

## 2025 8U Open Twins Nike RBI Coach Pitch Baseball Bulletin:

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*The Legends League is sponsored by the Minnesota Twins Community Fund and is part of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board RBI (Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities) program.*



*Today we cheer for baseball and softball players such as Aaron Judge, DJ Sanders and the Twins Byron Buxton. We hear stories about Hank Aaron, Reggie Jackson, Toni Stone, and Ernie Banks. Thanks to these talented players and their contributions to the sport during the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, they laid the foundation for how baseball/softball is played today. These "pioneers" played a very important part in shaping the sport of baseball/softball. We are celebrating the legends of baseball/softball and sharing their stories throughout this year's 8U coach pitch and pitching machine seasons.*

*Good luck this season and have fun learning the history of the greatest game of all – Baseball/Softball!*

### LEAGUE OBJECTIVES

- Develop basic baseball skills for all participants. Examples: fielding, base running, hitting, throwing.
- Foster a positive environment where sportsmanship and self-esteem building come first.
- **SCORE IS NOT KEPT** – Emphasize team play and skill development without focusing on winning or losing.
- Create a MPRB Kids Zone environment (see page 4).

### Players:

- 8U Open: Ages 7-8 or currently in 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade
- Roster: Recommended 12 players per team
- Teams must have 5 players to play. Let's Play! If a team is short, share registered players.

### Weather/Cancellations:

- Weather / Field Condition Cancellations: MPRB staff will contact coaches via email at least 1 hour prior to game time. Coaches are responsible for notifying players. If you have questions, call the host site one hour before game time on weeknights or after gam on Saturdays.
- Coaches along with facility staff will be responsible for making weather related decisions during games.
- Lightning: Once lightning has been spotted or thunder has been heard, all MPRB athletic activities will be delayed for 30 minutes by the official, staff or coach on site. Games/practices may be re-started after 30 minutes after last lightning strike is seen and/or last rumble of thunder is heard. The official, staff, or coach will determine if a game will be cancelled.
- Rainout games are not rescheduled.
- Rainouts will be called at the game site at least 1 hour prior to game time, games will be called off if lightning sighted.

### Equipment:

- Players should wear appropriate shoes and clothing for the weather outside.



- Players should have their own labeled glove and water bottle.
- Metal cleats are not allowed.
- Bat Specification: Max Barrel Size – 2 ¼", Length – Unlimited (-13 recommended), Stamps of Approval – USSSA mark or 1.15 BPF stamp -13 differential. Bats that are between 26" and 29" depending on the size of the player. Ball Specifications: Incrediball- soft core - size 3

### **Playing Rules:**

1. No runs or standings will be kept.
2. Games: One inning will consist of each player getting to a turn at bat. Game times are 55 minutes.
3. Batting Order: The batting order shall include all players in uniform. Late arrivals will be added to the bottom of the order. If for any reason a player needs to leave the game that position in the order will be left blank.
4. Pitcher: Coach Pitch will use a coach-pitcher. The coach-pitcher will pitch to his/her own player from the 35-foot pitching rubber. The pitch may be thrown overhand or underhand, standing or kneeling. Kids will have the opportunity to pitch in the last 2 games of the season. Kids who choose to pitch will have a maximum of 3 outs or 1 inning, whichever comes first.
5. Participation/Substitution: Players must play a minimum of (2) complete innings (6 outs) in the field.
6. Teams should have 5 players to play. Teams may exchange players.
7. The defensive team may play 10 fielders. The 10th player must be played in the outfield
8. All players present will bat in order whether or not they are currently playing defense.
9. The batter will receive up to 5 pitches, to attempt to hit the ball. If the Batter hits the ball they become a base runner.
10. If the batter doesn't hit a ball within these 5 pitches, the batter returns to the bench.
11. All foul balls will be counted as a pitch. A thrown bat will be an automatic out.
12. Bunting, sliding into any base, leading off or stealing bases will not be allowed.
13. A runner can advance one base on an overthrow or ball thrown out of play (exception: runner can only advance home on a batted ball).
14. On a batted ball to the outfield, runners may not advance once the ball has been thrown back into the infield (i.e., once the ball crosses over the line between the outfield grass and infield dirt). A runner between bases when the ball is thrown back into the infield may advance to the next base at his own risk.
15. The defensive team is allowed one coach in bounds, on the grass during play.

16. Coaches can and should remove unsportsmanlike players from the game.
17. During the final two games, kids interested may pitch for up to 3 outs if Coaches decide they are ready.

**Additional Notes:**

- All volunteers must be background checked.
- All coaches must be certified through their home park and shall comply with the rules and regulations as stated in the bulletin.
- The MPRB does not discriminate based on disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employee in, its services, programs, or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all MPRB services, programs and activities.
- If anyone believes he or she has been subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender, national origin, age, or handicap, he or she may file a complaint alleging discrimination with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board or the Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240

# *You are joining the* **MPRB Kids Zone**

**By registering your child in MPRB Youth Athletic leagues you are joining the *MPRB Kids Zone* and agree to the following:**

- Kids are #1
- FUN is more important than winning
- Let the coaches do the coaching
- Fans cheer positively (no public displays of anger)
- Respect the officials
- Inappropriate language will not be tolerated
- Keep the facility & grounds clean
- All parks and schools are tobacco & alcohol free
- Be a positive role model

**Thank you for supporting MPRB athletics!**

**The Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board will provide all participating youth with a positive and safe environment. We welcome your ongoing support of our program.**

**Help keep kids in sports! Support! Encourage! Care!**



**Minneapolis**  
Park & Recreation Board