

Lancaster Depew Ponytails Rules

Pee Wee

- **4 Pitch Rule** – 4 coach pitches then go to tee
- **2 Coaches** on the field for defense
- **Outs count** – remove runner from bases – infinite outs per inning
- Bat through the order each inning
- **Station-to-Station** -Runners advance one base at a time – last batter gets a home run – defense remains on the field until the last batter touches home plate
- Always **finish the play** – throw to first, touch the base
- Play **softball positions** – infielders in infield, outfielders in outfield
- **Challenge** each player according to their ability
- Player of the game token
- Have fun!

Juniors

- A complete game consists of 6 innings. An **official game** will be at the discretion of the Junior Division coordinator.
- There will be **no forfeits** and no minimum requirements to play
- **Mercy Rule** – 15 runs after 5 innings. **5 Run rule** – Teams switch after 5 runs are scored except the fifth and sixth inning.
- Players in the field – Teams will play 10 players on defense if both teams have 10 players, otherwise teams will play defense with 9 players. Softball positions only. Outfielders must play on the grass.
- **Leadoffs/Stealing** – Players may leadoff/steal only after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. Stealing of home is not permitted.
- Players may only advance home on a **batted ball or a base on balls**. Players may not advance to home on a pickoff throw to any base.
- **Pitching / Catching** – each player may pitch / catch a maximum of 3 innings per game.
- **Hit By Pitch** – A pitcher can hit at most 2 batters per inning before she will be removed for that inning. A pitcher can hit at most 3 batters per game before she will be removed for that game. A ball that hits the **dirt** and then hits the batter is considered a ball (unless the batter swings) and does not constitute being hit by pitch. Throwing one pitch per inning consumes one inning for the pitcher.
- A **play is ended** when the pitcher has **control** of the ball in the pitcher's circle. The play ending means that base runners may, at most, continue to the base they are approaching.
- **Two by Two Rule** – All players may play no more than 2 innings at the same position (except pitchers and catchers) and each player must play 2 innings in the infield.
- **No Forfeits ever** – Share players and make it work!

Ponytails

- A complete game consists of 6 innings. An **official game** will be at the discretion of the Ponytails coordinator.
- **Mercy Rule** – 15 runs after 5 innings. 5 Run Rule – Teams switch after 5 runs are scored except for the fifth and six innings.
- **10 Players in the field** – softball positions only. Outfielders must play on grass.
- Balls that do **NOT** leave the infield – Each runner may advance only one base.
- **Halfway Rule** – On balls that make it to the outfield, runners may continue to advance until the ball reaches the infield. Upon reaching the infield, baserunners are limited to the base they are approaching and may be returned to the previous base if the umpire determines they were less than halfway to the next base. The defense can still make plays against these baserunners.
- **6 Total Pitches** – 3 player pitches, 3 coach pitches. An a -bat will continue on a foul ball on the last pitch. **Strike outs count**. No base on balls or hit by pitch. Both players and coaches will pitch from the full 30 feet.
- **Pitching Limit** – Pitchers can pitch 2 innings per game.
- **Two By Two Rule** – All players may play no more than 2 innings at the same position and each player must play 2 innings in the infield.
- **No forfeits ever** – Share players and make it work!

Middle School

- An **official game** will be at the discretion of the Middle School coordinator.
- **Mercy Rule** – 8 runs after 5 innings. 5 Run Rule – Teams switch after 5 runs are scored.
- **Leadoffs/Stealing** – Players may leadoff/steal only after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. Stealing of home is permitted.
- **Pitching / Catching** – each player may pitch / catch a maximum of 4 innings per game.
- **Hit By Pitch** – A pitcher can hit at most 3 batters per inning before she will be removed for that inning. A ball that hits the **dirt** and then hits the batter is considered a ball (unless the batter swings) and does not constitute being hit by pitch. Throwing one pitch per inning consumes one inning for the pitcher.
- **Runners** may only advance **one base** on a base on balls.
- **Infield Fly rule** is in effect.
- **Look Back rule** is in effect. Base runners must immediately commit to advancing or returning to a base when the pitcher has control of the ball inside the pitcher's circle. Once the pitcher controls the ball in the circle, runners can stop once, but must then immediately advance or return. Violations result in the runner being called out.
- A **play is ended** when the pitcher has **control** of the ball in the pitcher's circle. The play ending means that base runners may, at most, continue to the base they are approaching.
- **Two by Two Rule** – All players may play no more than 2 innings at the same position (except pitchers and catchers) and each player must play 2 innings in the infield.
- **No Forfeits ever** – Share players and make it work!