

8.07 Machine Pitch Specific Rules –

8.07.A Fair Ball Arc: There shall be a twenty (20) foot arc drawn from first (1st) baseline to third (3rd) baseline in front of home plate. A batted ball must go past this line to be a fair ball.

8.07.B Safety Arc: There shall be a thirty (30) foot arc drawn from first (1st) baseline to third (3rd) baseline in front of home plate. Infielders must stay behind this line until the ball is hit.

8.07.C Pitching Circle: There shall be a ten (10) foot diameter circle with the front edge set at forty-two (42) feet from the rear point of home plate.

8.07.D Pitching Machine: The front leg(s) shall be set at a distance of forty-two (42) feet from the rear point of home plate.

8.07.E Recommended pitching machine speeds:

8.07.E.1 36 M.P.H. – 39 M.P.H. for the 7U age division.

8.07.E.2 39 M.P.H. – 42 M.P.H. for the 8U age division.

8.07.F Ten (10) defensive players shall play in the field with four (4) outfielders. The fourth (4th) outfielder shall not assume an infield position. All outfielders shall stay behind the baselines.

8.07.G The defensive player listed as pitcher shall not leave the pitching circle until the ball is hit.

Rule 8.07.G Penalty: The play continues. After the play has ended, the offensive team has the option of taking the result of the play or no-pitch.

Rule 8.07.G Additional Penalty: First Offense: Warning; Second Offense: Removal of player from the pitching position for the remainder of the game.

8.07.H Defensive coaches shall not allowed on the field of play and shall coach from the dugout.

8.07.I The Infield Fly Rule shall not be in effect at any time.

8.07.J The batting order shall constitute all present players on the team roster at the beginning of the game. Late arrivals

shall be inserted at the bottom of the batting order. All players on the roster shall bat before returning to the top of the batting order.

8.07.J.1 Teams may start a game with eight (8) players. The ninth (9th) & tenth (10th) positions in the batting order will be declared an out each turn at bat.

Rule 8.07.J.1 Approved Ruling: A ninth (9th) & tenth (10th) player and all subsequent players may be added to the bottom of the batting line-up as soon as they become available.

8.07.K Teams may use free substitution on defense but the batting order shall remain the same.

8.07.L Teams may bunt a maximum of two (2) times per inning.

8.07.L.1 Fake bunts shall be prohibited. A batter that “shows” bunt is committed to an attempt to bunt or take the pitch.

Rule 8.07.L.1 Penalty: **A batter who swings after “showing” bunt shall be called out and no runners may advance.**

8.07.M The batter shall receive a maximum of six (6) pitches or three (3) swinging strikes.

Rule 8.07.M Comment: A batter that has received less than six (6) pitches and has a count of two (2) swinging strikes shall have his turn at bat extended on foul balls up to the six (6) pitch limit.

8.07.N A player may only be Intentionally Walked once per game by announcement from the defensive team.

8.07.O Runners shall not lead-off or steal bases. A runner is out for leaving the base before the ball is hit or reaches home plate.

8.07.P A courtesy runner for catcher of record only the previous inning may be used. The courtesy runner shall be the player that made the previous out. If no outs have been recorded in the game, the courtesy runner shall be the previous batter not on base.

8.07.Q A team may score a maximum of seven (7) runs per inning, including the last inning or record three (3) outs.

8.07.R Umpires shall call “Time” after every play and declare the ball dead. “Time” shall be called as soon as the lead runner is not attempting to advance. “Time” does not have to be called by the defense for the purpose of this rule.

Rule 8.07.R Comment: When a runner stands off a base and “jukes” or “feints” back and forth, this is to be interpreted as “not attempting to advance” and “Time” shall be called.

8.07.S When a batted ball hits the pitching machine, the ball is dead, the batter is awarded first (1st) base and all runners shall advance one (1) base.