

# **Manchester Baseball Association**

## **4 Rules for the 2024 Season**

This is an instructional league and as such won-loss records and standings will not be kept.

Teams will have one practice day per week (designated by the league) and one game per week (typically on Saturdays, unless makeup is needed due to inclement weather).

All players must play each inning and coaches must work hard to avoid bunching on the field.

All players will bat each inning.

When a player is at bat, they MUST hit from the Tee.

All players will advance one base at a time.

When the last batter hits the ball, all players on bases will run all the way home and end the half inning.

### FIRST HALF RULE (APRIL/MAY)

Coaches will NOT pitch to the kids. Work on fundamentals.

### SECOND HALF RULE (After Memorial Day Weekend)

As the teams start to grasp batting techniques, coaches may start to pitch from the knee allowing up to 6 pitches regardless of the child's ability. If no hit is made, the tee must be set up. The next time at bat, give the child a choice of coach pitching or the tee. This is the child's decision, NOT the parents. Let the child decide so that their self-esteem is positively reinforced regardless of the outcome or skill level.

Remind the kids and parents that pros use the tee 90% of their swings as a tool and this is only to help the child learn a level swing and proper swing and stance.

### **Dugout Rules:**

When batting in your half inning, your team parent and/or parents should be coordinating the children in the dugout. Children should NOT be playing with bats or ball when sitting in the dugout. Children should be encouraged to cheer for their team members at bat. Children should NOT leave the dugout or wander unless accompanied by his/her parent or guardian.

All children who are directed by a team parent or coach to leave the dugout to bat, be "on deck" or help pick up bats during your half of the inning MUST WEAR A BATTING HELMET. NO EXCEPTIONS.

**\*\*\*ALL PLAYERS MUST HAVE THEIR OWN HELMETS\*\*\***