

# Waupun Youth Baseball Association (WYBA)

## Rookies Division Rules – 2026 Season

The Rookies division is a “Coach Pitch” league designed to transition players from Tee-Ball to live-pitch play.

### Game Timing

- **Total Duration:** Games are limited to a maximum of 1 hour.
- **Inning Start Cut-off:** No new inning shall begin after the 50-minute mark.
- **Completion:** If an inning is in progress when the 50-minute mark is reached, that inning will be played to completion.

### Batting

- **Continuous Order:** Every player must bat in one continuous batting order.
- **Inning Completion:** An inning ends when the defense records three (3) outs or the batting team bats through their entire lineup, whichever occurs first.
- **Coach Pitch:** A manager or coach will pitch to their own team using "safety" balls.
- **Pitch Limit:** Players shall receive a maximum of six (6) pitches. If the ball is not put into play after six pitches, a batting tee **must** be used to ensure the game keeps moving.
- **Helmets:** Every team should have at least four batting helmets. All batters and baserunners must wear a helmet at all times while on the field.

### Baserunning

- **Base Advancement:** Runners may only advance as many bases as the batter (e.g., if the batter hits a clean double, any runner on base advances two bases).
- **Dead Ball Rule:** If the ball reaches the outfield, play will cease once the infield gains control of the ball.
- **Risk/Reward:** Runners caught between bases when the infield gains control may attempt to advance at their own risk but can be thrown out by the defense.
- **Sliding:** Feet-first when being played upon.
- **Safety:** A runner who jumps over a player will be called out (regardless of contact).
- **Restrictions:** There is **NO STEALING** at the Rookies level.
  - Runners **do not** advance on overthrows.

### Fielding

- **Full Participation:** All players will play the entire game; no players shall sit on the bench.
- **Instructional Coaching:** Coaches are encouraged to stand in the field with their players to teach proper positioning and game logic.
- **Position Rotation:** Coaches must rotate players to ensure everyone has the opportunity to play different positions throughout the season.
- **Standard Infield:** The infield shall consist of a 1st baseman, 2nd baseman, 3rd baseman, shortstop, and pitcher.
- **Outfield:** All remaining players should be placed in the outfield and must start with both feet in fair territory.
- **No Catchers:** To prioritize providing catching equipment to older divisions, the Rookies level will not utilize a catcher.

## PHILOSOPHY

**REMEMBER:** This league is designed for kids to have fun and prepare for the next level of baseball. Our priority is teaching the fundamentals of the game, not winning. Enjoy the moment and coach the children to the best of your ability!

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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