



Instructional Softball Division - Supplemental Rules

Sportsmanship and conduct

Sportsmanship and conduct are the primary concern of the coaches and assistants. This includes conduct of coaches, players and fans of your team. Proper youth sportsmanship attitudes must be instilled and maintained on every team. Encourage positive cheering by everyone.

All concerns by Coaches, Parents, and Umpires should be brought to the attention of the divisional director or player agent.

Schedules

All games shall begin at their scheduled time. During Regular Season games, when there is a game scheduled to follow - No new inning shall start after 1 hour and 45 minutes of the first pitch. For example if your game started at 10:32 am, no new inning shall start after 12:17 pm. Playoff games will be addressed separately.

Pre game practice is allowed only if there is no game in progress on the field. Each team will have 15 minutes of on-field practice time 30 minutes before the scheduled starting time. The home team will have the first 15 minutes and the Visitors will have the following 15 minutes. For example if your game is scheduled at 6:00 pm, the Home Team will have the field from 5:30 to 5:45 (if needed) and the Visitors from 5:45 to 6:00 (if needed).

The Home team uses first base dugout and Visitors use third base.

An umpire will be scheduled for each game. If an umpire does not show at the starting time, the home team will find an umpire volunteer.

Rain delays and canceled games

Lightning or thunder will result in stoppage of play. When a game is suspended a decision will be made within 15 minutes to continue play or cancel the game. This decision is made by the umpire with the safety of the players in mind.

When a game is canceled, 4 innings constitutes a complete game and is not to be continued or rescheduled. When teams have had one hour of playing time the game will be considered complete and is not to be rescheduled. The League Scheduler or Team managers can reschedule canceled games. All rescheduled games and practices must be submitted to and approved by the WBSL Scheduler (scheduler@windhambaseball.org).

The rules for the WBSL Softball will be the official regulations and playing rules of Babe Ruth Softball. The Instructional Softball Division will follow the 8U Rules and Regulations. Any rules not specifically stated or modified below will be governed by the Babe Ruth Softball rulebook.

General rules

1. Games will be 6 innings in length with time restrictions mentioned above.
2. An 11" safety softball is to be used.
3. Prior to June 1st, a team will be pitched to by one of their own coaches. If a batter does not put the ball in play after 8 pitches, a tee shall be used.
Upon June 1st, a team will be pitched to by an opposing player. If a batter does not put the ball in play after 4 pitches, a coach will pitch to the batter. If a batter does not put the ball in play after a total of 8 pitches (4 by player and 4 by a coach), a tee shall be used.
4. Coaches are allowed to remain in the field during their team's defensive part of the inning.
5. The players assigned to the 1B and Pitcher position must wear a helmet.
6. The players assigned to the catcher position must wear the full catcher equipment. A coach from the offensive team may remain behind the catcher to instruct the batter and the catcher. The coach may also assist the catcher in order to speed up the game on pass balls.
7. Base coaches may be managers, coaches, other assistants or players. Player base coaches must wear a helmet.
8. The entire roster will bat with late players added to the end of the line up upon arrival. Every player shall play in the field each innings.
9. Outs will be called and the runner must return to the bench.
10. Prior to June 1st, a team's "at bat" will end once each player has had a turn to bat.
Upon June 1st, a team's "at bat" will end once each player has had a turn to bat or until 3 outs. If 3 outs are made before each player has had a turn to bat, the roster for the following inning will begin with the next roster batter who did not get a turn at bat in the previous inning.
11. Base on Balls is **NOT** allowed. Strikeouts are **NOT** allowed. Bunting is **NOT** allowed. The infield fly rule will **NOT** be called.

Base running

1. Stealing is **NOT** allowed.
2. Runners may **NOT** leave the base until ball is hit. Runners leaving early should be told they cannot leave the base until the ball is hit.
3. Runners are encouraged to advance when balls are in the outfield or over thrown. Once the ball is returned to the pitcher, the runner cannot advance.