

2010 Girl's Softball League

Rules and Regulations

10U (9-10)

I. Fields:

1. Bases will be a distance of 60 feet.
2. Pitcher's mound will be a distance of 35 feet from home plate

II. Equipment:

1. Batter, base runners, and catchers will wear helmets with a face mask and chin strap.
2. Regulation Babe Ruth 11" optic yellow softballs will be used.
3. All offensive players must keep their helmets on while outside the dugout. Helmets must fit and be worn properly. If a player removes her helmet on the field of play during a live ball situation, after being called out, a warning will be issued to the coach and player.

III. Rules: (All Babe Ruth rules will apply with the following exceptions)

1. One-half inning will consist of three (3) outs or seven (7) runs, whichever comes first.
2. Games will consist of one hour and twenty minutes (1:20) time limit or six (6) innings, whichever ever comes first. **Exception:** A ten (10) run rule will apply after the (3.5) inning.
3. A new inning will not start after one hour and fifteen minutes (1:15) has been played.
4. A maximum of seven (7) runs per inning or three (3) outs. 6th inning will be wide open. (NO RUN RULE IN EFFECT). Stealing is permitted regulated by page 50 of the BR softball rule book, the following applies: Base Runners shall not leave their bases until the pitcher has released the ball, for purpose of this rule. "Stealing" also applies to advancing on a wild pitch, passed ball, catcher's overthrow back to the mound or advancing past first base on a walk.
6. Runners that have stopped on third base cannot advance home unless on a batted ball or if the defense makes an attempt to put another base runner out. **There will no stealing while a coach is pitching.**
7. Coaches are permitted one Pitcher Conference per inning; a 2nd conference in the same inning shall result in the automatic removal from the game as the pitcher. See Rule # 8.12
8. **Sliding is NOT mandatory**, however it is recommended and encouraged, should a Runner not slide and in the Umpires decision, she interfered with the defensive play or makes contact with the defensive players, she will be called out for interference.
9. Anyone warming up a pitcher is required to wear an approved facemask.

IV. Players. substitutes. and batting order:

1. All players must be female, and ten (10) years old or younger.
2. All players present at the start of a game will be in the batting order. Late arrivals will be added to the bottom of the order with no exceptions. The coach shall start any ten (10) players on defense and free substitution will be allowed. (Must start with at least 9 players.)

3. At start of game, if there only eight (8) players a coach may pickup a player in the same age division, playing her in right field and batting last in the order. If the original player arrives she must replace the pickup player immediately.
4. A pitcher cannot pitch in more than four (4) innings per game or 10 in a calendar week (Mon-Sun). **League play and tournament play are different!**
5. There cannot be more than a total of four (4) free bases per inning, i.e. two (2) walks, two (2) hits by pitcher. When this occurs, the offensive coach will come to the mound and pitch six (6) pitches to the batter, who in turn must hit the ball before three (3) swinging strikes are called or by the fifth pitch. If the ball is fouled on the sixth (6th) pitch the batter will be called out. **When the coach comes in to pitch, the player pitcher will remain in the position, keeping at least one foot in the circle, for the remainder of the inning.**
6. A ball being thrown back to the pitcher from the catcher is a live ball.
7. Players cannot sit out two (2) consecutive innings each game.
8. Exceptions can be made when a player gets sick or hurt. It must be obvious a player fits into one of these categories. This rule cannot be used to skip the player's turn at bat in order to allow a better hitter to advance, especially when a game's on the line. The coach of the team involved must let the umpire and opposing coach know exactly why the player cannot take her turn at bat. This reason is to be notated in the scorebook, along with inning occurred. There will not be an out called for the missing batter.
9. A player cannot return to the game after being removed for injury or sickness.

V. COACHES

1. Coaches will be responsible for the conduct of themselves, team members and fans
2. **NO JEWELRY ALLOWED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MEDICAL ALERT ID.**
3. **There shall be no "ARGUING" with the umpires at anytime by coaches. The penalty is automatic ejection from the playing area. Any league member in violation of this rule continuously will be brought before the board. Coaches are permitted to call time and approach the umpire in an orderly manner to ask a question or seek clarification of a rule call. If a coach is ejected, he/she will not be allowed to remain in view of the playing field.**
4. Once the game is officially started, **the umpire will have full control.** No protest accepted on judgment calls. Official protests must be submitted to the league board in writing within 24 hours after completion of protested game. Official protest must be accepted by the game umpire at the time of the infraction and prior to the next pitched ball in order to be considered a legal protest.
5. Complaints about coaches by parents or about parents by coaches must be given to the board in writing. The complaint will be reviewed and the board will make every effort to resolve the conflict.
6. **There will be no use of tobacco products inside the fenced area, nor will there be any alcoholic beverages permitted or allowed on park facilities or at practice sessions at any location.**
7. After each game coaches and players are responsible for cleaning the dugout.

8. Make up games and postponements will be made by the board members only.
COACHES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO POSTPONE GAMES BETWEEN EACH OTHER!

9. EACH HEAD COACH WILL MAINTAIN AN OFFICIAL SCOREBOOK WHICH WILL TRACK THEIR PITCHERS INNINGS PITCHED. AFTER EACH GAME BOTH TEAM COACHES WILL VERIFY AND SIGN EACH TEAMS BOOK AND THEN CONFIRMED BY A LEAGUE BOARD MEMBER OR LEAGUE COMMISSIONER. SCOREBOOKS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE ANYTIME FOR COACHES CHALLENGES.