



Rome Girls Softball League

Rules for 12 & under Division

Spring 2018



The rules committee would like all managers, coaches, and instructional members of the 12 & under Division to resolve now, that this is a **LEARNING DIVISION**. Your players are looking up to you to **TEACH THEM HOW TO PLAY, NOT HOW TO WIN**. This is their league; let's make it as enjoyable as possible. Coaching consistently throughout the league is a **MUST**. Remember these girls are here to learn and most of all to have fun.

1. Each child must play at least three *complete* innings per game.
2. A pitcher may only pitch 9 innings in a two game week, and 3 innings will be added to the cumulative total for each additional game per week. A pitcher will be charged a full inning even if she pitches only one pitch. The week will be considered to be Sunday through Saturday. *Tournament exception: a pitcher may pitch unlimited innings during the tournament. **Both scorekeepers must track this for both teams.*** See also rule #12.
3. Each Team is allowed to score no more than 5 runs per inning. Exception: The last inning (normally the 6th) has an unlimited run rule in effect. The 'Run Ahead Rule' is in effect for tournament games only, Rule 5 Section 9 A & B, page 59; however, the count will be 15 after five innings.
4. Stealing is permitted after the ball has crossed the plate.
5. If there is more than one game in a row, for a team OR the field, the 'Time Limit Rule' will be used on all but the last game (& all tournament games, except final), Rule 5 Section 10, page 59. During regular season and tournament play the 'Tie-breaker Rule' will be put into effect for any game where the score is tied after 6 complete innings (or tournaments after time limit), Rule 5 Section 11, page 60 & #54, page 138. Tiebreaker overrules Timelimit.
6. A helmeted player should and a coach or adult listed on the roster **MUST** coach 1st and 3rd bases.
7. A coach may bench a player, with on site board member approval, because of disciplinary reasons for one game. For a player to be benched a longer period of time, the approval of the player agent is mandatory. You must inform the opposing team and the parent(s) of the girl before the start of the game.
8. An effort will be made to play all scheduled games. Each team will **FIELD 10 PLAYERS** at a time. A game can be started or played with **8** players. The Umpire in Chief (with the Executive Board approval) will determine which team forfeits if a game is not played. **ALL PLAYERS** present will be placed in the **BATTING ORDER**, whether they are actively in the lineup as a fielder at the present time or waiting to sub into the field in the later innings.
9. Scheduled games get preference in the assignment of umpires. Home team is to report missing umpires to the Umpire-in-Chief no later than 5 minutes *before* game time. Contact Umpire-in-Chief also for rescheduling of games and rain makeups. Umpire-in-Chief (or Executive Board Member) is the only one authorized to cancel, schedule or reschedule games. Except for rainouts, any change in schedule should be made by the Thursday of the week before the game, but must be made no later than 48 hours prior to scheduled game.
10. Home team is responsible to chalk the field, put out the bases, Visiting team cleans up after. i.e. put bases away, *rake in the holes at home plate and pitcher's mound*, empty black trash cans. Each team cleans & sweeps their own dugout.
11. A player must have played in half of the played games (at least 3 complete innings per game) to be eligible for tournament play. If there are an odd number of season games the requirement will be rounded down.
12. The **SCOREBOOKS** (home teams and visiting teams) are official documents and are subject to review at any time by any executive board member. Out of courtesy for the other team and umpire please use first and last name in the book and your lineups and include your player's jersey number, Rule 4 Section 1 A1, page 47. *The **ASA UMPIRE** & both scorekeepers must sign the home scorebook and lineup sheet (Bylaws Article IV, Section 12M).* See also rule #2.
13. Players need to be listed on League Roster as shown on the website/app to play in games.
14. Four adults maximum are allowed to be in the dugout and/or coaching during a game, including scorekeeper and coaches.
15. Either team submits (& the other team verifies) the scores and pitchers to the website within one day of each game, www.romegirlssoftball.org.
16. Standings: Teams will be seeded in the tournament by the results of the regular season play, posted on the website, www.romegirlssoftball.org. Byes will be given to the teams in the order that they finished, if it applies.

These league rules have been reviewed and accepted by the 2018 Rome Girls Softball League Board of Directors. It is expected that each and every manager and coach read and adhere to these league rules. Any ruling not mentioned in said league rules will be referred to the ASA rulebook and follows that ASA ruling.