

Girls A-Ball Rules 2026

Age limit: This school year's 7th – 9th graders. (2026)

1. 15 year olds are limited to pitching a total of 6 outs per game.
 2. **Rules** – will follow high school rules.
 3. **Softballs** – home team provides 1 new ball per game and it will be an 12 inch yellow ball.
 4. **Distances** - field will have 60 foot base paths and a **43 foot mound** NFHS March 2010
 5. **Pitching** – will follow high school rules. Pitchers may windmill pitch however the pitcher may not change motions once started to a particular batter. Pitcher may pitch for 4 innings (12 outs) unless there are extra innings then she may pitch 1 extra inning (3 outs). **If a pitcher hits four batters at any time they will be removed from pitching. (2024)**
 6. **Strike outs** - dropped 3rd strikes will be a live ball and the hitter may advance to 1st base unless it is occupied or there are 2 outs they can run with first base occupied. If batter commits to dugout they are out.
 7. **Bats** - must be softball bats
 8. **Hitters** – the entire roster bats every game
 9. **Batting helmets** – must be worn at all times by any offensive player while on the field of play. **Helmets must have the NFHS shield on them.**
PROTECTIVE MASK: (2016) All pitchers, 1st and 3rd base positions must wear a mask on defense.
 10. **Bunting** – is allowed. Missed or fouled ball with 2 strikes is a strike out.
 11. **Thrown bats** – a thrown bat is one that is wildly propelled more than 6 feet. There will be one team warning. Subsequent violations will be automatic outs and play stopped *immediately* with no runners advancing.
 12. **Leading off** – runners may not leave the base until the pitch leaves the pitcher's hand.
 13. **Stealing** – is allowed for all bases.
 14. **Overthrows** – unless ball goes out of play all will be live and runners advance at their own risk. Out of play ball will allow the runners to advance 1 base.
 15. **Number of fielders** – may have up to **9 players** on defense. NFHS rules March 2010 **Outfielders MUST be a minimum of 15 ft back from the edge of dirt infield (in the GRASS). 2014**
 16. **Players** – a team must have at least 8 to play a game. Less than 8 is a forfeit.
 17. **Catchers** – all catchers equipment is required.
 18. **Sliding** – must be done to avoid any contact. Failure to do so is an automatic out.
 19. **Scoring limits** – 6 runs maximum per inning until the 6th or subsequent extra innings. The exception will be for a home run where all runs after 6 will be counted. There is a 10 run rule after completion of the 5th inning. **The last inning played a team can score up to 10 runs (No 6-run maximum rule in effect – allows for losing team to tie the game). (2025)**
 20. **Length of game** – games begin at **6:15 p.m.** and will go for **6 innings (No more) or NO new innings may be started after 8:15 p.m. (2025)** Home plate umpire is the official time keeper.
 21. **Coaches** – are not allowed to touch base runners. Violations will have the runner called out.
 22. **Umpires** – home team provides home plate umpire while visitors provide field umpire.
 23. **Ground rules** – prior to the game the home team will describe the fields ground rules to the visiting coach and umpires. Additional rules must be agreed upon prior to the game.
 24. **Score keepers** – each team should have their own scorekeeper and scores should be compared every inning.
- Ejection from the game** – The league will enforce rules of fair play and sportsmanship. Failure to follow these rules by *anyone* in attendance could cause a forfeit of the game. Any parent ejected from the

game will cause his/her child to be ejected as well. That parent must leave the area immediately. The player may play in the next game. Any Coach ejected will leave the field immediately and will be suspended for the next game as well. The Coach may not be in the area of the field when ejected or suspended. Players ejected will leave the area when ejected and is also suspended for the next game. The suspended player must sit on the bench in the next game he attends in order to fulfill his suspension. Failing to appear at the next game will not complete the player's suspension.

Dear Parents,

Please remember that this is a recreational program that stresses maximum participation. It is here so children can have fun. Poor sportsmanship, profanity, alcohol and tobacco are not allowed. If a parent is asked by the coaches or an umpire to leave the area his/her child will be immediately disqualified from that game.

Thank you,
Your Waushara County Community Coordinator