

NPYL Girl's Softball Rules

(10 and under)

Rev. .Mar. 12, 2011

The governing rules of play will be the current officially recognized Babe Ruth Softball rules with the following exceptions:

1. Teams will consist of a maximum of 12 allowed. The infield will consist of 6 players with 4 players assuming defensive position on the outfield grass. The batting order will consist of all team members.
2. All players will play at least two defensive inning in the infield. The catching position will be considered an infield position. One of the mandatory defensive innings must be completed within the first four innings. No player may sit more than 1 inning.
3. Each player on the official team roster will play a minimum of 3 defensive innings (9 outs) unless:
 - A. A game is called by the umpire.
 - B. A player arrives late, or elects to leave early.
 - C. A player is injured or becomes ill
 - D. A player is under disciplinary action. The opposing Coach and the umpire must be notified before the start of the game.
3. (10U) League will use an 11-inch softball throughout the regular season and post-season tournament.
4. There will be a maximum of four adults in the dugout.

5. Pitching – 1st Half of Season - No base on balls will be awarded. When a four-ball count is reached prior to the batter striking out or hitting a fair-batted ball, the ball and strike count will revert to zero. A member of the offensive coaching staff for that batter will pitch with the defensive pitcher taking the position of pitcher's helper. The batter will be pitched 5 pitches to achieve a fair-batted ball. A pitch may be ball or may be a swinging strike. Three strikes and the batter is out. Failure to achieve a fair-batted ball in 5 pitches will also constitute an out. The batter would receive a pitch for each additional fouled ball after the 5th pitch is delivered.

6. Pitching – 2nd Half of Season - Beginning with a team's first game after reaching the halfway point, only the senior pitcher can walk a batter after four balls have been pitched. When the junior pitcher pitches four balls, a member of the offensive coaching staff will pitch. The batter will be pitched 3 pitches to achieve a fair-batted ball. Failure to achieve a fair-batted ball in 3 pitches will constitute an out. The batter would receive a pitch for each additional fouled ball after the 3rd pitch is delivered.

7. No limit on the number of innings pitched per game for pitchers. However, if a Pitcher pitches over 3 innings in one game, she will not be eligible to pitch in the Team's next game. Exception: After a game goes into extra innings each Pitcher will be allowed to pitch one additional inning without penalty for every two extra innings played. One pitch to a batter in an inning constitutes a complete inning. This applies to rainouts, regular season, and post-season tournament games. Also, a minimum of 2 complete innings (six defensive outs) must be pitched by a junior aged pitcher and a senior aged pitcher/or a different junior aged pitcher each game. This must be accomplished by the end of the fourth inning. In the event a pitcher is relieved within the first 4 innings a third pitcher may be required. Ex-- Pitcher A (a senior) pitches 2 outs in the First inning and is relieved by Pitcher B(a junior). Pitcher B pitches all 2nd inning. Pitcher A pitches the 3rd inning. Neither can pitch in the 4th inning and Pitcher C would have to be used. Pitcher C would also have to be a junior pitcher. Each pitcher may re-enter the game as the pitcher one time. Exception: In extra innings, the pitcher may re-enter one more time for every two extra innings played. This applies to rain-outs, regular season, and post season tournaments.

8. In the first half of the regular season, there will be no stealing. In the second half of the regular season and in-house tournament the following rules will apply. Runners starting at first or second base are entitled to steal one base only per pitch with liability to be put out. Runners starting at third may not steal home. Base runners may not leave her base until the pitched ball has crossed home plate. Each team will receive one warning per game before the runner is called out for leaving the base early. NO PITCH will be declared.

A. a maximum of 1 extra base on an over throw.

B. A batter hit by a pitch will be awarded first base regardless of age.

9. The distance from home plate to the pitcher's plate will be 35 feet measured from home plate point that is nearest the catcher to the front edge of the pitching rubber.

10. The offensive half of the inning will continue until 3 outs are made, or until 5 runs are scored.

11. Six innings will constitute a regulation game. An 10 run rule after 4 innings will be in effect. Four innings will constitute an official game if shortened by time limit, weather, darkness, or called by the umpire.

12. There will be allowed 2 charged conferences per inning to the pitcher. A pitching change must be made on the third visit in that inning.

13. The 16-foot diameter circle rule applies.

14. Bunts allowed only when the player/pitcher is pitching.

15. Pitching log must be filled out prior to your next game. Failure to have filled out the pitching log, manager will not be allowed to manage their next game. Pitching log is in the umpire room.

16. The “Look Back” rule will be in effect when the ball is live for all runners and the pitcher has possession and control of the ball within the pitcher’s circle. The pitcher is considered to be in the pitcher’s circle when both feet are on or within the lines. A runner who rounds the base toward the next base may stop, but then must immediately without stopping return to the last base touched or attempt to advance non-stop to the next base. If the runner does not move non-stop back to the last base touched or non-stop toward the next base, then the ball is dead and the runner is out. If two or more runners are off their bases when one is called out, the ball is dead and the other runners are returned to the last base touched. Only one runner may be called out. The runner will not be declared out if a play is made on the runner or the pitcher is “in the act” of making a play on the runner (a fake throw is considered a play).

17. A pitcher is ineligible to pitch the remainder of the inning when she has hit 2 batters in that inning. She is however eligible to pitch starting in the next inning provided that other pitching rules are not followed. Also, a pitcher becomes ineligible to pitch the remainder of the game when she has hit 3 batters in the game. When the pitcher becomes ineligible to pitch, she may play any other position.

18. At the beginning of each half inning, or when a pitcher relieves another, not more than one minute may be used to deliver not more than five pitches. Also, a pitcher returning to pitch in the same inning will not receive warm-up pitches.