

BVBA Machine Pitch Rules

The BVBA Machine Pitch league is developmental and made up of players in 1st and 2nd grade of the current school year. Players in Kindergarten of the current school year may request to play Machine Pitch as roster space allows.

1. Games are 5 innings with no new inning after 1 hour 15 minutes. All games have a dead stop time of 1 hour 25 minutes.
2. USA approved bats only. **USSSA approved bats are strictly prohibited for league use.**
3. Regulation baseballs will be used.
4. A pitching machine will be used.
5. All players must bat in the same order for the entire game. Coaches are expected to change the batting order from game to game.
6. Each half innings will consist of 3 outs or 5 runs, whichever comes first.
7. Each batter is given a total of 6 strikes in their at-bat. If the ball is not put in play before 6 strikes, the batter is out.
8. Intentional bunting is **NOT** allowed.
9. If a batted ball hits the coach or pitching machine, the ball is dead and each runner is awarded one base.
10. Each batter and/or runner is allowed a 2-base maximum unless a home run is hit on fields with an outfield fence.
11. Runners cannot lead off or leave the base until the ball is put in play. Runners cannot advance on an overthrow and cannot run once an infielder controls the baseball.
12. Runners may not intentionally create contact with another player. If a defensive player has the baseball, the runner must either slide or make every attempt to avoid contact. If a defensive player is in the base line without the baseball and creates contact with the runner, interference may be called.
13. All players must always play in the field. There will be 6 infielders: pitcher, catcher, first base, second base, third base, and shortstop. The remaining players will play outfield. **All players must play 2 innings in the infield.** Coaches are expected to change positions from inning to inning.
14. The player in the pitcher position **must** always wear a helmet. The pitcher cannot be positioned ahead of the pitching machine.
15. Outfielders must play in the outfield grass until the ball is put in play.