



2012 Silver Lake Softball 10U - MINOR LEAGUE RULES

Playing Rules:

- 1) Games are 6 innings long. Extra innings will be played to determine winner, as daylight allows. If game cannot be continued in extra innings due to darkness/weather, game is declared a tie. If full inning is not completed, SCORE REVERTS TO SCORE AT END OF LAST COMPLETED INNING.
- 2) Each team is limited to four (4) runs per inning for inning's 1 thru 5, after which the team is out. There is no run limit in the 6th inning/last declared inning or any extra innings.
- 3) A Game is considered complete after four (4) innings (three and 1/2, if the home team is leading).
- 4) A full, continuous batting order will be used throughout each game.
- 5) In the case of a player arriving late for a game and not in the original line-up, that player may be entered into the end of the line-up and bat in that spot only.
- 6) Free substitution is allowed in the field. Coaches should make every effort to expose players to as many different positions as possible.
- 7) Teams will play with 4 Outfielders. All OF's must take their defensive positions on the OF grass (no extra infielders)
- 8) No pitcher may pitch more than THREE (3) innings per game. There is no limit per WEEK. The innings do NOT have to be consecutive. If extra innings are necessary, all pitchers may pitch a 4th inning. One pitch thrown in an inning constitutes a full inning thrown for that pitcher. Note: coaches should NOT be taking pitchers in & out each inning to "match up" with certain opposing batters or top/bottom of line-ups.
- 9) Stealing of 3rd base only. This is a shorter throw and can be executed by younger catchers. Runners can only score by being batted or forced in by walk or hit-batter.
- 10) No Leading. Base-runners may not leave base until pitch crosses plate
- 11) "Dropped 3rd Strike" rule is NOT in Effect.
- 12) "Infield Fly" rule is NOT in effect.
- 13) No Continuous Walks
- 14) Batters may not "show bunt, then pull back and swing". This is safety rule. 1st offense that batter is out, ball is dead and all runners return to their original bases. 2nd offense by same batter in that game, she can be ejected.
- 15) Intentional Walks are **NOT** allowed.
- 16) Base runners must slide or avoid contact on all close plays; otherwise runner may be called out.
- 17) Runners must stop when the ball is controlled in the pitching circle by the **pitcher**. **If a runner has already started to run to the next base – they may continue**. If the defensive team makes a throw or makes a gesture to throw or make a play towards the runner – the ball is alive. This means the runner can be thrown out or continue to advance in case of an error.
- 18) When a ball is overthrown during a play at any base, runners may advance one (1) base if ball goes out of play. If ball remains in play (Fair or Foul Territory), runners can continue running until ball is controlled on mound.
- 19) Batter throwing Bat will be given **Warning** by umpire for 1st offense, will be **called out** on 2nd offense, and **called out AND removed from batting order** after 3rd offense.
- 20) Each team should keep an accurate scorebook during each game. Coaches are encouraged to compare scores each inning.
- 21) Teams may use a replacement runner for their catcher if she is on base with two outs, in order to allow her to put on gear and reduce in between inning delays. Runner must be that team's **last recorded out**.

Equipment:

- 22) Team jerseys should be worn at all times.
- 23) 11' Yellow, Raised-Stitch Softballs will be used. Game Balls only, no practice or plastic coated balls.
- 24) Batters, Base-runners & on-deck batter MUST wear helmet.
- 25) Pitching distance. Pitching rubber will be set at **35 feet**. Pitching rubbers should be regulation 24" X 6" and secured into the ground. Pitchers may NOT "move closer" to
- 26) Catchers must wear full equipment.
- 27) Softball bats only, no baseball bats.
- 28) All helmets must have an attached face-guard (cage).
- 29) Sliding pants and/or sliding pads are encouraged.
- 30) Cleats (no metal) should be worn by all players.
- 31) All fields must have a double first base installed (white/orange if possible)

General Rules:

- 32) Unsportsmanlike behavior or language is not allowed.
- 33) Harassment of the opposing pitcher is prohibited.
- 34) Pitchers should throw no more than 4-5 warm-up pitches between innings in order to keep game moving on schedule.
- 35) For the purpose of warming up, the designated "Home" team will have use of the ball field before game time until 15 minutes before game time. The designated "Away" team will then be allowed use of the field until game time.
- 36) ALL teams qualify for the playoffs.
- 37) Standings Tie-Breakers : 1 – Head to head record, 2- Score differential in head to head games, 3- record vs higher seeded teams, 4 – coin flip
- 38) In case of inclement weather during day of scheduled game, coaches should decide as soon as possible prior to game time if game will be cancelled, so that umpires and players can be notified. Home team manager will make final decision on whether to cancel game. League must also be notified.
- 39) **Suspended Games:** Unofficial games that are suspended before becoming official shall be completed and will be resumed at the exact point of suspension of the original game. (*The game situation should be noted in the scorebooks by both teams when the game is suspended.*) The lineup and batting order of both teams shall be exactly the same as the lineup and batting order at the moment of suspension. Score, outs, base-runners on base, etc all remain the same. Any base-runner on base when the game was suspended, but not at the continuation will be ran for by the last recorded out. Any player from the original lineup not available for the continuation will be skipped in the lineup with no penalty. Any player not in the original lineup who is available for the continuation should be placed at the bottom of the batting order. Any suspensions or restrictions on pitching shall be applied as if this was a SINGLE game. A pitcher's innings maximum for a suspended game will still follow the above stated pitching guidelines.
- 40) Game results should be reported to the League by both teams, within twenty-four (24) hours of completion of game. E-Mail to barone1077@aol.com & ssears@jordanhospital.org.
- 41) Umpires should not have to deal with any spectator/parent problems. If a parent/spectator becomes abusive, coaches will be asked to speak with, or if necessary, remove that person from field area.
- 42) No Smoking on the field is allowed.
- 43) **Coaches and Umpires will make every effort to keep in-between-inning time brief, to insure that games progress at a quick pace. Players should hustle on and off field and an assistant coach should warm up pitcher as catcher is putting on equipment.**