



8U Softball Local Rules

2025

Manager's Rules and Regulations

- A. **Manager Discipline:** If a player is disciplined (for missing games, practices or for some other reason), the President of the League **MUST** be notified in advance and in writing that the player will not play in a game.
- B. **Team Roster/Scorebook:** Upon request, coaches must show opposing coaches the team roster and lineup with all appropriate lineup changes.
- C. **Field Preparation:** Before the start of each game, all preparation will be completed by the home team's managers and coaches. **EXCEPTION:** For the 8U Spring Division, preparation is expected to be completed by BOTH the Home and Away team's Manager's and Coaches. Bases, rakes, liners and lime are stored in both the front and back field containers at Sadie Knox. When preparing the field, do not rake toward the grass. It is the responsibility of the managers to return all field equipment to the storage areas following their games.
- D. **Swearing/Smoking/Drinking Alcoholic Beverages:** None of the before mentioned are allowed by the players, managers, or coaches. Any player doing so will be immediately suspended from the game. Managers and coaches will be dealt with by the Board of Directors.
- E. **Umpire Harassment:** Umpire harassment will not be tolerated. The umpire has the authority to eject from the game any player, coach, or manager who physically or verbally abuses an umpire or displays unsportsmanlike conduct or language. Please keep in mind that umpires can make mistakes. If you have a dispute with an umpire, bring it to the attention of the Vice President of your Division or the Umpire-in-Chief.
- F. **Practice Fields:** With the exception of "reserved" practice fields by the league or by school officials, no manager has the authority to take over any field at a playground or school for his/her own use if it is already in use. Fields at the following facilities have been reserved: Cross Street, Paper Mill, Hampton Ponds, Sadie Knox and the Intermediate School.
- G. **Practice Sessions:** All practices should be limited to 2 hours in 14U and 12U, 90 minutes in 10U, and 75 minutes in 8U.
- H. **Rainouts:** Only the **Vice President (or designate)** can cancel a game due to rain. No manager will decide to cancel any game without consulting one of the above first. Once the game has started, the only person with the authority to suspend the game because of weather conditions is the home plate umpire.
- I. **Equipment:** Each team will be issued an equipment bag with catcher's gear and a first aid kit. League issued equipment is to be taken care of and not abused. Any lost equipment is the responsibility of the manager and will be expected to be replaced by him/her. Any broken equipment should be turned into the Equipment Manager for exchange. We spend nearly \$4,000 yearly for baseballs and softballs. Keep track of them. The designated home team is responsible for providing game balls for each game in the Senior, Majors and Wheeler Divisions. They will be distributed to managers prior to opening day. It is the responsibility of the manager to turn in all equipment to the Equipment Manager at the conclusion of the season. The Equipment Manager should not have to track everyone down to collect the equipment.

Specific Local Regulations

In general, all rules and regulations in the 2025 Little League Softball Rulebook must be followed. The Official 2025 Little League® Rulebooks App can be downloaded free of charge from the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#), and also from the [Amazon Kindle Store](#).

The following local rules and regulations are exceptions to the rulebook and apply to Spring regular season play only.

8U Softball Division

- All players must play one defensive inning in the outfield and one defensive inning in the infield each game.
- All Players must be moved into different positions inning to inning. This rule is established to provide every player the opportunity to experience multiple positions.
- There is a 3 run limit per inning for each team.
- Games are limited to 90 minutes or 6 complete innings (whichever comes first).
- There is no stealing. Runners may leave the base when the ball is hit and cannot advance unless there is a hit ball.
- Once the ball is hit runners can advance as long as the ball remains in fair territory. On overthrows into foul territory the ball is dead and runners may advance only to the base they are going to. On balls hit to the outfield runners may advance as many bases as possible. Once the ball is returned to the infield (the ball contacts the infield or any infield player regardless of whether the ball is caught or not) runners can advance at their own risk no farther than the base they are going to. Hits not passing the infielders will allow each runner to advance a maximum of one base, at their own risk.
- Batters must wear helmets with cages.
- Teams may have 2 adult coaches on the bases during games, provided there is also a coach in the dugout.
- Teams may have 3 adult coaches in the field to assist with defensive positioning, provided there is also a coach in the dugout.
- No standings will be kept. Also, no trophies will be awarded for any team.

Pitching

- Coaches will pitch for the first three innings.
- If a coach strikes out a batter, the batter will be able to put the ball in play using a tee.
- If capable of doing so, players will pitch from the 4th inning on.
- There are no walks. If a player is pitching and throws 4 balls to a batter, a coach will step in to pitch to that batter.
- No player may pitch more than 2 innings per game. A single pitch thrown constitutes a full inning.
- The pitching rubber will be set at a distance of 30 feet.
- A coach from the defensive team must be positioned next to the pitcher for safety and to intercept balls hit hard back to the pitcher that the pitcher may not handle. The coach next to the pitcher will have a bucket of balls with him/her. If the ball goes past the catcher a new ball should be taken from the bucket and handed to the pitcher to keep the game moving at a good pace.
- A coach from the offensive team must be positioned behind the catcher to retrieve passed balls, assist batters and keep the game moving.