



SOFTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS 8U Division (Coach Pitch)

The **8U Division** will have a **SYA SUPERVISOR** at all games and will get each game started. The **SYA SUPERVISOR** will bring the helmets and batting tee to the fields. **COACHES** are encouraged to work together on the field to help the players for both teams.

Rule 1. BALL IN

When the ball crosses the plane of the 15' arc, the ball is deemed dead and the coach will call "BALL IN!" All runners must return/advance to the base to which they are closest. The BALL IN rule does not apply to the last batter.

When a flyball is caught, base runners who fail to tag-up properly can be tagged out: however, the fielder may opt to throw the ball to the catcher for a BALL IN call. In this case all runners must return to their previous bases.

Rule 2. LINE UP

Everyone will be listed but may not hit. We are not hitting the line up each inning. Each ½ inning may not exceed 3 outs, the 5 run rule, or the lineup.

Rule 3. PITCHER/PLAYER POSITIONS

The player-pitcher can be positioned anywhere within the pitching circle.

Rule 4. BATTING TEE

The 8U Division is coach-pitched and the tee is used after what would be a third strike. (A full swing and a miss or a hit ball into FOUL territory constitutes a strike)

Rule 5. COACH-PITCHER

- A. Coach-pitcher must pitch from a minimum of 25 feet.
- B. If the coach-pitcher accidentally interferes with a batted ball, the pitch is replayed.

Rule 6. BATTER

On a COACH pitched ball each batter is allowed 3 strikes. If the batter does not hit the ball into fair play, the tee will be set up and the batter will get 2 attempts to hit the ball. An out or a hit will be recorded.

Rule 7. TEAM

All players can take the field/ but no team can have more than 5 infielders between the 15' arc and the grass line in fair territory. When the batter is up, NO defensive changes may be made unless an injury occurs to a player.

Rule 8. EQUIPMENT

- A. **Batting helmets**...Although SYA does encourage everyone to buy their own helmets; they will be provided if needed at game time. (5 per team). EVERY HELMET MUST HAVE A CHIN STRAP!!!
- B. **Game balls** (11"optic yellow) and a tee will also be provided at the field you will be playing on.
- C. **Catchers equipment**
It is not necessary to purchase full catchers equipment, one of your batters helmets will be protection enough as catchers do not stand in or near the catcher's box.
- D. No metal cleats are allowed.

Rule 9. THE GAME

- A. The SYA SUPERVISOR will flip a coin that will determine the home team.
- B. No inning shall start after 65 min.
- C. Base runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit. If a player leads off or attempts to steal the runner will be called out.
- D. There will be no base limits on a hit so a hitter can take multiple bases.
- E. The runner may attempt to advance after the fly ball is caught only if he/she has tagged up properly.
- F. A fair ball is in play after crossing the 15' arc
- G. REMINDER--- There is **no infield fly rule in coach pitch division!!**

Revised August 1, 2019