



## **2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Coach Pitch Rules and Regulations**

### **Rules include the following:**

1. **Each child will hit every inning regardless of outs unless game time expires.** Games will last for 50 minutes with no new inning after 45 minutes. Complete innings do not have to be played; we will stop game at 50 minutes.
2. 11-inch softball used for 8U and 10U. A coach can pitch anywhere in-between 30 (feet) pitching distance.
3. Game time will be kept by the recreation staff/coaches. Coaches are the umpires.
4. Teams will hit with their coach pitching to them. Each player will receive up to 5 pitches from their coach. If they are unsuccessful at hitting a fair ball they will be awarded first base. One offensive coach will catch for their team.
5. Home team is the first team listed on the schedule.
6. 10 players will be allowed to play in the field. You can sub and rotate players During the inning. Please allow the children to play as many different positions as possible.
7. In case of inclement weather, 25 minutes of regulation time will constitute a full game. **When severe weather such as thunder/lightning are present at/during games, recreation supervisors will monitor and cancel games on site if necessary. Recreation department discretion.**
8. Score will not be kept.
9. If a player is called out, they will stay on base.
10. Innings will consist of one time through the batting order.

11. A batter cannot strike out. If a batter fails to hit a fair ball, it is considered a walk and the batter is awarded first base. (All other base runners advance on base if forced).
12. End of game – Remove garbage from the dugout and clear the dugout in a timely manner. Hold post-game discussions outside of the field.

We expect professionalism/sportsmanship from Coaches and players at all times on the field. Please have respect for coaches, Umpires, and Players.

HAVE FUN!!!!





## **4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Softball Rules and Regulations**

### **General Rules:**

- Players must wear the team issued shirt when playing a game. Jackets may be worn over the uniform during cold weather. Long pants are required for league. **Metal cleats are not allowed.**
- Dugout selection will be determined as follows: home team will take 3rd base dugout.
- All equipment and players must be in the dugout at all times except for the batter, the on-deck batter and the coaches. Defensive coaches must be against their own dugout.
- Any unsportsmanlike conduct, including throwing equipment, may result in the player, coach or spectator being thrown out of the game without warning. The recreation director will determine if player or coach will be allowed to participate in the next scheduled game.
- **Each team must clean out their dugout before leaving the area after the game.** It is strongly recommended that coaches make sure the dugout is cleaned up before handing out treats.
- In case of inclement weather, two innings or 35 minutes will constitute a full game. **When severe weather such as thunder/lightning are present at/during games, recreation supervisors will monitor and cancel games on site if necessary. Recreation department discretion.**
- Home team will provide the official scorekeeper.
- Games can end in a tie. No extra innings.
- Free Substitution.
- 75 minutes or 6 innings, no new inning after 70 minutes.
- **Game ends if a team is 15 runs ahead after the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10 runs after the 4<sup>th</sup>, and 9 runs after the 5<sup>th</sup>.**

### **Team Selection:**

- Rosters are formed by Recreation Department/Coaches.
- Rosters are final prior to 1st game. Alterations to roster after 1st game will be approved by recreation director

### Game Rules:

- The baselines are 60 feet with 40 feet pitching distance.
- A 12-inch softball will be used.
- Regulation games will consist of 6 innings or a time limit of 75 minutes. **No new inning may start after 70 minutes.** The home team, if behind or tied, will be allowed to bat regardless of time limit. If a game is tied after 6 innings or at the end of the time limit and completed inning, game will be ruled a tie.
- A team may start/finish the game with a minimum of 7 players but there will be an automatic out whenever the eighth and ninth player is due to bat. A team will be given a 5-minute grace period to start with 7 players. If a team still doesn't have 7 players, game will be declared a forfeit.
- Players that arrive to the game after their first scheduled at-bat will be added to the bottom of the lineup.
- Before each game, both teams will provide their line up to the scorekeeper 10 minutes prior to the game. Each player will be listed in the batting lineup. **This must include last names.**
- The offensive team will have three outs, or 6 runs per inning, whichever comes first. **This is considered a "Hard" 6 runs.** Note: If a team has scored 5 runs in their half inning and the next batter hits a grand slam, only 6 runs will count and the next inning will begin with the batter after the player that hit the grand slam.
- Protesting games will not be allowed.
- In case of rainouts, the game will be rescheduled by recreation department and coaches will be notified as soon as possible. This includes the possibility of make-up games on days other than regular scheduled game days, to include the possibility of doubleheaders.
- Games shortened by the elements will be considered complete if at least 35 minutes of regulation game length have been completed AND 2 complete innings.

### Batting:

- All players will be included in the batting line-up and will bat throughout the game regardless of when they play defense.
- Time out will not be called merely because a batter steps out of the batter's box. A batter must ask the umpire for time out. An umpire will ask the pitcher to keep pitching when a batter is stepping out of the box too often.

### Pitching:

- Babe Ruth Softball, Amateur Softball Association (ASA), Little League Girls Softball, and Girls high school pitching styles will all be acceptable. No limit on innings pitched for 10U and 12U.
- Anyone warming up a pitcher at any location shall wear a mask. A throat protector is considered part of the catcher's mask.
- Runners cannot leave the base until the ball has left the pitcher's hand. If a

- runner leaves too soon, she will be called out on the judgment of the umpire.
- At the beginning of the pitching sequence the pitcher must establish contact with the pitching plate. The pitcher's pivot foot must maintain contact with the ground through the release of the ball. Illegal pitches will be called in this league.
  - A new pitcher brought in during an inning may have warm-up pitches.

**Defense:**

- Defensively, there is a free substitution rule meaning you can remove a player from the game and put her back into any position at any time. The batting order will not change
- Any player serving as a catcher (including warm-ups) must wear a mask regardless of whether the pitcher is warming up from the mound, in the bullpen or elsewhere.

**Base Runners:**

- Base runners must tag up and may not leave the base until the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. Penalty: base runner may be declared out on the judgement of the umpire.
- Runners may steal home.
- The speed-up rule will be in effect for catchers and pitchers. A pinch runner may be used for the catcher with 2 or more outs. (The last recorded out will be the allowed base runner).
- Injured base runners are replaced by the player most recently called out. Injured players can return to the game at the discretion of the recreation department.
- Runners must keep their helmet on until back in the dugout.

**Slide Rule:**

- A must slide rule will be in effect when an infielder is attempting to turn a double-play at third and second base. If the runner is not close enough to merit a slide, he must peel away from the baseline. The runner will be called out only if her not sliding or peeling away affects the defensive play. The runner may also be called out or ejected for a malicious slide into any base. This is a judgment call by Umpire.

**Third Strike Rule:**

- **The "Drop Third Strike" rule WILL be applied in this league.**
- A batter may attempt to reach first base safely when a third strike is not caught by the catcher when first base is not occupied, and when first is occupied if there are two outs.
- If the batter abandons the batter's box and begins to return to the dugout, the umpire shall call the batter out. A pitched ball that hits the dirt and is swung at for strike three is considered a dropped third strike.

**If other rules come into question and are not listed here, we will follow the 2023 High School Softball Rules.**

**We expect professionalism/sportsmanship from Coaches and players at all times on the field. Please have respect for coaches, Umpires, and Players.**

**HAVE FUN!!!!**

