

10U Softball Rules

- A complete game will consist of Six (6) innings or two hours (4 inning minimum), whichever comes first. No new innings will begin 120 minutes after first pitch. Mercy Rule - If a team holds a 15-run lead after five (5) innings, the game is over.
- Field is reserved for practice as follows:
 - Visitors – take the field first up to 15 minutes before game time
 - Home Team – take field final 15 minutes before game time
- An 11-inch ball will be player pitched from mound located 35 feet from home plate. Each team will provide their own ball. Pitchers are limited to three (3) innings per game in any order. One pitch in an inning constitutes an inning pitched.
- All players will be listed in line up and bat in order. After the offense scores five (5) runs in an inning, or the defense completes 3 outs, teams will switch sides (except the last inning is unlimited runs). Coaches must acknowledge the start of the last inning based on inning or time. In the event of an injury, a player can be removed from the lineup without penalty.
- Generous strike zones will be used. Bunting is allowed. No infield fly rule. No dropped third strike.
- Base runners are allowed to lead off after the ball leaves the pitchers hand. Runners may only advance one (1) base per pitch when stealing. Sliding should be taught and encouraged.
- A runner stealing a base may be played on, but NO additional bases will be allowed as a result of a misplay or overthrow. Catchers will be encouraged to throw the ball down on a steal without penalty (i.e. advancing of the runner) if the throw is off target. In no case is a runner ever allowed to steal home, or advance home on a ball that is thrown away.
- Runner can only advance to home on a batted ball, walk or hit by pitch.
- Catcher speed up rule is in effect.
- A ball returned from a defensive player is considered dead when the pitcher has control of the ball within the 10 ft. pitcher's circle. If the runner (advanced batter) is more than halfway to the next base, she is awarded that base. If runner is less than halfway, she goes back to the base she last touched. A ball returned from the catcher after a pitch is considered a dead ball. Ball becomes live after the next pitch.
- Defense can field ten (10) players and not bench a player for more then 3 innings. Outfielders must play on the grass.
- Rainouts: A decision will be made at 4:30. Home coach should communicate with opponent coach. Lightning: When lightning is seen or thunder is heard, the playing field is to be cleared immediately. Players should wait in vehicles for 20 minutes to determine if the storm is going to pass. Play cannot continue until 20 minutes has passed.
- Home League will supply umpire. All coaches and parents are to respect umpire calls!