

8U game structure/rules/guidelines

Regular season

1. Two coaches are allowed on the field while their team is playing on the field.
(fielding/defensive team)
2. Every girl will play the field every inning unless there are more than 10 girls on the team.
3. Keep the same batting order throughout the entire game.
 - Team will bat 3 outs or 10 batters
 - All girls on the roster will bat during the game
4. Maximum of 6 pitches per batter for the first half of the season. If the batter does not put the ball in play with the 6 pitches, the batter can use a tee (this is at the discretion of both coaches and will be discussed and agreed upon before the game starts).
 - Maximum of 6 pitches per batter from the mid-point of the season until the end of the season.
 - No walks.
 - No walks for hit batters.
 - A tee can be used if needed during game time.
 - Coaches will discuss and agree on these rules BEFORE the game starts
5. If your team has 10 or more players you will field 4 outfielders, 4 infielders. 1 pitcher. 1 catcher. If you are only able to field 9 players, it's recommended you eliminate the catcher position.
6. Pitching: All pitching will be done by a team coach and or their designated affiliated team member. Ie: Official assistant coach or a parent of a player of the respected team.
 - Pitchers will be at least 18 years of age.
 - No team player will pitch at any time.
 - All pitchers will make every effort to pitch from the pitching rubber.
 - If the pitcher is struggling to throw the ball over the plate for strikes they should consider moving to the inner edge of the pitching circle. If they are continuing to struggle to throw strikes, the head coach will decide to either replace the pitcher or have the pitcher move up one foot outside of the pitcher's circle. If pitching struggles continue and the fielding team is out of options, the head coach can ask for assistance from the opposing team.
 - If a pitcher is hit by a batted ball the ball is dead. The batter will continue to hit until the player puts the ball in play or strikes out.
8. The first two weeks of the season will be handled as scrimmages with occasional pauses in the scrimmage for encouraged coachable moments. Dates will be determined prior to the start

- of the season. During this time batters that put the ball in play will only run to first base. Baserunners can advance one base for each ball that is put in play. Runners on third can advance to home to score as a batter puts the ball in play.
9. Overthrows: there will be NO extra base on an overthrow to first. One extra base will be taken on an overthrow to second or third.
 10. If the play is at home? Go for it! This is expected to be a rare occurrence, but we don't want to discourage heads up play.
 11. Baserunners: no leads, one foot must be on the bag.
 12. After the completion of the first two weeks of scrimmage. TBD prior to the season.
 - Batters that hit a ball to the grass/outfield can attempt to advance to second base for a double. That batter/runner can be tagged out while advancing.
 - If a batter hits a ball to the grass/outfield and there is a baserunner/s on the field the baserunner can attempt to advance two bags. If there is a baserunner on third that runner will score.
 - All tag outs and force outs will be in full affect.
 13. Each player will play an infield position and outfield position throughout the game and regular season.
 14. Outfielders must be positioned on the grass. (completely off of the dirt, not lingering on the edge of the boundary between the infield and outfield)
 15. Equipment:
 - All game balls will be an 11-inch official softball.
 - Fielders face mask will be mandatory for all players/positions.
 - Catchers are mandated to be fully equipped.
 16. Teams must field a minimum of 6 players for official regular season games.
 17. There will be a maximum of 10 girls on the field at one time.
 18. There will not be any official score keeping for regular season games.
 19. Games will last for 90 minutes.
 20. All rules will be agreed upon by the coaches BEFORE the game starts.