

8u Mid-Cities Interlock Rules

SECTION 14 – 8U RULES (for complete set of rules visit the IFA/VTD rulebook online)

1. Participation:

- 1.1. All teams will bat throughout the roster until three outs are made.
- 1.2. Ten players play the field. Infielders will take normal infield positions. All outfielders must be positioned on the outfield grass and cannot come into the infield until the ball is put into play by the batter. The 11th and beyond will play in the outfield 10' behind the first four outfielders. All players in the line-up will play in the field.
- 1.3. The game will be played if eight or more players are present from each team.
- 1.4. Fielders must attempt to make plays with overhand throws or underhand tosses to the bases. Intentionally rolled balls will result in the runner being called safe.
- 1.5. Outfielders must play on grass at time of pitch.
- 1.6. All players must play at least 1 inning at an in-field position by the 3rd inning. Exceptions should be raised by coach at umpire meeting. Rosters provided to opposing teams should indicate positions for each player through the 3rd inning. This rule will not be enforced during the end-of-season tournament.

2 Base Running:

- 1.7. Field Umpire will make all calls. Coaches may not argue judgment calls.
- 2.1. Runners may not leave a base they are occupying at the time of the pitch. Runners may leave once the ball is contacted by the batter. Stealing bases is not allowed. (RULE MODIFIED FOR INTERLOCKING REC SEASON)
- 2.3. Runners are allowed to advance one base on an overthrow only when a play is being attempted at the base they are occupying. That runner may continue to another base only if there is a subsequent overthrow at the next base she is attempting. Any other base runners may attempt to advance multiple bases as long as the overthrow is not at the base they are occupying. (RULE MODIFIED FOR INTERLOCKING REC SEASON)
- 2.4. Play is stopped when the ball is thrown to the pitcher's circle, and the player pitcher has control of the ball with at least one foot in the pitching circle. Base runners must stop at the base they are going to at time of throw. The umpire should call coach's interference if a coach fails to get out of the way of a fielder, or if the umpire determines a coach pitcher intentionally drops/misses a ball throw to him or her by a fielder in order to allow base runners to advance. Any bases awarded or taken away will be at the umpire's discretion. (RULE MODIFIED FOR INTERLOCKING REC SEASON)
- 2.5. RULE OMITTED FOR INTERLOCKING REC SEASON
- 2.6. A player attempting to reach next base is considered "going" to next base. If pitcher attempts to throw runner out, ball is considered live and base runner may continue as a past ball.
- 2.7. No "slap" hitting or bunting is allowed off of a coach pitcher. Player will be called out on first "slap" or bunt attempt. (RULE MODIFIED FOR INTERLOCKING REC SEASON)
- 2.8. There is NO INFIELD FLY RULE

3. Pitching:

- 3.1. The kid pitcher will pitch the 1st inning with the coach pitching all remaining innings. During the kid pitch inning, each batter receives pitches from a player/pitcher until she puts the ball in play, strikes out or receives four balls. After receiving four balls, the coach pitcher for the batting team enters and assumes the strike count. The coach

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pitcher may throw up to a maximum of 3 pitches. If the coach pitcher assumes a strike count of more than zero strikes, the coach pitcher may still throw up to 3 pitches, assuming the batter chooses not to swing at one or more pitches. The batter can put the ball in play, strike out, or fail to hit (i.e. not swing at the final pitch), at which time her at bat is over and an out is recorded. A final pitch that is fouled off does not count toward the pitch count and an additional pitch (or pitches) may be thrown. An exception to this would be if the catcher catches the foul tip on the third strike or the final coach pitcher pitch, in which case an out is recorded. (RULE MODIFIED FOR INTERLOCKING REC SEASON)

3.2 Coaches will pitch from the 35' pitching rubber. Player designated pitcher must be to the right or left of the coach pitcher with at least one foot in the circle.

3.3. Catcher must be on field for every pitch. (RULE MODIFIED FOR INTERLOCKING REC SEASON) If umpire determines that a team is delaying game by slowing down getting a catcher on the field, the batter will be awarded first base. This is considered a judgment call. Last batted out may run for the catcher of record with 2 outs.

3.4. After the first inning, there will be 5 pitches to try to put the ball into play. A player is out after 3 strikes (physical swings of the bat) or after 5 pitches and the ball has not been put into play. There is no ball count kept.

3.5. If the batter fouls the 3rd strike she gets another pitch (unlimited number) until the ball is put into play or she strikes out.

3.6. If a batted ball should-hit the coach pitching then, the ball is declared a "dead ball" and the pitch will be replayed. All runners must return to the base where they began. (RULE MODIFIED FOR INTERLOCKING REC SEASON)

All defensive players (excluding the pitcher) shall be positioned outside of the pitching circle at their normal positions. The pitcher should be in a position on either side of the pitching coach (1st base side or 3rd base side) with at least one foot inside the pitching circle, and shall be no closer to home plate than the 25' line when the pitch is launched.

3.7 No drop 3rd strike in effect

4. Coaches Responsibilities:

4.1. Two defensive coaches will be allowed in the outfield.

4.2. Offensive coaches are to be in coach's boxes at first base, third base and behind the pitching line.

5. General

5.1. A 5 run rule for each one-half inning will apply.

5.2. All batters must wear helmets with face masks and chin straps.

5.3. The game is officially over once 6 innings have been played or time has expired.

5.4. 75 minutes finish the inning for ALL games. No NEW inning will start after 75 minutes have been played. Once time has expired and it is determined that there is no way the losing team can score enough runs to tie or win the game within the inning they are playing, the batter at the plate will finish her at bat and then the game is over.

5.5. (RULE OMITTED FOR INTERLOCKING REC SEASON)

5.6. All players must be properly equipped and must have uniforms with numbers on the back.

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- 5.7. Line-up must be turned into score keeper before first pitch. NO EXCEPTIONS.
5.8. All players must bat in order. Any deviations will be considered outs.

Interlock specific rules:

- * There are no playing or rotation requirements for fielders.
- * The coach pitcher must pitch from the 35" pitching rubber
- * The kid pitcher must pitch from the 35' pitching rubber.
- * If a batter is hit by a kid pitcher then the batter is awarded 1st base.
- * Bases are set at 60'.
- * Teams will use an 11" standard softball.