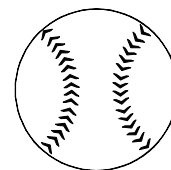


GIRLS ROOKIE LEAGUE SOFTBALL RULES AGES 9 & 10

While it may be noted that most situations can be improved upon, it is the goal of the coaches and the Sponsoring organizations that all participants in our softball league be given a chance to take part in an environment which is fun, healthy, and safe. With this in mind the following rules have been established.



1. The entire roster bats and free substitution is allowed at any time out.
2. A batter will receive pitched balls up to 4 balls or 3 strikes. If a batter has received 4 balls, the batting teams coach will pitch, from within the circle, to the batter with the existing strike count. The batter will be out on a 3rd called or swinging strike.
3. When the coach is pitching, the defensive player (pitcher) must have both feet within the pitching circle until the ball reaches the plate.
4. No stealing. The runner may lead-off after the ball crosses the plate.
5. Speed-Up Rule: If the catcher or a new incoming pitcher is on base with two (2) outs, the coach shall pinch run for her using the player who made the last out.
6. A batter will be awarded first base if a pitched ball hits her directly, but if the ball hits the ground first, no base will be awarded, the pitch will be called a ball and the at bat will continue. Batters must make an attempt to get out of the way of the ball.
7. Base runners are allowed one base on an over thrown ball. Runners may not advance on any ball thrown to the pitcher which is overthrown or mishandled.
8. All batters and base runners must wear helmets with face masks.
9. The pitcher will only be allowed five (5) pitches or two (2) minutes to warm-up between innings. The home plate umpire will remind the pitcher of this.
10. A pitcher may pitch no more than three (3) innings per game.
11. This rule limits the number of trips a coach may make to any one pitcher in any one inning. A second trip to the same pitcher in the same inning will cause this pitcher's automatic removal. The coach is prohibited from making a second visit to the mound while the same batter is at bat.
12. Once a pitcher is taken out, she can not re-enter as a pitcher in the same half-inning; one pitch constitutes an inning. The pitcher must begin with the pivot foot making contact with the pitchers plate. The other foot is free. If the pitcher fails to release the ball while in the act of pitching, a ball is awarded to the batter.
13. Girls must play in the field at least two (2) innings. Exception: Player is reasonably disciplined by coach.
14. There is no infield fly rule.
15. Games are schedule to be six (6) innings long.
 - When only 1 game is played on a field that evening, the first inning to start after 1 hour and thirty minutes (1:30) will be the final inning.
 - When 2 games are played on a field that evening, the first inning to start after 1 hour and ten minutes (1:10) minutes will be the final inning.Game officials will announce that this is the final inning and an unlimited number of runs may be scored. This announcement must be made while the team batting in the top of the inning has the same opportunity to score an unlimited number of runs.
16. Ten players are allowed on the field. Minimum of (7) players needed to play. A team may only have 4 infielders, plus the pitcher/catcher, and the outfielders must be positioned on the grass when the ball is pitched.
17. The five run rule is in effect for all innings except the last inning. No more than five runs shall be counted.
18. Only cleats with rubber soles are permitted.
19. Players who throw equipment in frustration shall be warned by the umpire.
20. Bases 60' / Pitchers mound 35' / Home Park provides game balls: 11" optic yellow ball
21. Ties will be allowed. No extra innings.
22. Bunting is permitted.
23. If there is a play on a runner at a base other than 1st, the runner must slide into that base or veer out of the way of the play or the runner is out. Umps discretion.
24. Only bats that pass through a 2¼-inch diameter bat ring are legal. Each bat shall be no more than 2¼-inch diameter at its thickest part and no more than 34 inches in length.

Home team coaches will be responsible for contacting the visiting team coaches if games are cancelled due to inclement weather.

Rainout Lines: **Kimberly - 788-7507** **Little Chute - 788-7821**

(Rules revised 5/3/2010)