

Primary B Competition Rules

Primary B can start and finish a game with 6 or more players with no penalty

It is important that players be given the best chance to participate and get a fair and even go playing each week throughout the season. If there are more than 9 players in a team in any given week, flexibility for batting players and player substitution is allowed

Game time

- 1 hr and 15 mins. This should allow for at least 3 complete innings per team
- Each innings will go for a maximum of 10 minutes regardless of the outs at this time. 3 outs in quicker time is an automatic change of innings

Batting:

- There are no blanks in the batting line-up
- ALL players are eligible to bat and should be listed in batting order ie. (No. 1-No.11) Players should bat through the list until inning over. The next inning will begin with the next eligible batter, be they 4th or 10th in the list. This rotation through the batting list should continue for the duration of the game. The batting order should not change
- An innings is completed if 3 outs are made or 10 minutes has elapsed. *9th batter rule does not apply*
- All hits off a live pitch will be played out i.e. Triples and home runs are possible
- Strike three is an automatic out whether caught by catcher or not
- Batting restrictions apply when the coach pitches. A maximum of 2 bases is allowed on any hit. (*Players are encouraged to hit a strike pitched by the opposition player, not their coach*)

Pitching:

- The pitcher pitches to a maximum count of 3 strikes and 3 balls on each batter
- The coach (of the batting team) comes in to pitch when the batter has 3 balls, irrespective of the number of strikes on the batter. Count reverts to nil
- Coach may pitch a maximum of 2 pitches to each batter
- A ball batted foul is a 'foul ball' and another pitch is allowed
- If the batter fails to hit either of the coach pitched balls they are out
- There are NO walks

Coach Pitch:

- Coach must wear a glove for protection but must not field a batted ball.
- If a coach catches/fields/interferes with a batted ball, the ball is dead, the batter is not out and another pitch thrown. The count does not change.
- If the batter hits a foul ball off the second 'coach pitch' the foul ball rule will apply and the batter will receive another pitch.
- Coaches may pitch from any distance that gives their players the best opportunity to hit the ball, but must be no closer than 30 feet. *Coaches should aim to be pitching from 35 feet by seasons end*

Fielding:

- Players should be interchanged in all fielding positions. Re entry is allowed
- Players involved in fielding changes remain in the same batting order at all times
- Coaches will prepare **rotations** on Roster sheet in Club Manual (Page 29) before the commencement of a game and these will be posted inside the dug out. It is proposed this will save time at the change of innings

- **Rotations** – no player shall play the same position in two consecutive innings. No player will play two consecutive innings in the outfield
- Roster sheet is to be submitted to the Control Room with the Scorecard.
- Ball is dead off the net. There is no advance on bases
- When the coach pitches the pitcher remains near the pitching plate to field a batted ball

Base Running:

- Runners may not steal from 3rd base to home on a pitched ball not stopped by the catcher

Runs Scored:

- All runners crossing home plate score
- Runners left on base at the end of the 10 min (or 3 out) innings) DO NOT score

10-minute rule

- First full round of matches to be treated as a **transitional phase** from Tee Ball to softball
- During the transitional phase all teams will bat for 10 minutes regardless of the number of outs in an innings.
- The transitional rounds shall be used to educate the coaches with regard to the underlying philosophy. WSA shall provide a document to address this
- Umpires will be issued with an 'egg timer' – timing will commence from first pitch of the innings.
- At the conclusion of the transitional rounds, three outs will apply and the innings is complete
- As per WSA ground rules, only two (2) warm up pitches are allowed between innings in Primary B

Regular meetings will be held with the Coaches of Primary B to discuss issues as they arise and reinforce the WSA philosophy of the Primary B competition