



ELIGIBILITY

Any girl who has paid the required registration fee and has reached the age of 3, on or before August 31st, of the current season, provided she does not reach the age of 19 on or before August 31st, is eligible to play.

Divisions will be as follows:

18 &Under
16 & Under
14 & Under
12 & Under
10 & Under
8 & Under
6 & Under
T-Ball

When referring to a division throughout these playing rules it shall include ages according to the above.

All Managers, Coaches', Team Mom's and/or any other individual providing coaching instruction on the field or in the dugout (at the time of a game or during team practices) must have successfully completed an approved background check and 1 safe sport course. This background check or ACE certification/ safe sport shall be made available, at the time of request, for any SFGSL Board Member or Umpire for verification whenever such person is involved in SFGSL Team Activities. If not obtained prior to the start of season, will be removed until proper documentation is obtained.

ALL divisions will play according to the official USA Softball Rules (current edition) with the following exceptions:

ALL DIVISIONS

Section 1: GENERAL RULES

- A. All girls making practices and games will be required to play at least one (1) complete inning every game.
- B. Catchers must wear USA Softball approved protective equipment at all times, including practices and warm-ups (this includes catchers warming up pitchers). Approved gear for catchers includes mask with throat protector, helmet with earflaps, shin guards that offer protection to the kneecaps, and body protector.
- C. Batter, on-deck batter, base runners, and any Junior Olympic player acting as coaches in the coach's box must wear NOCSAE approved batting helmets at all times, including practices. If any of these are violated, they shall be corrected, and the game continued.
- D. Exposed jewelry, which is judged by the umpire to be dangerous, must be removed and may not be worn during games. Medical alert bracelets or necklaces are not considered jewelry. If worn, they must be taped to the body so as to remain visible.
- E. Make-up games will be scheduled by the Scheduler on the first available date. Once make-up games are rescheduled, they are considered regular league games again. All rules apply to them as before they were rescheduled unless otherwise noted.
- F. Swapping of games, times, and slots will NOT be done by the scheduler strictly for convenience

purposes. However, managers MAY change time slots provided the following are done:

1. ALL affected managers agree.
2. Division VP is notified.
3. Scheduler confirms trade.

G. Games may be canceled for MAJOR school events or any other significant event deemed "just cause" by the BOARD.

H. No new inning will start after one (1) hour and ten (10) minutes of game time or 7 innings. In case of a tie, teams will play one extra inning using the International Tie Breaker rule. (See Pixie Playing Rules for rules pertaining to that division) If still tied after I.T.B. each team is awarded ½ win.

I. Play the time limit

J. Each manager must submit two (2) complete copies of their line-up, which include complete name, number and position of players before game time to the umpire.

K. The use of all tobacco products including E-Cigs, Vapes, etc. will be prohibited from the ballpark.

L. Slinging of the bat shall be a judgment call by the umpire.

M. All protests will be ruled on by the Board of Directors in conjunction with GCUA. A \$10.00 fee must accompany each written protest within 48 hours. Protests should abide with USA SOFTBALL guidelines. Protest must be noted in the scorebook and signed by the umpire and the coach making the protest.

N. In league play only, the entire roster will bat during the games, if time permits. This includes all girls who are on the roster and make practices and games.

O. "Free substitution" on defense only is permissible. Substitutes may enter and re-enter the game defensively without restriction. However, batting order may not change.

P. The team on offense (at bat) may use a courtesy runner (CR) for the pitcher and/or catcher at any time. The catcher and pitcher are identified as those players who actually were playing those positions at the end of the previous half-inning. In the top of the first inning ONLY, the catcher and pitcher are identified as the players listed on the line-up card. Neither the catcher, nor the pitcher is required to leave the game under this rule.

The courtesy runner must be the offensive teams last recorded out. *If a courtesy runner situation arises in the first inning and no outs have been recorded, the courtesy runner will be the last batter listed in the batting order.* If the courtesy runner is on base and it is their turn to bat, then they shall be replaced on base by the last recorded out, other than themselves.

Q. In the event of an injury in which a girl cannot complete her time at bat, she will be removed from the batting order and "skipped" each time her turn appears in the order. NO OUT will be given. If she is injured while batting and has NOT completed her time at bat, the last girl that made an out will assume her ball and strike count for that time at bat only. (This rule applies when the entire roster is batting and there are no available substitutes) If she is unable to appear for her NEXT scheduled time at bat, she will be declared "ineligible" for the remainder of the game. If injured on base or while on defense, same rules apply.

R. If a player shows up late for a game, for just reason, she will be added to the line-up as the last player listed on offense.

S. If a team has eight (8) players or less because of absence or illness, they may pick up enough players from a lower division to field a team up to nine (9) players. This will be allowed provided it does not interfere with regular scheduled games of players to be picked up and the consent of parents is given. Notification must also be given to the pickup player's manager.

- T. Pick up players may also be loaned by the opposing team at the opposing coach's discretion. Pick up players will only play defense, in this case and will not bat for the opposing team's lineup.
- U. Pick up players are only allowed to play an outfield position (outfield position is defined as behind the Baseline and bat last in the lineup) in either possible choice, R or S.
- V. A fast pitch game may begin with 8 players, but when and if another player arrives, that player must be inserted into the lineup at the last batting position.
- W. Steel cleats will not be allowed on SFGSL fields during league play.

Section 2: REGISTRATION AND DRAFT RULES

- A. Registration and tryout dates will be decided by the Board and announced by the December meeting.
- B. Registration fee must be paid with registration. Deadline for late registration will be prior to draft.
- C. Teams will be listed in inverse order based on the prior year's standings.
 - 1. The last place team will draft first.
 - 2. The second to last place team will draft second.
 - 3. The third to last place team will draft third.
 - 4. etc.
 - 5. etc.
 - 6. The first-place team will draft last.
- D. If a new team is needed and formed, that team will be treated as if it had finished last in the prior year. No new team shall be formed if there are enough returning teams to fill rosters. If two or more teams are "newly" formed, then they will draw for drafting positions. The two or more "newly" formed teams will be placed in the draft order ahead of any returning team.

Example:

- 1. Five returning teams will be placed in INVERSE order and the 1 newly formed team will be placed in the first draft position.
- 2. Five returning teams will be placed in INVERSE order, the 2 newly formed teams will draw for first and second draft position and placed in that order.
- E. The number of teams will be determined based on the number of players registered and the Draft will consist of THREE parts:
 - 1. "Pre-Draft" = Up to 4 draft picks
 - 1. Manager's pick (submitted to Player Agent prior to the draft)
 - 2. Assistant Coach's pick (submitted to Player Agent prior to the draft)
 - 3 & 4. With the exception of Manager's daughters and "Named" Assistant Coach's daughters, returning players will be inserted in "Pre-Draft" positions 3 and 4 in that order. If there are no returning players, these positions will be filled by alternating picks based on the draft order. ONLY players who tried out can be selected in the "Pre-Draft".
 - 2. "Regular Draft" = Picks five through a pre-determined number of selections. The pre-determined number shall be defined as: Returning players (going back on teams) and players who tried-out divided by the number of teams in that division; rounded down to a whole number. ONLY players who tried out shall be selected in the "Regular Draft". Teams will draft by alternating picks based on the draft order. All players that tried out will be drafted in the "Regular Draft".

“Blind Draft” = usually the last 1 to 2 rounds of the draft. Players who do not return to a team and did not try out, will be selected at this time.

F. Draft Selections

1. “Pre-Draft” position #1, Manager’s Pick:
 - a. Manager’s daughters will automatically be on the team and placed in the Manager’s designated pick in the “Pre-Draft”. If the Manager returns to the team as the “Manager” and their daughter is a returning player, then the daughter will be placed in the designated Manager’s pick.
 - b. If the Manager does not have a daughter on the team, then a granddaughter, niece, aunt, etc. (otherwise commonly known as a family member) of the Manager shall be treated as if that player is a daughter of the Manager.
 - c. If the Manager does not have a family member on the team, then he/she may select a manager’s designee from the list of registered players prior to the draft. If no selection is made prior to the draft, he/she may select their player from all draft eligible players.
 - d. If a manager returns to the team as the “Manager” and their prior year’s designee is a returning player, then the designee will be placed in the designated Manager’s pick.
2. “Pre-Draft” position #2, Assistant Coach’s Pick:
 - a. If an Assistant Coach is not “Named” prior to the “Pre-Draft”, then the Manager can pick a player in that position. The Manager can ONLY choose from the players who tried out.
 - b. If an Assistant Coach is “Named” prior to the draft (must be submitted to Player Agent 24 hours prior to draft), then the Assistant Coach’s daughter will automatically be placed on the team in the designated Assistant Coach’s pick.
 - c. If the Assistant Coach does not have a family member on the team then he/she may select an Assistant Coach’s designee from the list of registered players prior to draft.
 - d. If the prior year’s Manager or Assistant Coach returns to the team as the “Assistant Coach” and their daughter is a returning player, then the daughter will be placed in the designated Assistant Coach’s pick.
3. Sisters: The only time sisters will be separated is at the parent/guardian’s written request.
 - a. A sister of a player already on a team will automatically go to that team. She will be placed in the last position of the “Regular Draft”.
 - b. If 2 sisters are in the draft and 1 is selected, the other will automatically go to that team and be placed in the last position of the “Regular Draft”.
4. Returning players: With the exception of the Manager’s and Assistant Coach’s daughters, the first 2 returning players will be inserted into the “Pre-Draft” positions 3 and 4 in that order. Any other returning players will be inserted into the “Regular Draft” positions, filling in from the last pick to the first pick. If the Manager’s daughter is a returning player, she will be inserted into the “Pre-Draft” Manager’s Pick. If the “Named” Assistant Coach’s daughter is a returning player, she will be inserted into the “Pre-Draft” Assistant Coach’s Pick. As long as the Manager’s pick and Assistant Coach pick are returners to the team, no new assistant

coach can be named while in the current age division. This does NOT apply when changing divisions.

5. Returning players changing teams:

- a. Players who do not wish to return to the prior year's team may do so with or without trying it out.
 - 1. If the player tries out, she can then be drafted by any team other than the prior year's team in ANY "Pre" or "Regular" draft position.
 - 2. If the player does not try out, she can only be drafted in the "Blind Draft".

6. Returning players for manager moving up to new age division.

- a. Returning players shall be defined as a player that was on a manager's spring roster for the previous year only.
- b. A returning manager moving up to a new age division will be allowed to return up to 3 total players from their previous year's team. The manager may elect to use all, none, or any combination of their total returning player selections.
- c. With the exception of the Manager's and Assistant Coach's daughters, the first 2 returning players will be inserted into the "Pre-Draft" positions 3 and 4 in that order. The third returning player will be inserted into the "Regular Draft" position 5.
- d. This only applies to previous year's managers moving up and not to assistant coaches moving up and starting their own team.
- e. Returning players must be named and agreed upon in writing before the draft.

	Draft example of returning manager moving up in age division							
	Pre-Draft				Regular Draft			
Round	M	A	3	4	5	6	7	8
Pick	M	A	R	R	R	Draft Pick	Draft Pick	Draft Pick

G. Draft Representatives

- 1. Only Managers and Assistant Coaches' (who have been approved by the Board and have provided a signed and dated application prior to the "Pre-Draft") will be allowed in the draft.
- 2. If, in the event a Manager or Assistant Coach cannot attend the draft, they may designate a person to replace them.
- 3. No team shall have more than TWO representatives present at the draft.
- 4. No one under the age of 18 shall be allowed in the draft room.

H. Trading

- 1. Trading of players will be allowed immediately after the draft before the designated cut-off time ONLY. The designated cut-off time is generally the time before all Managers, Assistant Coaches, and Board representatives have left the draft room.
- 2. Roster adjustments must be Board approved after trade deadline. Requests must be accompanied by the written consent of the players parent/guardian involved and the Manager's involved.
- 3. Returning players cannot be traded (F5).

- I. Dissolution of teams: If, after the draft, a team is dissolved, the players will be placed in a 2nd draft using the “Blind Draft” provisions. The team with the least number of players will draft first based on the original draft order then, drafting will resume in the original draft order.
- J. Late Registrants: Players signing up after teams have been formed will be placed on the team that was next in line to receive a player at the draft. This will continue until teams are full or the cutoff date has been reached for registration which will be determined by the Board.
- K. In the event the Board of Directors determines that a “special circumstance” exists, they may modify these draft rules for the best interest of the league.

ABOVE ALL ELSE, USE COMMON SENSE... Sample Draft

Prior Year Standings	Pre-Draft				Regular Draft							Blind Draft	
Team	M	A	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Red	M	A	4	6	8	13	19	25	30	35	38	41	47
Blue	M	1	SEC	SEC	SEC	14	20	26	31	36	39	42	48
Purple	R	A	R	R	9	15	21	27	32	R	R	43	49
Green	M	2	R	R	10	16	22	28	33	R	R	44	50
Orange	R	3	R	R	11	17	23	R	R	R	S	45	51
Yellow	R	RA	5	7	12	18	24	29	34	37	40	46	52

M=Manager's Pick

R=Returning Player

S=sister pick

A=Assistant Coach Pick

SEC=Secured Player

Example:

- Team Red is a new team and the manager “Named” an Assistant Coach.
- Team Blue is moving up a division and is securing 3 players.
- Team Purple has 5 returning players including the Manager’s daughter. The manager also “Named” a non-returning Assistant Coach prior to the “Pre-Draft.”
- Team Green has 4 returning players and a new manager.
- Team Orange has 6 returning players including the Manager’s daughter. 1 of the players has a sister in the draft.
- Team Yellow has 2 returning players including the Manager’s daughter and the “Named” Assistant Coach’s daughter.

1. Managers will “Name” their Assistant Coaches 24 hours prior to draft.
2. Returning Manager’s daughters will be inserted in the Manager’s pick position and returning “Named” Assistant Coaches daughters will be inserted in the Assistant Coaches pick position. Returning players will be inserted in the “Pre-Draft” positions 3 & 4 in that order and additional returning players will be inserted in the “Regular Draft” positions starting from the last pick to the first pick (see F4).

3. Each new Manager will select a player in the Manager's pick (usually a daughter, family member, or designee). Again, returning Manager's daughters will automatically fill this spot.
4. Each Manager will select a player in the Assistant Coaches pick (usually the daughter or family member of the Assistant Coaches "Named" prior to the "Pre-Draft" or, if none "Named", the Manager will select from the players who tried-out).

Section 3: PLAYER RESIGNATION

Any player that resigns with just cause prior to the last regular season game automatically gives the manager permission to remove her name from the team roster. The manager must remove her name and notify the Player Agent in order to verify the resignation and the reason for the resignation. This player must attend tryouts the following season to be eligible to play again. Once her name has been turned over to a Player Agent as dropped, she cannot go back on a team until the next season.

Section 4: TEAM MANAGEMENT

- A. Managers will be allowed to choose their assistant coaches.
- B. Approved returning managers (in good standings) applying for the team which they managed the previous year, will automatically be awarded the team.
- C. Managers and Board Members will be furnished with a current copy, or accessed through links on the league's website, of the By-Laws and Playing Rules as well as the current year USA SOFTBALL rule books.
- D. Managers and Assistant Coaches may not be affiliated with a team in name only. They must be personally responsible for the organization, training and coaching of their team and players. Failure to comply could result in their removal and failing to be re-approved for the next season.
- E. Managers shall be responsible for equipment issued to them and are required to turn these into the Equipment Manager when they resign or at the end of the season.
- F. Managers shall receive board approval for individual and/or team fundraising projects (with the exception of bake sales, car washes, garage sales, or raffles).
- G. All injuries occurring during games or practices must be recorded on official injury forms.
- H. No hardball "pepper" or "soft toss" is allowed at any time against any SFGSL fence or backstop.
- I. Home team managers for the first game of the day are responsible for preparing and chalking the field.
- J. Home team managers for the last game of the day are responsible for raking down the field, filling in depressions, and trash pick-up on the fields.
- K. Scorekeepers
 1. All scorekeepers are encouraged to attend a training clinic which will be provided by the Board.
 2. The opposing team scorekeeper shall sign the scorebook after each game to avoid discrepancies.
- L. Team Mom/Dad (if not one, the manager will assume responsibility)
 1. Shall be appointed by the manager. The manager should also see that the team mom/dad carries out his/her duties in all ways possible for the welfare of the team.
 2. Shall be responsible for the collection of money from all fund-raising projects and shall attend or be represented at all meetings incidental to his/her duties as team representative.
- M. Managers, Coaches, and Team Moms shall assist the Board of Directors in prohibiting

inappropriate/destructive behaviors.

N. If staying in the same age division and a Manager does not return to the team the option goes to the Assistant Coach to take over the team; if Manager/Assistant Coach does not return to the team then the option goes to a parent of a returning player if they want it. If Manager, Assistant Coach, or a parent of a returning player doesn't want the team then the team is dissolved.

Section 5: SCORING AND STANDINGS

- A. Each manager will receive a league scorebook. Each team will keep score during each game. The home team scorebook will be the official book of the field. The scorebooks will be checked in/out from the concession stand and must be returned after each game. Failure to return the team scorebook will result in a forfeit of game.
- B. Home team managers shall be responsible for providing an official scorekeeper of each game. In the event there is no scorekeeper prior to game time and before the umpire calls the game, the manager of the home team shall be the official scorekeeper.
- C. The official scorekeeper will remain outside the dugout (unless B occurs).
- D. Standings will be determined by win/loss record in each division. In the event of a tie at the end of the season the standings will be determined by head-to-head record, runs allowed, and then by runs scored.
- E. Per Sec. 11U 6u game ties will be credited with a $\frac{1}{2}$ win and 8u-18u game ties will play 1 inning of I.T.B. rule. If ending in a tie after that one I.T.B. inning, then will be credited with a $\frac{1}{2}$ win.

Section 6: POST SEASON TEAMS

- A. Players will be selected from each division for post-season play.
- B. Qualified Manager of the post-season team in their respective divisions shall be determined by the following:
 1. Division VP's find interested Managers in their respective divisions.
 2. If multiple Managers are interested:
 - Manager with the best record after 7 games will be #1 Post Season Team Manager.

(**each team must play each other once before the manager can be selected; if there are not enough teams in the division to result in 7 league games then standings will be determined by a set date. The Board of Directors will determine the cutoff date and Division VPs will communicate the date to the divisions affected).

 - If there is a tie between Managers interested the tie will be decided by:
 1. Head-to-Head
 2. Overall Runs Allowed (game 1 to game 7 or by a set date)
 3. Overall Runs Scored (game 1 to game 7 or by a set date)
- C. The Post Season Team Manager will be determined and posted prior to sending out sign up forms for players. All Managers shall have an up-to-date ACE Certification prior to receiving authority for any team through SFGSL. This ACE Certification shall be made available, at the time of request, for any SFGSL Board Member or Umpire for verification whenever the Manager is involved in SFGSL Team Activities.
- D. Sign-ups will be announced and conducted by the division VPs by the first week of April.
- E. Only girls currently participating in the SFGSL season, having satisfied the full amount of registration, and having signed a post-season agreement shall be eligible.
- F. Each Division VP will prepare a list with the names of the players who are eligible for Post Season.

- G. Only Managers and Assistant Managers (or a designee) will be eligible to present players for consideration and allowed in the selections meeting. At least two Board Members must be present during the selection meeting. In the event of a "conflict of interest" (such as the Division VP having a team in the same division) the Board may appoint another Board Member.
- H. The Division VP will distribute the list of eligible players to each Manager for presentation of players.
- I. The first Post Season Team Manager, after presentation of players from each coach, will make their selection of players (up to 13) and turn in their team list to the Division VP. Division VP is responsible for posting results within 24 hours.
- J. After District and State tournaments, the manager has the option of increasing the roster in accordance with USA Softball guidelines.
- K. Post season tournaments and play are the responsibility of the individual team.
- L. Players should be picked on the merits of their season play.
- M. Secondary post season team (if applicable) will be filled by selection of the Second Post Season Team Manager (where available) from the remaining girls selected on the ballots. If there are not enough girls for a second team, after all remaining eligible players are on the second post-season team, the coach can pick up additional players with Board approval only.
- N. The secondary post season team list will be turned in and posted by the Division VP with in 24hrs after the team has been filled.
- O. If the manager selected for the Second Post Season Team, has a daughter that was selected to play on the first team then that will be worked out between the first team manager and the second team manager. The second team manager has the option of taking his daughter from the first team to play for his second team. This applies to a daughter only and no other player.
- P. If the Second Team Manager does remove his daughter from the first team to play on the second team, then the first team manager will be able to select another player from the ballot prior to the second team manager selecting his or her team.
- Q. Final Post Season Team Roster(s) will be sent to the SFGSL Player Agent.

**any player that marks "no" on their form or turns down a roster selection will not be eligible to play for any sponsored SFGSL post season team.

Section 7: 10 & UNDER DIVISION

League specific rules, which apply only to the 10 & Under Division, are as follows:

- A. A team may consist of a minimum number of nine (9) OR a maximum number of (10) DEFENSIVE players. Teams may play with a tenth player providing there are four outfielders used.
- B. The ball will be the 11" yellow optic cover, cor .47 375 compression ball.
- C. Base distance will be sixty (60') feet.
- D. Pitching distance will be thirty-five (35') feet.
- E. Games will be a maximum of seven (7) innings (or time limit). (Sec. 1H)
- F. Infield fly will be in effect.
- G. Walks/Coach Pitch, Stealing Bases, Dropped Third Strike, and Run Limit will be determined at 10u manager meeting prior to the spring season.

Section 8: PIXIE DIVISION

- A. PIXIE I – 6 & Under Division: Any girl who is 5 years old, on or before August 31st and has not

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reached the age of 7, on or before September 1st of the current season is eligible to play. Exceptions by Board approval.

B. PIXIE II – 8 & Under Division: Any girl who is 7 years old on or before August 31st and has not reached the age of 9 on or before September 1st of the current season is eligible to play. Exceptions by Board approval.

Section 9: PIXIE DRAFT

- A. The Pixie 6 & Under Division will be a blind draft of all new registrants.
- B. The Pixie 8 & Under Division will draft by the rules set out in Section 2.

Section 10: PIXIE PLAYING FIELD

- A. A line bisecting the pitching circle will be drawn starting on the first base side of the circle and ending on the third base side of the circle.
- B. A line will be drawn indicating the halfway mark between bases for runners.
- C. Base distance will be sixty (60') feet.
- D. Pitching circle will be an 8' radius using the 35' pitching rubber distance.

Section 11: PIXIE RULES

The pixie division will be governed by the same playing rules & regulations as the SFGSL with the following exceptions:

- A. A team may consist of a minimum of nine (9) defensive players or a maximum of eleven (11) defensive players. Teams may play with one (1) or two (2) roving short players on defense providing four (4) or five (5) players remain in the outfield. If a team has nine (9) or less than nine (9) players because of absence or illness, they may pick up players from a lower pixie division team, if a lower division exists, limit of 3, in order to fill a team up to ten (10) players. The pick-ups shall not play before or instead of the regular team members and will only play in the outfield and bat last in the lineup. This will be allowed providing it does not interfere with the regular scheduled league games of the players to be picked up and with the notification of the parents and managers.
- B. The coaching staff will consist of a manager and not more than four (4) assistant coaches. The manager will assume full responsibility for the actions of his/her coaching staff. The following coaching positions will be allowed.
 1. Offensive coach – pitcher mound.
 2. Offensive coach – first base and third base.
 3. Defensive coach – To be governed by umpire(s).
- C. The manager of the team at bat will appoint a member of their coaching staff to pitch to their batters. A team will not be allowed to change a coach/pitcher until the inning is over.
- D. The coach/pitcher may pitch anywhere within the eight (8) foot pitching circle as long as his/her foot is on or in front of the halfway line.
- E. The coach/pitcher must always keep at least one foot within the eight (8') foot radius sixteen (16') foot pitching circle when the pitch is delivered. Penalty: Dead ball; add one (1) pitch to the count. If after the fourth pitch, batter will be declared out.
- F. The coach/pitcher is allowed to talk to the batter but must not leave the pitching circle before the pitch. PENALTY: Removal of coach/pitcher.

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- G. The coach/pitcher will try to avoid interfering with the play after the ball has been hit, by moving to foul ball territory away from the play. If in the judgment of the umpire, the coach/pitcher intentionally interferes with the play:
 - 1. The ball is declared dead.
 - 2. The batter is awarded 1st base.
 - 3. All other base runners will advance one base, only if forced by the award of 1st base to the batter.
 - 4. The batting team is given an out.
 - 5. No team will be allowed to score because of coach/pitcher intentional interference. Should a run be forced home, then that runner will be the out mentioned in Section G, Rule 4.
 - 6. Unintentional interference:
 - a. Dead ball
 - b. No out will be charged
 - c. Forced run may score
- H. All players present must bat.
- I. There will be a ball/strike count kept. A batter will have up to five (5) pitches or three (3) strikes (whichever comes first) to hit a fair ball. Should a batter fail to hit a fair ball at the end of five (5) pitches, the batter will be declared out. Should the batter foul off the fifth pitch, she will be allowed a sixth pitch. In the event the batter fouls off the sixth pitch, she will then be given a seventh pitch. If after the seventh pitch the batter has still failed to hit a fair ball, the batter will be called out.
- J. Bunting is not allowed.
- K. Stealing is not allowed.
- L. Should more than one (1) runner be running to the same base, the rear runner will be sent back to the base she was running from.
- M. Runners who are already over halfway to base may continue to next base. If less than halfway they must return to the last base occupied, when ball becomes dead.
- N. If a runner fails to maintain foot contact with a base while the pitcher has the ball, a dead ball will be called, and the umpire will issue a warning to the offensive coach for the first offense. Second offense of the runner failing to maintain foot contact with the base will result in the runner being called out. Only one warning will be issued per team, per game.
- O. **(8&Under Only)** - At any time during the inning, once 2 outs have occurred and the catcher is on base, the last completed at bat may come in as a courtesy runner for the catcher.
- P. **(6&Under ONLY)** –When the ball is put in play by the batter, on the initial throw to 1st base or 3rd base, if an overthrown ball hits the fence in foul territory, RESULT: the ball becomes dead and base runners get the base they are running to at the time of the throw.
- Q. The defensive player/pitcher must stand in the back half of the pitching circle. She may not move from the back half of the pitching circle until the ball has been hit. With the exception of the catcher, no defensive player may be closer than 27 ½ feet from the batter, until the ball has been hit. Violation of this rule will allow the offensive coach to take the resulting play or advance the batter to the first base. (“HIT BALL” means fair or foul)
- R. A play will be considered dead once the defensive pitcher has control of the ball within the eight (8') foot circle. Should the ball be hit directly back to the defensive pitcher on the ground, and the pitcher chooses to hold the ball in the circle rather than make a play, all runner will be allowed to advance one base.
- S. The defensive pitcher will give the ball to the coach/pitcher at the end of each play.

- T. Defensive players may be positioned by their managers prior to the beginning of each $\frac{1}{2}$ inning. The umpire will determine if a player has been placed in an unsafe position and will not start play until the manager has moved all players to safe playing positions. When fielding nine (9) players, three (3) players must be in the outfield, behind the base path. When fielding ten (10) players, four (4) players must be in the outfield, behind the base path.
- U. There will be free defensive substitutions.
- V. No new inning will start after 55 minutes of play. The 6u game will end when time has run out and the home team has completed its bat, regardless of the score. 8 & Under will play 1 inning of International Tie Breaker. The I.T.B. rule will not apply to 6 & Under Divisions. Those teams competing to a tie will be credited with $\frac{1}{2}$ win.
- W. Run limit per $\frac{1}{2}$ inning will be six runs.
- X. Will have USA Softball umpires.
- Y. In order to protest a game, **at the time of the incident**, you must inform the umpire and the official scorekeeper of the protest. Then a formal protest must be submitted, along with a \$10.00 fee, to the SFGSL Board of Directors within 48 hours of the incident. Protest must be noted in the scorebook and signed by the umpire and the coach making the protest.

Section 12: T-BALL DIVISION

- A. T-BALL Division: Any girl who is 3 years old, by August 31st and has not reached the age of 5, on or before September 1st of the current season is eligible to play.

Section 13: T-BALL DRAFT

- A. The T-BALL Division will be a blind draft of all new registrants. They will be grouped by age; 3s first, 4s second
- B. A returning player has the option to return to the same team, in the same age division, as the previous Spring or they may choose to go into the draft.

Section 14: T-BALL PLAYING FIELD

- A. Pitching circle will be an 8' radius using the 35' pitching rubber distance.

Section 15: T-BALL RULES

The T-Ball division will be governed by the same playing rules & regulations as the SFGSL with the following exceptions:

- A. Will bat the number of players at coaches discretion.
- B. 55 Minutes
- C. No outs
- D. Swing until player hits the ball
- E. Players advance one base after each batter; last batter will run ALL the bases.

Section 16: A-BALL RULES

A. A-BALL Selection Process

1. The A-Ball VP will keep a waiting list. When there is an opening, the A-Ball VP will assign the spot based on the list.
2. Team waiting list will be discussed regularly and updated at the end of the season with current interest.
3. A-Ball spot opens up, the coaches already here with a field are offered a spot, first by seniority

B. A-BALL Requirements

1. Must provide contact information to the A-Ball VP
2. All A-Ball Coaches must attend a Coaches meeting
3. Cutoff date for team registration and rosters (A late fee will be implemented if payment is not turned in by the due date for team registration:
 - March 1 – Spring deadline for rosters and payment;
 - August 1 – Fall deadline for rosters and payment
4. If you are given a spot to use the fields, you MUST participate in helping maintain the fields. The Board always schedules two workdays, if you don't participate in helping maintain the fields, you are subject to losing your field.
5. Coaches must present their Background Check and SafeSport to the A-Ball VP prior to the beginning of each season. This applies to all individuals on the field or in the dugouts.
6. All registration money for A-Ball needs to be turned in to the A-Ball VP for recording purposes
7. If a Coach changes over, they need to come to the Board for approval before giving up his/her field
8. Tournament will be selected by the Tournament selection guidelines.
9. Minimum payment \$750 for Spring, \$750 for Fall

Section 17: Revision History

Revised Date:

12/07/2025

Revision Description:	Revised By:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section 1 under U added and bat last in the lineup• Section 2 under 2b changed Manager to Coach• Section 2 under 6c changed Manager to Coach• Section 2 under H1 changed Manager to Coach• Section 2 under J changed draft order chart• Section 2 under J new Examples added• Section 2 added K• Section 2 removed K and L under examples• Section 4 under C added or accessed through links on the league's website• Section 4 under D capitalized Assistant Coaches• Section 6 removed blank D• Section 7 under b reworded• Section 11 under A removed one, changed number of player to 10, and added and bat last in the lineup	Amy Blackmon

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 11 under B removed assistant coaches • Section 11 under O changed will to may • Section 11 under P removed last sentence after result and added new explanation. • Section 11 under T removed last sentence when fielding eleven (11) players, five (5) players must be in the outfield, behind the base path • Section 14 removed A • Section 17 changed to Section 16 • Section 16 under A1 added waiting and the A Ball VP will assign the spot based on the list • Section 16 under B3 changed to August 1 • Section 16 under B5 changed ACE Certificate to Background Check • Changed Section 18 to 17 	
01/08/2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changed assistant manager to coaches • Changed what is required for all managers, coaches and team moms 	Shaunte Stephens
12/03/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age cut offs date changed to August 31st • Added Safe sport to requirements for managers, assistant managers, team moms etc. • Took out scheduler will notify the divisional VP's about make up games • Page 2 under section 1 fixed the letters • Section 2 under E took away the #3 • Section 2 Under F (draft selections) rewrote D to match C • Section 2 under 5 removed B • Section 6 under J. corrected state and regional to District and State. • Section 8 under A. and B. changed January to August and December to September 30th • Section 12 removed completely • Section 13 on changed to accommodate section 12 being removed • Section 1 updated T-Ball rules • Section 17 B. changed the minimum <u>payment</u> to \$750 for both Spring & Fall 	Shaunte Stephens
1/6/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update I to remove “run rule” limitations – we play the time limit 	Laura Morrison-Secretary
1/8/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A-Ball Rules added T-ball rules updated 	Laura Morrison-Secretary

SANTA FE GIRLSSOFTBALL LEAGUE, INC
Playing Rules and Regulations

Revised 12/07/2025

12/10/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes made to Section 1 – General Rules• Changes made to Section 2 – Registration and Draft Rules. Added #6• Removed Section 3– Division 1 (Class A Teams)• Removed Section 4 - Out of Town Tournaments• Section 6 Team Management-Added N• Section 9 – 10 & Under Division – Removed G and added to I	Laura Morrison – Secretary
01/10/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change ASA to USA Softball• Add T-Ball to Divisions• Change Eligibility age from 5 to 3	Laura Morrison – Secretary
04/04/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• T-Ball Section added to Rules and Draft	Kaecy Combs- Secretary
04/06/2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes made to Section 8 and Section 13-Post Season Teams	Kaecy Combs- Secretary
12/31/2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes made to account for ACE Certifications and Background Checks Page 1.• Changes made to account for Pick up players. Section R, S, and T. Page 3.	Kaecy Combs- Secretary