

2009 GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES – A-TEAM

1. A girl must be in the 8th grade or under to play “A” League softball on May 1st of the season of play.
2. Stealing is allowed. The runner may leave the base when the ball crosses the plate. The pitcher or catcher may attempt to throw out the base runner. The runner must then be tagged out. One base will be allowed on a passed ball, provided there is no play attempted on the runners. Stealing home will not be allowed UNLESS a play is attempted at any runner.
3. Fast pitch league following High School rules will be followed with Windmill style pitching optional, with a maximum of 4 ft arch from the point where the ball leaves the pitcher’s hand.
4. The home team will furnish two 12” balls for each game. One of these balls must be a new ball.
5. The “A” team games are 7 innings. In case of a 10 run lead after 5 innings, the game will be called. Rain games shall be called off 1 ½ hours before game time. Rain games shall go a full 5 innings. Suspended games will start from that point. If 5 innings have been completed and 2 hours have elapsed, no new inning shall be started.
6. A team shall consist of a minimum of 9 players and a maximum of 10 players on the field. Less than 9 players at the beginning of the game shall constitute a forfeit. Fifteen minutes late by either team from the start time also constitutes a forfeit. The home team will furnish 2 12 inch YELLOW balls for each game and one of these balls MUST be a NEW ball.
7. The home team will furnish the home plate umpire and the visiting team the base umpire. Umpires will be a minimum of 16 years old. Ground rules will be discussed with the umpires and the coaches before the start of the game. Coaches will discuss a call during the game with the umpire. There is no appeal. The umpire’s call is final.
8. The starting lineup may re-enter the game after being out one full inning. They re-enter in their original position in the batting order. Subs cannot re-enter the game.
9. An 11th batter may be used at the team’s discretion. This person can play defense and is also part of the starting lineup. Eleven batters must be used from the beginning to the end of the game. An unlimited batting roster may be used without penalty for injury. The unlimited roster must then be used for the entire game.
10. Helmet Rule – Removal of helmet – each team will be given a warning. Second removal of helmet will cause the ejection of the player after the play is completed.
- 11. ALL PLAYERS MUST SLIDE IF A PLAY IS BEING MADE UPON THEM, EXCEPT AT FIRST BASE.**
12. Force out rule – The runner shall slide on the ground and in the direct line between the two bases or away from the fielder to avoid making contact or altering play of the fielder at any base other than first. With less than 2

2009 GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES – A-TEAM

- outs, the runner is declared out, as well as the batter; runners shall be returned to the bases they occupied at the time of the pitch. With 2 outs, the runner shall be declared out and the batter - runner will be scored as a fielder's choice.
13. A 16' circle will be placed around the pitcher's mound. If the pitcher has the ball inside the circle and the runner is off base, runner either has to advance to the next base or go back to the base they were on. No dancing around in between the bases or the runner will be called out.
 14. If the catcher drops the ball on the third strike, the batter cannot advance to first base.
 15. A batter hit by a pitch (windmill or non-windmill) whether it bounces or not, automatically advances to first base.
 16. The pitcher will receive no more than 5 warm-up pitches each inning except for the first inning.
 17. Team rosters must be sent to the league secretary by the 3rd week of the season. Include player's name and telephone number. If a player moves into the area after the 3rd week of play, that player may be added to the roster. Failure to turn in the team roster by the third week of play will forfeit your team's eligibility to receive the sportsmanship award.
 18. No jewelry of any kind will be permitted.
 19. Chin straps MUST be worn at all times
 20. Mandatory face masks starting the 2008 season.
 21. Tournament will be Double Elimination.
 22. NO metal spikes allowed only rubber spikes permitted.
 23. Infield fly rule is in effect.
 24. There will be a \$15 late fee if League fees are not in by the 3rd of week of play and forfeit playing in the League tournament.