



Susan G Komen – 2017 Tournament

8U MACHINE - Common Rules and Guidelines

1. Bases shall be set at 60 feet. The pitching machines are set 40 feet from the back of home plate.
2. All normal infield positions will be filled and the four (4) players dispersed in the outfield on the grass, or at least 20 feet behind the base paths (which should be about 10 feet into the grass or halfway to the fence). **Tournaments – ONLY 10 players on the field.**
3. Outs on the bases should be made by infielders.
4. Coaches can, and are encouraged to position their batters and help them during their at bat.
5. A hit ball that strikes the pitching machine is a dead ball and the player is awarded a single.
6. There will be no bunting, leading off, or stealing in any 8U Machine games. Players cannot begin their advance to the next base until the ball crosses home plate or lands in the catcher's glove when pitched.
7. The last batter of the inning does NOT clear bases (unless it is an earned home run).
8. There is NO infield fly rule.

Additional Machine Pitch Rules

1. Game times: 1 hour and 30 minutes or six innings.
2. The dial settings on the **machine should be 40 MPH**. The machine should NOT be adjusted between or during innings. This means that each team has to hit off the same speed/height direction for an inning prior to adjustment.
3. Three (3) missed swings will constitute an out. Each batter gets a total of 6 pitches. If a batter has two strikes, he can keep fouling off balls until he strikes out or puts the ball in play.
4. The offense will earn 6 runs (playing their full roster) or 3 total outs (swinging and/or fielding) per inning. For the following inning, the next batter in order will lead off, continuing through the entire roster before returning to the lead-off batter.
5. The inning is over if a third out is made or the ball is controlled by a player within the infield (on the 6th run), or inside of foul territory within the infield area (on 6th earned run). Any runner, who has not already begun to advance prior to the time of control in the infield, shall be sent back to the previous base.
6. Only one base can be awarded on an overthrow in the infield. Therefore, a ground ball to the infield does not constitute a home run, no matter how many times the ball is thrown around. Also, once the ball is thrown to the infield from the outfield and controlled by the infielder, runners cannot take the next base (unless runner has already begun to advance prior to the throw from the outfield).
7. Players shall rotate defensive positions, infield to outfield (minimally) every two innings. If you don't have enough players to rotate infield/outfield, the player left in the infield must change positions.
8. You may place additional players in the outfield (right center, left center), BUT absolutely **NO** additional players in the infield (this includes a pitcher on each side of the machine). Teams can have a total of 10 players on the field, 4 outfielders.