

2019 Coach Pitch (8u) Softball Rules & Regulations

Spring & Fall League Regular Seasons (Revised 8-01-19)

1. **Pitching circle will be 8ft. radius that will be centered at the 40 ft mark, measured from the point of the plate, with a chalk line across the center of the circle. Bases are set at 60 ft.**
2. **Coach must stand within the pitching circle to deliver the ball to the batter, the 40 ft. chalk line is used as just a point of reference to mark the circle. If his/her foot is out of the circle while delivering the pitch, the penalty will be giving the opposing coach the option of the result of the play or to count the pitch, etc.**
3. **Batters are required to wear batting helmets with facemasks. The player/pitcher must wear a helmet with a facemask and play even with the center chalk line, behind coach pitcher, with at least one foot within the circle until the ball is hit by a batter. Catchers will be full gear, catcher mask must have a throat protector unless a hockey style mask is used.**
4. **Only 4 coaches allowed on the playing field/dugout area. No parents allowed in the dugout or playing field.**
5. **Regulation size softball (11") will be used. This will be the same ball that the 10u girls (angels) use.**
6. **Games will be 1 hour time limit or 5 innings, whichever comes first. No new inning will start once time limit expires. If time limit expires while in the top of an inning, the home team will be allowed to receive their at bat. If time limit expires in the bottom half of an inning and the home team is leading, the game will end immediately at that point since they have scored the most runs, no need to play anymore.**
7. **Each department is responsible for providing at least one umpire that has a knowledge of the playing rules.**
8. **Only a max of 10 players will be allowed on defense. Outfielders will be positioned to play in the outfield grass, no placing outfielders in the infield.**
9. **Free substitution will be allowed as often as needed to get all players plenty of playing time in the field.**
10. **A team will be allowed to play a game with 8 players with no penalty. If less than 8 players show up for a game, it is a forfeit, but teams can play with a few of another team's legal, (registered) players to get a game in. Any late arriving players will be placed at the bottom of the lineup**
11. **All players on the team roster will be placed in the batting order and must bat throughout the game. If a player has to leave early or is removed due to injury or sickness, the removed player can not return to the game. The vacated spot will be skipped and the next batter is up without penalty.**
12. **A batter will only receive 5 pitches with the exception of foul balls on the 5th pitch, the batter will receive another pitch after each foul beyond the 5th pitch however, three strikes on a batter is an out. Fouls on the 5th pitch are not an out, unless it is a pop fly caught in foul territory.**
12. **An inning will end with the 3rd out recorded or once playing action ends after the 10th batter of the inning is checked up at a base or the play can be stopped with the catcher or fielder standing on the plate with the ball in hand. Time will be declared by the official once playing action ends.**
13. **Bats should be stamped, "Official Softball", "Youth Softball", or "Fastpitch Softball". 2 ¼" barrel, max of 34" in length, etc. *This is the same requirement as Dixie Softball, Inc. Page 22, 2:02 of the Dixie Softball rule book. Departments that offer the 6u (Sweeties), (tee ball age)- division can't use bats that exceed a max of 31" in length.**
14. **Sportsmanship is expected and the league will accept nothing less. We're out there for the kids and all coaches should conduct themselves professionally and provide an example for their community. Coaches that are ejected must take their child with them and leave park premises. The coach will have to sit out his/her next game and not be on park premises while serving the suspension. The child can participate in her next game.**