

2014

Batting Cage Safety/ Operational

Lane One: Automated, 45 MPH: (for Intermediate/ Majors use only)

- 1) Door must be securely tethered to the net outside prior to turning on the machine so it cannot blow shut during operation.
- 2) Two adults (at least one who is a trained coach) are required- one by the machine and one outside the net, near the batter.
- 3) Clearly communicate to each batter when it is safe to cross in front of the machine, at the back of the net. Hitters should never cross in front of the machine at close range; even if it is assumed off.
- 4) If the machine misfires, turn it off immediately and check that a loose ball is not lodged in the mechanism before proceeding. If a ball is jammed, *never* reach into the machine with your hand. Machines are under spring load and may trigger even without electrical power.
- 5) Batters must always wear a batting helmet, with face guard, while in the cage.
- 6) Use buckets to gather and return balls to machine- always enter building through overhead door. Do not mix the *harder* balls from this (45MPH) machine with the *softer* balls from the other machine.
- 7) DO NOT adjust machines. Report mechanical/ safety issues immediately to the Director on Duty.

Lane Two: Automated, 30 MPH: (For Juniors use only)

- 1) Door must be securely tethered to the net outside prior to turning on the machine so it cannot blow shut during operation.
- 2) Two adults (at least one who is a trained coach) are required- one by the machine and one outside the net, near the batter.
- 3) Clearly communicate to each batter when it is safe to cross in front of the machine, at the back of the net. Hitters should never cross in front of the machine at close range; even if it is assumed off.
- 4) If the machine misfires, turn it off immediately and check that a loose ball is not lodged in the mechanism before proceeding. If a ball is jammed, *never* reach into the machine with your hand. Machines are under spring load and may trigger even without electrical power.
- 5) Batters must always wear a batting helmet, with face guard, while in the cage.
- 6) Use buckets to gather and return balls to machine- always enter building through overhead door. Do not mix the *softer* balls from this (30MPH) machine with the *harder* balls from the other machine (45 MPH). Softer balls only.
- 7) DO NOT adjust machines. Report mechanical/ safety issues immediately to the Director on Duty.

Lane Three: Portable variable speed machine: (for use by any level)

- 1) Place the portable machine on the concrete pad and plug it in.
- 2) Use only the specific balls that belong to the portable machine. No automated machine balls.
- 3) Batter must always wear a batting helmet with a face guard while in the cage.
- 4) Return the machine and all balls to the shed when finished.

