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## **COMET LEAGUE RULES** **PITCHING MACHINE**

1. **Pitching Machine:** The pitching machine will only be adjusted if there is a change in weather that causes the ball to go out of the strike zone or if BOTH coaches agree to adjust the machine for the better of the game. To adjust the machine for change of weather is at the umpires and field supervisor's discretion.
2. **Games:** Games will consist of five (5) innings, or a one (1) hour time limit. No new inning will start after 55 minutes of play. We will not play off ties in league games.
3. **Run Rules:** Teams are allowed seven (7) runs per inning. The game is over if one team is ahead by ten (10) runs after the fourth inning.
4. **Substitutions:** All players will play all inning both in the field and in the batting lineup. A legal infield is six (6) players. The rest of the players have to be behind the outfield grass line.
5. **Overthrows:** Base runners are limited to one (1) base per overthrow. The base runner does not automatically get the base. The runner advances at her own risk.
6. **Dead Ball:** The ball is considered dead when the pitchers helper has the ball in her possession and is inside the pitchers circle. If the runner is halfway or closer to the next base she is allowed to continue to that base. If not, she must return to the previously occupied base.
7. **Stealing a Base:** No runner may advance on a pitched ball unless it is hit. No leading off the base.
8. **Pitching:** The speed of the machine will start at 35 mph and increase by one (1) mph each week. If the ball hits the pitching machine or umpire, the ball is dead. The batter receives 1<sup>st</sup> base. All base runners are allowed one base. \*This rule is new this year!
9. **Number of Pitches:** Each batter will be allowed five (5) pitches to hit the ball into fair territory or to make an out. If after the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) pitch, the ball has not been hit into fair territory (swing and miss or no swing), the batter is out. If the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) pitch is hit into foul territory, the batter will receive a sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) pitch. Batter cannot strike out on a foul ball.
10. **Infield Fly Rule:** The infield fly rule does not apply to this league.