The Facelift of Beep Baseball

**The Game**

* 6 players and two volunteers minimum
* 16 inch softball with a telephone beeper inside
* Pitcher gives a cadence to the batter so that they know when to swing.
* Batter has to run to either 1st or 3rd base
* Defense is 6 players and 1-2 spotters.
* Games are 6 innings long.

**History**

* First beeping baseball was created in 1964 by Charley Fairbanks.
* Players had to wear more protective equipment than necessary.
* Defense used to be very static.
* In 1975 The National Beep Baseball Association was formed.
* The first World Series was held in September of 1976.

**The Pitcher**

* The pitcher and batter are on the same team.
* 4 strikes and 1 pass ball
* The pitcher gives out a cadence so that the batter knows when to swing.
* Pitchers are considered to be fast cadence or slow cadence pitchers.
* The pitcher’s mound is 20feet in front of home plate.
* Pitchers often use a metronome to help them practice a consistent cadence.

**The Batter**

* **Batters try to be as consistent as possible with their swing.**
* **Player feels home plate after every swing and uses their bat to help line up in the same position every time.**
* **Three main types of swings.**
* The ball must travel at least 40 feet.
* **The Player doesn’t begin to run until they can locate which base is buzzing.**
* **The first step out of the batter’s box is taken with the back foot.**
* **Different strategies for making contact with base**

**Defense**

* 6 players and 1-2 spotters
* Played on grassy fields (typically a soccer field)
* Field is divided up into zones which look like a pie chart.
* Differences between 1 and 2 spotter defenses
* Spotters are only allowed to call out one number between 1 and six.
* Key steps in a players defensive technique

**Practice Drills**

* Hit Stick
* 40 foot drill
* Base contact drill
* Lanes Drill
* 4 Point drill
* Deflect Drill
* Communication drill
* 9 or 9 drill

**The ECC**

* Assistive Technology
* Career Education
* Compensatory Skills
* Independent Living Skills
* Orientation & Mobility
* Recreation and Leisure
* Self-Determination
* Sensory Efficiency
* Social Skills

**The NBBA**

* 34 teams registered for the 2017 season.
* Consist of teams from around the United States, Canada, Taiwan, and Dominican Republic
* 6 registered teams in Texas
* 24 teams will participate in this year’s World Series
* 2017 World Series is being held in West Palm Beach, FL.
* Last year’s World Series had over 200 players who were blind and over 200 volunteers.
* There were 25 minors who attended the World Series Last year.
* Youngest player last year was 15, but players have played as young as 12 in previous years.
* More information on the NBBA and equipment is located at www.nbba.org.