



BETH - WOOD BATTING CAGE 2023 RULES / REGULATIONS

1. **ALL** Team Managers and / or Coaches must receive training to know how to properly (and more importantly safely) how to set up and use the pitching machine. Unless you have successfully taken this training, you will **NOT** be allowed to use the Cages - **NO EXCEPTIONS** !!
2. Up to two (2) keys to the Batting Cages will be distributed to each Team Manager and one of their Coaches, including two (2) numbered keys to the small shed. Under **NO** circumstances shall a Manager or Coach make additional keys and / or give their key out to another person to use the Cages; only trained personnel shall be allowed to use the Batting Cages !! These keys **MUST** be signed for when handed out and also **MUST** be returned at the end of the Season, when your Team's equipment bag is turned in or else you will be charged for the keys that are lost.
3. If another Team is scheduled to use the cage you are using and they do not arrive within five {5} minutes of the time they are scheduled to start, you must assume they are not arriving and are required to securely lock the cage gates.
4. The Protective Screen **MUST** be used whenever you are operating a pitching machine or Coach pitching in the cage ; **no exceptions will be allowed** !!
5. **NO** Player is allowed to hit in the cage without wearing a batting helmet.



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6. Only one (1) hitter and one (1) Manager or Coach is allowed in the cage at any time (this does NOT mean a Player plus 2 Coaches) !! Also, the door to the cages MUST be shut while the cage is in use - can NOT be left open for insurance purposes.
7. Only Adult Managers and / or Team rostered Coaches who have been trained to use the Pitching Machine may operate the machine. NO Players, siblings, un-rostered Coaches or parents may operate the machines at any time !!
8. When setting up and / or operating the Pitching Machines (if they are being used), make sure that the machine is in the "OFF" position.
9. Allow the Pitching Machine to run for a few minutes before attempting to operate it. This allows the wheels to reach the desired speed and protects against errant pitches.
10. Insert baseballs into the Pitching Machine only through the ball shoot. Only use the dimpled baseballs provided - do NOT use regular baseballs !!
11. NEVER use the Pitching Machine when the grass is wet or it is raining as wet conditions on the ground or on the baseballs will make the machine operate erratically.



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12. **NEVER** leave the machine running when you are not using it to pitch to a batter.
ALWAYS shut it off when retrieving baseballs to reload machine.
13. **NEVER** allow anyone to stand in front of an operating machine (unless they are in the batter's box ready to hit).
14. **NEVER** operate the pitching machine with the netting up in the air or with either Cage door open.
15. All instructions given to Players using the machine should come from either the Manager / Coach operating the machine and / or a Coach outside the Batting Cage (2 Coaches are **NOT** allowed in the Cage when someone is hitting) !!
16. If a Manager authorizes a Coach on his Team (and his Team only) to operate the Pitching Machine, it is the Manager's sole responsibility to verify that said Coach has been successfully trained in the proper operation and safety rules associated with the machines and that they are clearly aware of these Rules and Regulations.



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17. Please exit the Cages on time, picking up all the baseballs and returning them all to the ball basket before turning the Cage over to the next Team scheduled.
18. Managers / Coaches are NOT allowed to switch their designated Batting Cage times or sessions without first advising **Marc Gherlone** of your requested change. Minors & Majors Teams scheduled for practices at Acorn Hill will also have use of the Batting Cages during their scheduled practice slot during the months of April thru June. All Star Teams will also have use of the Batting Cages when they have practices scheduled during the months of June thru July at Acorn Hill as well.
19. Managers / Coaches are NOT to assume that any open times in the Batting Cage Schedule mean the Cages or machines are free, because adjustments to this Schedule will be ongoing. If a Team wants to use the Batting Cages on a Sunday, you must contact **Marc Gherlone** to obtain approval prior to assuming it is OK (this does NOT mean a Coach and his son only ; it has to be for a number of Players) !!



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20. Any Team Manager and / or Coach found to be in blatant violation of these Rules and Regulations, especially if found to improperly or unsafely operate the pitching machines, will have their Batting Cage privileges suspended - **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED !!**

Let's use our heads and make this a positive and safe training experience for all our Players !! Any questions, contact Marc Gherlone at marc.d.gherlone@lmco.com or 203-895-0030 directly...