

## SPECIAL RULES FOR AGE DIVISIONS

**Beginners League (coach pitch):** (5yr – 6yr) Introduces young players to the basics of the game. The purpose is to have FUN and learn the game. Players learn basic fundamentals. The coach pitches to the players, but they can still use a “T” for their last strike. Players use a 10” softie.

1. Pitching rubber at a minimum of 20 feet. 10” softie will be used. Coach pitchers are expected to deliver a flat pitch without a significant arch
2. For Beginner League, each batter will receive four (4) attempts to hit the ball. The coach will pitch three (3) pitches to each of their batters. If a batter fails to hit one of the three pitches, they will get one swing off the tee for their final attempt. Any pitch hit into fair territory is considered a ball in play. For a ball hit off the tee to be considered in play, the bat must make contact with the ball and not just roll off the tee. If the ball is not put into play on the fourth attempt the batter is out, unless it’s hit foul. Coach pitchers are expected to deliver a flat pitch without a significant arch from a safe distance.
3. An inning will end after three (3) outs or five (5) runs, whichever comes first.
4. Beginners shall play a maximum seven (7) inning game, with no new inning to start after 1 hour (after first pitch).
5. All Beginner teams will be allowed to field 10 players. The pitcher position will be played to the right or left side of the coach pitcher even with or behind the rubber. At the beginning of each pitch, outfielders must position themselves on the edge of the outfield grass. They cannot cheat into the infield.
6. A player must play two different positions per game. No player is to play one position for more than two complete innings. The intention of this rule is for all girls be exposed to a variety of infield and outfield positions.
7. NO WALKS and NO STEALING.
8. Coaching may be done from the field to assist players.
9. Home team is responsible for bringing the tee.

**8 and Under:** (Ages 7-8) Girls will pitch from 30 feet. Players use an 11” softie. Coaches assist in pitching to minimize walks while they are learning.

1. A player may lead off 2-4 steps as soon as the ball leaves the pitchers hand. Advancement is only made on a hit ball.
2. NO WALKS and NO STEALING.
3. An inning will end after three (3) outs or five (5) runs, whichever comes first.
4. Play a maximum of seven (7) inning game, with no new inning to start after 1:15.
5. The infield fly rule will not be used.
6. No more than two bases on an infield hit that has been played on. Base runner may only advance one base on an overthrow at their own risk.
7. Bunting is allowed.
8. No drag bunting or slap hitting will be allowed in the games. A coach may teach these fundamentals but they will not be permitted during league play.
9. No obstruction calls will be made.
10. There are no walks in the 8U division. Upon receiving a call of “ball four” from the umpire, a coach from the batting team will come in to act as a pitcher and continue with the current strike count. A player will remain at bat until either they hit the ball or strike out. A player cannot be

awarded a base if hit by a coach. Coach pitchers are expected to deliver a flat pitch without significant arch and must pitch from inside of the pitcher's circle.

11. A player must play two different positions per game. No player is to play one position for more than two complete innings. The intention of this rule is for all girls to be exposed to a variety of infield and outfield positions.
12. Coaches must develop and utilize more than one pitcher. Pitchers MAY NOT pitch more than one (1) inning per game.
13. A pitched ball which hits the batter constitutes an automatic base for the batter, as long as the batter makes an attempt to get out of the way of the pitched ball.
14. 8U teams will be allowed to play 10 players, with the tenth player being an outfielder. All players on the roster (line up) will be allowed to bat. At the beginning of each pitch, outfielders must position themselves on the edge of the outfield grass.
15. USA rules for re-substitution of players and pitchers shall not apply in 8U division.
16. Defensive Coach will act as umpire and be behind the plate.

**10 and under:** (*Ages 9-10*) Coaches assist in pitching to minimize walks while they are learning. They continue to use an 11" ball, but it is a regular softball. Base stealing is introduced, but no one can steal home.

1. The 10U division will follow USA rules with live pitching for the entire season.
2. The league will provide an umpire.
3. The 10U division will follow USA rules closely. Only nine (9) players on defense. All players on the roster (line-up) will be allowed to bat. At the beginning of each pitch, outfielders MUST position themselves on the edge of the outfield grass. They may not start on the infield dirt.
4. Coaches must develop and utilize more than one pitcher. Pitchers MAY NOT pitch more than two (2) innings per game.
5. Technical pitching mechanics must be instructed by the coaches in accordance to USA rules. Improper techniques will not cause an illegal pitch. Improper pitching mechanics will be discussed by the coaches with the umpire between innings.
6. An inning will end after three (3) outs or five (5) runs, whichever comes first.
7. Shall play a maximum seven (7) inning game, with no new inning to start after 1:15.
8. Base stealing is permitted. May NOT steal home.
9. The pitching distance for the 10U division shall be 35 feet.
10. There are no walks in the 10U division. Upon receiving a call of "ball four" from the umpire, a coach from the batting team will come in to act as a pitcher and continue with the current strike count. A player will remain at bat until either they hit the ball or strike out. A player cannot be awarded a base if hit by a coach. Coach pitchers are expected to deliver a flat pitch without significant arch and must pitch from inside of the pitcher's circle.

**12 and under:** (*Ages 11-12*) Pitchers pitch from 40 feet. Players will use a 12" softball and USA rules apply except as indicated below.

1. An inning will end after three (3) outs or five (5) runs, whichever comes first.
2. Shall play a maximum seven (7) inning game, with no new inning to start after 1:30.

**14 and under:** (*Ages 13-14*) Pitchers pitch from 43 feet. Players will use a 12" softball and USA rules apply except as indicated below.

1. An inning will end after three (3) outs or five (5) runs, whichever comes first.
2. Shall play a maximum seven (7) inning game, with no new inning to start after 1:30.