



GIRLS SOFTBALL RULES 4TH-6TH GRADE

Official ASA rules shall apply, except for these which have been modified.

PLAYERS AND SUBSTITUTES

- Playing Time: EACH PLAYER MUST PLAY IN EACH GAME. Each player should have a turn at bat and in the field before being withdrawn from the game.

PITCHING RULES

- Pitching distance for a player/coach is 35 feet.
- If a team plays once or twice in one week (Sunday through Saturday), a pitcher can pitch seven innings. If a team plays three times in one week, three regularly scheduled games, one pitcher can pitch eleven (11) innings. Any pitch by a relief pitcher will also be counted as having an inning pitched. A make up game reverts back to the week of the originally scheduled game.

BATTING RULES

- **There will be no walks.** Once a girl pitches 4 balls to any batter, then the coach will come in and pitch. There will be no walks, the batter will either strike out or hit the ball. Under this rule, the girls still get an opportunity to pitch to each batter, and each batter has the opportunity to get a hit, even if the girl pitches 4 straight balls to them.
 - *Coaches- please encourage the players to go to the plate with the intent of hitting any good pitch. Also, a coach from the defensive team may help the catcher chase down passed balls as long as he/she does not interfere with a potential play at any base.*

NINTH BATTER—4TH-6TH GRADE DIVISION ONLY

In the 4th-6th Grade Division each team will bat each inning until three outs occur or until the ninth batter hits the ball or strikes out. The inning ends when the batter crosses home plate, stops on 1st, 2nd, or 3rd base safely, is tagged out, or when a member of the defending team makes a play to a lead base or a lead runner. If there are 1 or 2 outs when the inning ends, the 9th batter will return to the base occupied at the start of the team's next at-bat.

Batting Order

Rotate batting from game to game so no player is always batting last or first.

BASE STEALING

Stealing is allowed from 1st to 2nd and from 2nd to 3rd, one base at a time. Stealing home is not allowed. No stealing when an adult is pitching. ASA Rules apply when leading off of the base. Runner may leave the base when the ball leaves the pitchers hand. All runners must avoid contact at all bases.

GAME RE-ENTRY

There will be no restrictions on re-entry.

TIME LIMIT/RUN RULE

- NO inning shall start after 1 hour and 15 minutes. If at the end of 1 hour and 15 minutes the game is tied, the game will end as a tie.
- A team will be declared the winner if they are 10 or more runs ahead of their opponent at the end of 5 or more innings, or 12 or more runs after 3 innings.
- Games called by the Umpire:
 - A. 4th-6th Grade Division—TWO complete innings shall be a legal game.
- Rescheduling—Games will be rescheduled by the Parks and Recreation Department only.

INCLEMENT WEATHER/RAINOUTS

The two cancellation methods are listed on the practice/game schedule. 1) Text group, 2) Cancellation Hotline. Please see schedule for details.

UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

1. Batting helmets must be worn by the batter, all base runners, on-deck batters and girls coaching bases at all times at games and at practices.
2. Pitchers must wear the pitching masks provided by Parks and Recreation Department.
3. **No steel cleats allowed.** Tennis shoes, rubber or plastic cleats must be worn. No sandals or open-toed shoes allowed or the player will not be allowed to participate. No jewelry will be allowed on the field.

BASE DISTANCES

The distance between bases for all divisions will be 60 feet.

UMPIRES

Any harassment of the umpires will not be tolerated. Spectators, players, coaches or staff members harassing umpires will be asked to leave the ballpark. If a second infraction occurs, being banned from the ballpark altogether may occur.