

WOSL GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE

U8 DIVISION RULES

(UPDATED 3-24-17)

1. PLAYERS CANNOT BE 9 BEFORE JANUARY 1ST OF THE CURRENT YEAR AND MUST BE IN GRADE 2 OR LOWER.
2. BASES ARE 50 FEET APART, STARTING AT THE FRONT EDGE OF HOME PLATE.
3. ANY PARENT EJECTED FROM A GAME WILL RESULT IN THEIR CHILD ALSO BEING EJECTED. THE PLAYER MUST SERVE A ONE GAME SUSPENSION AFTER SAID GAME IS COMPLETE.
4. PITCHING REQUIREMENTS
TEAM COACHES OR DESIGNATED TEAM PARENT WILL PITCH SLOWPITCH UNDERHAND TO THEIR OWN TEAM. THE PITCHER, (COACH OR DESIGNATED ADULT) WILL BE 32 FEET FROM THE TIP OF HOME PLATE OR INSIDE PITCHING CIRCLE. DESIGNATED ADULT PITCHER SHALL PITCH A MAXIMUM OF 5 BALLS AND THEN THE BATTER WILL HIT FROM THE TEE. A PLAYER DESIGNATED AS PITCHER SHOULD BE POSITIONED WITHIN 6 FEET OF THE ADULT TO PLAY THE POSITION AS A FIELDER. THE ADULT SHOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH THE BALL, BUT SHOULD ATTEMPT TO HELP PREVENT INJURY TO THE PLAYER IN THE EVENT OF A HARD HIT RETURN BALL.
5. THE TEAM COACHES, AT THEIR DISCRETION CAN CANCEL GAMES DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER. GAMES SHOULD BE STOPPED IMMEDIATELY IF LIGHTNING IS SPOTTED IN AREA. TEAMS MAY RESUME PLAY AFTER 30 MINUTES IF NO FURTHER LIGHTNING. VOLUNTEER TEAM PARENTS OR COACHES WILL SERVE AS UMPIRES.
6. REGULATION GAMES CONSISTS OF FOUR (4) INNINGS AND/OR A (1) HOUR (40) MINUTE TIME LIMIT. NO NEW INNING BEGINS AFTER 1 HOUR 40 MINUTES. THERE WILL BE NO TIME LIMIT FOR THE TOURNAMENT. GAMES CALLED FOR RAIN WILL BE CONSIDERED FINISHED WHEN THREE (3) INNINGS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. RAINED OUT GAMES THAT DO NOT COMPLETE THREE (3) INNINGS, MAY BE RESCHEDULED AND STARTED OVER FROM THE BEGINNING.
7. NUMBER OF PLAYERS EIGHT (8) MINIMUM TO BEGIN GAME. ALL GAMES START AS SCHEDULES INDICATE. TEAMS MAY WAIT UP TO TWENTY (20) MINUTES BEFORE CANCELLING THE GAME.
8. THE CATCHER TAKES THEIR NORMAL POSITION BEHIND HOME PLATE. THE CATCHER MUST WEAR A HELMET WITH FACEMASK (INCLUDING THROAT GUARD), A CHEST PAD, KNEE AND SHIN GUARDS.
9. THE FIRST AND THIRD BASEMAN SHALL NOT BE CLOSER TO HOME PLATE THAN 30 FEET ON THE BASE LINE.
10. COACHES CAN AGREE TO RESCHEDULE A GAME 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE REGULAR SCHEDULED GAME AND IF THE LEAGUE OFFICE HAS APPROVED THE RESCHEDULE.
11. MINIMUM PLAYING TIME
ALL PLAYERS WHO ARE PRESENT SHALL PLAY A MINIMUM OF TWO (2) INNINGS DEFENSIVELY. TEAM ON DEFENSIVE SHALL ONLY FIELD ELEVEN (11) PLAYERS. THERE CAN ONLY BE 6 PLAYERS INCLUDING THE CATCHER ON THE INFIELD AND 5 PLAYERS IN THE OUTFIELD.
12. BATTING ORDER
ALL PLAYERS ON THE BENCH WILL BAT IN A CONTINUOUS ORDER. ELEVEN (11) PLAYERS WILL BAT PER INNING, OR THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS THAT ARE PRESENT IF LESS THAN 11. BATTING WILL RESUME THE FOLLOWING INNING WITH THE NEXT BATTER IN THE CONTINUOUS BATTING ORDER. PLAYERS ARRIVING AFTER THE START OF THE GAME SHALL BE INSERTED AT THE END OF THE ORDER. IF A PLAYER HAS TO LEAVE, A CONTINUOUS BATTING ORDER RESUMES. THE OFFENSIVE TEAM SHALL ANNOUNCE THE LAST BATTER. TO END THE INNING, THE DEFENSIVE TEAM MUST TOUCH A BASE IN FRONT OF ANY RUNNER OR THE BALL MUST BE THROWN TO THE CHILD PITCHER NEAR THE MOUND ONLY AFTER ATTEMPTING THE PUT OUT. THE BATTING ORDER SHALL BE FOLLOWED THROUGHOUT THE GAME REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT THE PLAYER IS CURRENTLY PLAYING IN THE FIELD.
13. LEAGUE BATTING

AFTER FIVE (5) PITCHES AND THERE IS NO CONTACT WITH THE BALL, THE BATTER WILL USE THE HITTING TEE. THERE WILL BE NO STRIKEOUTS. ALL PLAYERS WILL HIT.

14. END OF PLAY

PLAY IS OVER WHEN THE PITCHER HAS CONTROL OF THE BALL IN THE INFIELD. THE RUNNERS WILL PROCEED TO THE NEAREST BASE, DETERMINED BY HER POSITION ON THE BASELINE, BEFORE OR AFTER THE HALF-WAY MARK.

15. RUNNERS MAY ADVANCE ON A CAUGHT FLY BALL AFTER TAGGING THE BASE. THERE IS NO INFIELD FLY RULE.

16. BATTER HIT BY PITCH—BATTER DOES NOT GO TO 1ST BASE. BATTER CONTINUES AT BAT UNDER NORMAL RULES.

17. BASE ON BALLS—THERE ARE NO WALKS.

18. INTENTIONAL BUNTING IS NOT PERMITTED.

19. BASE SLIDING IS PERMITTED.

20. LEADING OFF OR STEALING IS NOT PERMITTED. BASE RUNNERS LEAVING A BASE BEFORE BALL/BAT CONTACT OR BEFORE BALL HAS PASSED THE FRONT EDGE OF HOME PLATE WILL BE WARNED. IF A WARNED PLAYER CONTINUES TO LEAVE EARLY, SHE WILL BE CALLED OUT. BASE RUNNERS MAY ATTEMPT TO ADVANCE ON AN OVERTHROW. (MAXIMUM ONE BASE).

21. BATTERS ARE REQUIRED TO RUN FOR THEMSELVES. NO SUBSTITUTIONS ARE ALLOWED, UNLESS A RUNNER IS INJURED.

22. PLAYERS MAY BE REMOVED OR RE-ENTER THE GAME ANYTIME. PLAYERS MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FREELY MAKING SURE ALL PLAYERS GET AN OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY AT LEAST TWO (2) DEFENSIVE INNINGS. A PLAYER CANNOT PLAY THE SAME POSITION MORE THAN THREE (3) INNINGS PER GAME.

23. SPORTSMANSHIP

ALL COACHES AND PLAYERS SHALL CONDUCT THEMSELVES IN A SPORTSMAN-LIKE MANNER AT ALL TIMES. IF ANY CONTROVERSY OCCURS WITH THE FANS, THE COACHES WILL SOLVE. IF A PLAYER, COACH OR SPECTATOR CONTINUES TO DISAGREE WITH A RULING, THE COACHES SHALL GIVE ONE WARNING. IF THE ARGUMENT PERSISTS, THE COACHES SHALL ASK THE PARTY TO REMOVE THEMSELVES TO THE PARKING LOT (WITHIN ONE (1) MINUTE) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE GAME. IF THE PARTY FAILS TO COMPLY, THE GAME MAY BE STOPPED.

24. THERE MAY BE AS MANY AS TWO (2) COACHES IN THE OUTFIELD TO POSITION PLAYERS AND COACH DEFENSE. HOWEVER, PLAY SHOULD NOT BE DELAYED FOR POSITIONING OF PLAYERS.

25. COACHES MAY BE POSITIONED NEAR HOME PLATE TO VERBALLY COACH HITTERS DURING AT BATS, BUT MUST STAY OUT OF THE LINE OF PLAY.

26. PLAYERS SHALL WEAR TEAM SHIRTS, BALL HATS/VISORS, SHORTS, OR LONG PANTS, AND TENNIS SHOES OR NON-METAL CLEATS. BATTING HELMETS ARE MANDATORY WHEN HITTING AND BY ALL BASE RUNNERS. A PLAYER MAY BE WARNED IF SHE THROWS HER HELMET. THE WARNING WILL BE IN EFFECT THE REST OF THE GAME FOR THAT PLAYER. IF PLAYER STEPS INTO THE BATTERS BOX WITHOUT A HELMET, SHE WILL RECEIVE A WARNING.

27. THROWING A BAT. PLAYERS WILL BE WARNED TWO (2) TIMES AND THEN THE PLAYER WILL BE CALLED OUT.

28. NO JEWELRY IS TO BE WORN DURING THE GAME. EARRINGS MAY BE TAPED.

29. A SCORECARD IS KEPT FOR THE PURPOSE OF KEEPING TRACK OF THE BATTING ORDER. NO EMPHASIS ON TEAM SCORES.

30. EACH TEAM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEANING UP BENCH AREAS AND FIELDS AFTER PRACTICES AND GAMES. HOME TEAM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RETURNING ITEMS TO EQUIPMENT STORAGE.
31. CHATTERING IN THE FIELD IS OKAY, BUT PLAYERS ARE ASKED TO REFRAIN FROM SAYING "SWING" AS THIS CONFUSES YOUNG PLAYERS.
32. **GAME BALLS MUST BE EITHER RAWLINGS/WORTH REDUCED RIF LEVEL 1 11" BALLS OR WILSON SOFT COMPRESSION 11" BALLS.**