

## A DIVISION RULES (7 & 8 YEARS OLD)

1. Each girl will play a minimum of 3 three innings and a minimum of 1 inning in the infield (1B, 2B, 3B, SS, P). No player may sit a second inning until all players have sat at least 1 inning. Five innings will constitute a game.
2. A maximum of 10 players are allowed on the field at one time. Four of those players MUST play on the OUTFIELD GRASS when ten players take the field. No outfielder may run in with the ball and make a tagging play in the infield.
3. Defensive coaches (limit of 2) are allowed on the field at all times to instruct the girls. This is at the Head Coach's discretion. If the ball hits these coaches, the play still continues. Offensive coaches will be responsible for calls the 1<sup>st</sup> base coach is responsible for Home Plate and 1<sup>st</sup> base. The 3<sup>rd</sup> base coach is responsible for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> bases
4. There will be continuous batting order. The inning ends with 3 outs or when 10 batters have batted.
5. The coach will select an adult to pitch to their team. Coaches are required to pitch from the 35' mound. If the ball has not been put into play by the 6<sup>th</sup> pitch from the coach, the batter will be considered out. The only exception is if the batter continues to bat the 6<sup>th</sup> pitch foul. Wind milling is not mandatory.
6. During the last (2) games of the season, **2<sup>nd</sup> Year** players that attended the beginners pitching clinic would be allowed to pitch (1) inning per game. The pitchers would be allowed (3) pitches per batter from 35', followed by the coaches (5) pitches. Strikes will be called on all swinging strikes. Coaches will be required to pitch from the 35' rubber also. If the ball has not been put into play by the 5<sup>th</sup> pitch from the coach, the batter will be considered out. The only exception is if the batter continues to bat the 5<sup>th</sup> pitch foul. Wind milling is not mandatory.
7. No stealing or leading off base. Runners may not leave the base until a ball is hit. Base runners are out if they slide.
8. **Batting helmets with a facemask and chin strap must be worn** by the pitcher, the batter, base runners and on-deck batter. Catcher must wear all equipment (mask, helmet, protector and guards) at all times – games and practice.
9. Runner may NOT advance on an overthrow to 1<sup>st</sup> base. Only one throwing error allowed per play. The runner may advance one base on a throwing error. The runner or runners may advance on additional on additional overthrows or errors.
10. A hit batter is not awarded 1<sup>st</sup> base.
11. No infield fly rule.

## A DIVISION RULES (con't)

12. The game will end after 2 hours from the scheduled starting time. The Coordinator will STOP play at the first sign of lightning. The Coordinator will then decide when it is safe to continue the game.
13. All advancing to a base stops when an infielder throws the ball **toward** the pitcher or an outfielder **throws the ball to the infield**.
14. **An adult female must be present at each game and practice.**
15. The regular pop-out soft bases are to be used and will be set at 60 feet.
16. Score keeping should be kept for individual games. There are no standings or playoffs in this division. Statistics should be kept for evaluation purposes only. It should be remembered that this is teaching Division. Our goal is for the girls to learn the game of softball and have FUN. After each game, all players and coaches will line up and do the good game thing.

Division Rules Effective 04/16/11