inning. Ten (10) run mercy rule is in effect after 4th inning. 5-RUNS PER INNING
16. Tournament is **NOT** seeded and there is **NO** time limit for games.