

**2010**

**East Ridge  
Diaper League  
Baseball Rules  
Ages 3 / 4 Year Old**

## **ER Diaper League Baseball - Common Coaches Rules**

1. The age a child is before May 1<sup>st</sup> is the age group that child is eligible to play, no player should be 5 yrs old before May 1<sup>st</sup>.
2. Each coach shall be required to have a batting line up established before the game begins.
3. No team make take infield practice on the entire infield before the game, each team may use the area outside the base paths for warm up.
4. All players are required to wear batting helmets with chin straps when batting, on deck, and running bases. Players are required to keep batting helmets on until they go into the dugout.
5. Batters will get 5 swings ONLY unless a foul ball, may continue to swing until a fair ball or a missed swing, no more than 3 live pitches – 2 swings on a tee (5 total), or a beginner may get 5 swings on a tee, any combination of pitches and swing but limited to 5 swings total.
6. Batters are encouraged to drop the bat and not sling it after they hit the ball.
7. Teams may have a 1<sup>st</sup> baseman, 2<sup>nd</sup> baseman, shortstop, 3<sup>rd</sup> baseman, a pitcher in the circle, and any outfielders. Players should be moved back away from the batter if a batter shows advance hitting ability for safety. Teams will not play with a catcher. Defensive players playing in the pitchers circle are required to wear a batting helmet with a face mask.
8. Batting team will bat 5 batters at a time before turning over the half inning of play, (resume the batting line up after they return to the dugout) all runners should be allowed to run bases until stopped by the advancement of the fielder holding the ball.
9. Both teams shall complete as many innings as possible within 55 minutes, no new inning will begin after 55 minutes.
10. Score will not be kept, any out made by a player will not count against the runner, runners may advance until stopped by a player with the ball.
11. Offensive coaches may be at each base ( 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>) pitching coach and a coach or parent to catch during the month of April, during the month of May the second base coach will move to the dugout.
12. Defensive coaches are limited to 3 on the field, one in the infield and two in the outfield during the month of April, during the month of May the infield coach will move to the dugout.
13. A 15 minute grace period will be allotted for the 1<sup>st</sup> game only.
14. Coaches should not touch a live ball in play, allow the players to get and play the ball.
15. All bats must be t-ball approved. Tennis shoes or baseball shoes with rubberized cleats may be worn. **NO METAL OR HARD PLASTIC CLEATS ALLOWED.**
16. Head Coaches are responsible for the conduct of his/her coaches, parents, players and other spectators.

17. If a player is injured by a live ball in the head, face, throat, time will immediately called and the player will be awarded 1 additional base, any other injury deemed serious by the umpire will be handled in the same manner.
  18. Focal points:
    - a. Teach the players to stay in the dugouts,
    - b. teach the parents to stay in the stands,
    - c. teach the players to run to the appropriate base, when to run,
    - d. teach the batters not to sling the bat,
    - e. teach the defense to throw the ball to the appropriate base,  
not to run a base runner down,
    - f. teach the defensive players not to chase a hit ball unless it is in their area,  
not to heard like cattle after a ball'
    - g. teach the defensive players to cover a base
    - h. teach batters not to pick up the bats until it is their time to go on deck,
    - i. teach the players to listen to the coaches on the field,
    - j. teach the parents to not coach from the bleachers but to cheer.
  18. Park cars in the parking lots.
  19. Clean up your side of the field, including dugouts and bleachers after each game.
  20. Have fun and enjoy this time of innocence with all your players, brag on the progress your players make. Involve your parents in practice, make practice fun and they won't know they are learning the basics of the game of baseball.
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Kevin Wright – ER Commissioner of Baseball and Softball 423- 320-0001

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