

**AAA Softball Pitching Rules for Spring 2013**      Until April 15, 2013 , strikes will be called, but there shall be no walks in AAA soft ball. If a batter is hit by a player pitcher, the batter is awarded first base. If the batter is thrown four (4) balls by the player pitcher, the batter will remain at the plate. The pitcher will assume the position behind the pitching rubber and the manager or coach of the offensive team (or other designated representative) will continue pitching to the batter. The batter will retain the number of strikes the batter had from the player pitcher and will either hit the ball into fair territory or strike out. . Strikes will be called, but bases will not be awarded for walks or hit batters by coach pitch. Stealing is not permitted after a coach pitch. Twelve (12) year olds are not permitted to pitch at AAA. Except as provided above, the pitching rules that apply to softball majors shall apply at AAA softball.

AAA managers are reminded that the rules on innings pitched that apply in Majors softball shall apply. Per LL rules, a single pitch in an inning counts as an inning pitched for this purpose. Per LL rules, a week starts on Sunday and runs through the following Saturday. There are no rest requirements (i.e., restrictions as to consecutive days pitched). Prior to any game, the managers of the teams shall advise each other as to the number of innings already pitched by his or her pitchers (by pitcher) during the week, provided that a failure to do so, unless and until requested by the other manager, shall not be subject to sanction. If and at such time that a violation of the maximum inning per week rule is determined to have occurred, a pitcher who is pitching in excess of the innings permitted shall be removed from the game, but there shall be no other sanction or adjustment as to the results of the game to that point; provided that a violation of the pitching limit rules, if determined to be intentional, shall make the manager subject to disciplinary action.

All pitching, whether by kids or coaches should be done from the pitching rubber at 35 feet from the plate. Catchers should set up to catch from inside the catcher's box.

**AA Softball Pitching Rules for Spring 2013**      Except as provided below, the following pitching rules shall apply to AA softball for Spring 2013:

The first 3 innings of each game will use the pitching machine. The balls will be fed into the pitching machine by the manager or coach of the offensive team (or other designated representative) of the team at bat. The pitching machine will be set up no closer than the regulation minor league softball rubber (35 feet). For any game where the pitching machine is not available or operating, the manager or coach of the offensive team (or other designated representative) from the offensive team will pitch to their batters. Strikes will be called, but bases will not be awarded for walks or hit batters by machine or coach pitch.

When using the pitching machine, the pitch should come to the batter at a rate of speed such that the pitch is "flat". The pitch should not "loop" in to the batter with an arc. Recommended settings for the sling shot machines are:

Release hook    3  
Power lever     5  
Micro adjust    3

Following the machine pitch innings, kids will pitch. When kids pitch, the count starts at strike one. When kids pitch, as best as can be determined (if no umpire, this will be same person who would pitch to the kids at bat if 4 balls), strike zone should be one ball length around the normal strike zone.

If a batter is hit by a player pitcher, the batter will be awarded first base, unless the batter's manager elects to have the batter's at bat continued. If the batter is thrown four (4) balls by the player pitcher, the batter will remain at the plate. The pitcher will assume the position behind the pitching rubber and the manager or coach of the offensive team (or other designated representative) will continue pitching to the batter. The batter will retain the number of strikes the batter had from the player pitcher and will either hit the ball into fair territory or strike out. Stealing is not permitted after a coach pitch.

A three-run limit will apply to innings that kids pitch. (A five run limit applies to machine pitched innings.)

All pitching, whether by machine, kids or coaches should be done from the pitching rubber at 35 feet from the plate. Catchers should set up to catch from inside the catcher's box.

No player shall pitch more than one (1) inning in a game that has three (3) innings pitched by the pitching machine; provided that if a game goes beyond 6 innings, for each 3 innings thereafter (or applicable portion thereof, e.g., if a game goes fewer than 3 extra innings, a player may pitch one additional inning. If there are two (2) or fewer innings of machine pitching, then the limit on number of innings pitched by any individual pitcher shall be raised to 2. . There are no rest requirements. To the extent that players may be permitted to pitch another inning after the 6th inning, that player shall not be prohibited from doing so by virtue of the limitation on the number of innings any player may play the same position.



**The number of games/innings pitched for which there are walks allowed and/or pitching by the pitching machine both at AA and AAA will be reevaluated by the Vice President of Softball and/or his/her designee from time to time and modifications, while not anticipated, may occur. If deemed necessary, the one strike rule described above that applies in AA may be added to AAA. It is anticipated that the one strike rule will apply for entire AA season, but may be eliminated if the Vice President of Softball and/or his/her designee determines that it is not necessary. If the pitching is deemed strong enough, the rule prohibiting walks at AA may also be reconsidered as to its application in the City Series. Any of the changes described in this paragraph—none considered likely— will be made in consultation with the managers at the AA or AAA level, as applicable.**

**Note, while not required, if a manager or coach on one team is better able to pitch than the manager or coaches on the other team, by mutual agreement of the managers, that manager or coach (or other designated representative) may pitch to both teams.**