

# How to Umpire a Game

## Rookie Division (7-8)

### Appoint two umpires

Each team should supply one volunteer umpire (usually a parent).

1. One umpire is stationed behind home plate, toward third base side to avoid foul balls. Primary responsibilities are to keep track of batters (maximum of ten per inning) and pitches (maximum seven per batter unless last pitch is fouled off). Home plate umpire also makes “safe” or “out” calls at third base and home plate.
2. One umpire is stationed near the infield, behind the second baseman. Primary responsibilities are to make “safe” and “out” calls at first and second bases, and to enforce the “time out” and “overthrow” rules.

Umpires change positions after each full inning (six outs).

A few rules reminders...

### **Pitching distance:**

Pitches must be delivered to batters by coaches or adult volunteers via pitching machine from a distance of 42 feet from the rear point of home plate the front of the UPM45 pitching machine. This rule is meant to prepare players for kid-pitch baseball in the future and to comply with league insurance coverage requirements. Do not divert from this distance for any reason.

### **Base Running:**

A player may not leave any base until the ball has crossed home plate or put into play via hit. Lead offs and stealing are **NOT** permitted.

### **Time out:**

After a ball is hit or overthrown to the outfield; play stops once the ball has been returned to the infield and is in control of an infielder. Base runners may not advance at this point unless he/she is already at least halfway to the next base at the time play stops. Base runners who are at least halfway to the next base may continue to advance to the next base at his/ her own risk of being tagged out, or may choose to return to the preceding base without risk of being tagged out.

### **Overthrows:**

An overthrown ball that travels into dead-ball territory **DOES NOT** result in the awarding of a base to any runner.

### **Coaches:**

Please remember that our umpires are volunteers attempting to do their best. Not every call will be perfect. Umpires; although volunteers have the authority to control the game at all times and their decisions are final.

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