

LEAGUE PITCH COUNT RULES FOR MINORS & MAJORS (2010)

All Minor & Major League Teams are responsible to identify an individual who will be the "Official Pitch Counter" for their team. This individual must be identified within ten (10) days after the Major Draft and the name submitted to the Division Commissioner. The official team pitch counter may not be a member of the teams coaching staff. When the official pitch counter is not available for a game, a substitute may be allowed. Each team is responsible to provide the pitch counter; it is not the responsibility of the league.

The main focus of the teams official pitch counter is to track the number of pitches thrown by the opposing team. The team pitch counter may also count pitches for their own team at the discretion of the team manager. Note that team managers are ultimately responsible to know the status and eligibility of their own pitchers.

BEFORE THE GAME

Each team pitch counter will ensure that they have all required items to track pitches before the game starts. A hand counter (manual or battery operated), tracking forms, and writing materials; as provided by the league.

The individuals designated as team pitch counters will be identified to the umpire and opposing team by the manager.

The pitch counter will be provided with the name, uniform number, and age of the starting pitcher for the opposing team. During the course of the game, information regarding any changes in pitchers will be relayed through the umpire to the pitch counter(s). Note that there are no limits on the age or number of pitchers a team may use during the game.

DURING THE GAME

The pitch counter for each team will position themselves side by side outside the *Home Teams* dugout (ideally on the first row of the bleachers). The pitch counters CANNOT be inside the fenced area or the dugouts while the game is underway. *Exception: (See Option 2 below)*

At the end of each half (½) inning the umpire will confer with both pitch counters to ensure that their pitch counts agree and validate the count. In the event of a discrepancy between pitch counters, the umpire will make an official ruling after examining the score books and conferring with both team managers. Both managers will be notified by the umpire of the actual pitch count before the next half (½) inning begins.

When the maximum pitch count is reached (*see pitch count chart below*) by a pitcher in the middle of an inning, the pitch counter will immediately notify the umpire. If the maximum pitch count is reached while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue pitching until that batter reaches base or is put out. The umpire will then will stop play in order that the pitcher may be replaced.

AFTER THE GAME

The team manager, coach, or official team pitch counter from each team will accompany the umpire to the Field House to complete the necessary paperwork for the game. The official paperwork will be maintained in the Field House.

For games not played at the Alberdeen complex (Wright/Dorrance), paperwork must be completed after the game and dropped off at the Alberdeen complex before 6:00PM the next day to ensure it is properly captured prior to the start of any subsequent league games. The Home Team is responsible for ensuring the paperwork is completed and available at the Field House.

If a game is suspended due to a tie, weather, darkness, or any other reason, the completion of all paperwork as outlined above remains applicable.

OPTION 2 (TW0) APPROACH

In the event the pitch counter is not present at the game and no other viable person is available, the pitch count for the opposing team may be maintained by the manager or one of the coaches, either in the dugout or on the field as the Major or Minor rules permit. Note that only official coaches can be inside the fence or dugout areas in both Major and Minor League play.

MAXIMUM PITCHES ALLOWED BY AGE

League Age 7 & 8:	50 Pitches
League Age 9 & 10:	75 Pitches
League Age 11 & 12:	85 Pitches

DAYS OF REST REQUIRED

66 Pitches or More:	Four (4) Calendar Days of Rest
51-65 Pitches:	Three (3) Calendar Days of Rest
36-50 Pitches:	Two (2) Calendar Days of Rest
21-35 Pitches:	One (1) Calendar Day of Rest
1-20 Pitches	No (0) Calendar Day of Rest