

2017 Knee Hi Division

Jared Houck

Cell Phone: 610-587-1577

E-mail – bubbahouck@comcast.net

Keys to a Successful Season

- Attendance at Parent's Night, Coach's Clinics and Coach's Meetings are strongly encouraged.
- Contact parents as soon as possible to introduce yourself, provide contact information and schedule information as you receive it.
- Find a Team Mom, Assistant coaches, and as many parents to help with practice as possible.
- Get players' shirt sizes. Please return this information to the commissioner as soon as possible.
- Get coaches and assistant coach's shirt sizes. The league will order up to 4 shirts per team for coaches.
- Coach's code of conduct and disclosure statement– both must be signed by all assistant coaches and team mom.
- Criminal check / child abuse – These must be completed by any person volunteering in BMBL. Please review the [Volunteer Clearance Requirements](#).
- Keep it fun, teach and keep their interest.

Coaches

- Head Coaches will be responsible for the conduct of assistant coaches, players and parents. If poor conduct continues after one warning, the offender will be asked to leave. Refusal to leave will result in the game being stopped and the situation turned over to the league commissioner and executive committee.
- Coaches are responsible for keeping the backstop clear of all distractions.
- Rattling of fences and yelling at the opposing team/players is strictly prohibited and must be monitored by the head coach.
- One head coach and three assistant coaches are the maximum allowed on the playing field and bench area during a game.
- Coaches must make sure that there are no "un-registered" players, siblings, etc. in or around the bench area and the playing field area.

Playing Field

- The HOME team will occupy the bench along the THIRD BASE line.
- The HOME team is responsible for having the field ready for play and will supply the game ball.
- The HOME team is responsible for seeing that everything is put away and locked up. All trash picked up and the lights turned off. Rake and fill in holes at batter's box and pitcher's mound. Please pour water over holes when filling them in.

- The distance from the front of the rubber to the back point of home plate shall be 42 feet.
- The distance from the tip of home plate to the back corner of 1st/3rd base shall be 60 feet.

Players

- ALL players MUST be fully registered and will be placed in one of the divisions listed below based on their age on April 30th of the current year:
 - a. Knee Hi – 7 and 8 year olds
- The only players permitted off the bench are the on-deck batter and those preparing for entry into the game as instructed by the coach.
- No players can be base coaches.
- Any player warming up a pitcher must wear FULL GEAR TO INCLUDE A PROTECTIVE CUP.
- Free substitution will be allowed.
- The batting order will consist of all players in uniform batting in rotation regardless if they have a position in the field or not. Any player arriving to the game late will be added to the bottom of the batting order. (Late arriving players must be announced to the opposing team upon arrival and entry into the game).

Playing Time

- Players must play a minimum of 3 innings per game
- Make sure every player gets equal playing time in the infield and outfield
- A player playing the position of CATCHER may not catch more than 4 innings per game.

Game Governance

- The home team has the field from 5:15 p.m. till 5:30 p.m.
- The visiting team has the field from 5:30 p.m. till 5:45 p.m.
- Games begin at 6:00 p.m. and will last 6 innings, unless otherwise suspended by weather or darkness.
 - SUSPENDED GAMES: In the event of darkness or inclement weather that does not allow a game to be played in its entirety, a game will be considered 4 complete innings.
 - The home team is responsible for postponing a game up until it starts. After the game begins, both coaches will make the decision. The safety of the players is paramount and should be the deciding factor. When a game is rescheduled, play will resume exactly where it left off (outs, count, runners, etc.) The home team score book will be the official record.
- TIED GAMES: If a score is tie after the regulation number of innings, the game will end in a tie.

- A six-run scoring limit (or once through the line-up or 3 outs, whichever comes first) will be in effect for the entire game.
- A play will be considered over when the ball is controlled in the infield. The infield will be considered anywhere in the direct area of the infield, not just the base paths.
- A batter will not be called out for stepping out of the batter's box to hit the ball.
- The batter can strike out.
- An official batter's box is not required, but some type of guideline should be put down for the batter.
- Coaches should introduce bunting skills during practice but should not use bunting in the games.
- There will be no right field assists @ first base permitted.
- There will be no direct put outs from the outfield positions permitted (the outfielder must throw the ball to a base to record an out).
- Hits should be limited to singles unless the hit ball would result in a legitimate double. By legitimate double, we mean a ball that is hit hard down the line or line drives past the infielders or a fly ball over an outfielder's head. Think a true major league double, not routine ground balls that find their way to the outfield. Please use your discretion.
- Bunting, stealing, sliding, or tagging up is not permitted.
- Players cannot advance on passed balls.
- Base Runners may not leave the base until the ball is hit.
- Runners may advance on an overthrow.
- The coach for the fielding team may stand behind the pitcher to help them as they go.
- The umpire can stand behind the pitcher to call balls and strikes.
- ANY OTHER RULES REVERT BACK TO MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL.

PITCHING

Our Knee Hi Division is a coach pitch / kid pitch division. The first half of the season will be coach pitch; the second half of the season will be kid pitch. The Knee-hi Commissioner will advise the date of the transition.

You are encouraged to work with every player from the very first practice on pitching. We want to provide an opportunity to every player to pitch in a game environment.

Here are a few rules highlights on pitching in the Knee Hi Division:

Starting the season, pitching will be by coach pitch. Coaches should provide 5 hittable pitches to each batter. If the batter does not hit any of the 5 pitches, please get the tee and have that batter hit from the tee.

Coaches shall work with players to develop pitching fundamentals.

Once the transition to kid pitch occurs:

- A pitcher may not pitch more than 1 inning per game and no more than 2 innings per week.
- A pitcher may not be permitted to throw more than 25 pitches per game.
- A pitcher may not pitch in consecutive games.
- The batter can strike out.
- Pitching shall be a combination of coach pitch and kid pitch. Players shall pitch a complete at bat to each batter. If the result of the at bat is a strike out (3 strikes), the player is out. If the result of the at bat is a batted ball, the result of that batted ball shall stand based on the result of the play. If the result of the at bat is a walk (4 balls), a coach shall step in and provide 3 strikes to the batter to hit. Three swinging strikes from the coach and the batter is out.
- Make sure every player pitches in games.