

Hello regular ARTTOBall participants.

Today we had a lot of unnecessary delays and out-of-sequencing resulting in confusion during our session. I'm sending this email to get everyone on the same page or sheet of music if you're so inclined.

I personally strive to have a process that is simple and yields the optimum number of pitches given the number of participants on a particular day. Understand, that I supply the equipment and garnered the necessary facility use permissions from SEATAC Parks and Recreation, specifically Gwen Rathe the Valley Ridge Park fields' admin, and this gives me the **muscle** to set the rules for these sessions.

Also understand that when DD is on field #3 with his OTTOballs that my process then defers to DD's process of number of pitches, who pitches, who hits etc., which is a couple times a week on average.

My Simple Process:

- The pitchers basket now will be holding (90) balls (i.e. 45) for each hitter counting the foul balls.
- This number will be adjusted downward as participation picks up in the upcoming 2015 season.
- Two batters @ a time rotating after a set of (10) hits with the pitcher counting the fair balls only. When the pitcher's basket of (90) balls is empty the next two batters on deck are summoned.
- This number of pitches a hitter is allotted will be dependent on the number participants that day so we can finish in (2) hours' time agreed to with the park's administrator.
- Those arriving after the first (1/2) hour of play will only receive half (1/2) the prearranged number of pitches whatever that number is for that day.
- When the basket of (90) balls is empty the two hitters are finished and will retire to the outfield to support ball shagging with the last hitter ferrying the basket to its

position in the outfield. This person stays with the basket and supports the filling process during the next round. The basket maintainer is to stray no more than (15) foot radius away from the basket at any time during the process.

- An additional wire collection basket will be located at the backstop to collect the errant tosses from the pitcher by the on-deck hitter.
- This errant pitches basket will be hand carried to the pitcher's basket when and only when the pitcher is out of balls i.e. the basket is empty!
- The only exception would be if the errant balls basket fills up due to an excess of errant tosses; in this case time is called and the basket contents are deposited in the pitchers basket.
- This means that no longer will the on deck hitter be arm loading balls back to the mound or rolling them on to the field to be picked up by the pitcher again wasting valuable time.
- When a hitter has finished his (10) then the on deck hitter should step in immediately wasting no time on the clock and not returning balls to the pitcher as this is the on-deck hitter's responsibility.
- The more time we conserve the more balls we can hit; the more balls we hit, the better we become (in theory).
- When all the (90) balls have successfully been collected in the outfield basket which is loaded on the wheeled cart, then and only then will the cart be rolled in by one of the next two hitters. The other hitter walks in and gets his bat ready to hit as the balls are being reloaded in the pitchers receptacle.
- This keeps us from having to make extra trips with the basket to fulfil the needs of the hitters and eliminates the need to "roll" balls back in causing unnecessary work.
- Remember, preferably one of the next two hitters should roll the fully loaded basket into the pitcher's area but this may not always be the case.
- The last hitter "out" will have the responsibility of at the pitcher's mound and ferrying the empty basket to its position for re-collection in the field.
- Hitters will be informed when it's their turn to hit while saving those lefties to hit last in the rotation.

- If we are more efficient in our process batters will receive more bang for the buck.
- IMPORTANT: Pitching shall be done from the 50-foot mark on the field so the batter can set his timing of the pitch traveling to ready themselves for game conditions. The 50 foot mark is the last two puncture holes toward the outfield that's for the installation of the pitching rubber.
- Our goal is to have "Continual hitting" taking place with a minimum of disruptions.
- Any individual or individuals attempting to undermine this process will meet with the wrath of the other rule abiding participants.

Thanks for your efforts to make our bp process viable as well as more efficient>>>

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