

**Softballnation Girls Coach Pitch Softball 8U Rules**

**Playing Field/Equipment**

1. The base distance will be 60 feet

2. Thirty foot slash marks will be made on first and third base lines. The defensive team

 cannot cross those lines until the ball is hit.

3. Any official softball bat can be used and the BPF of 1.20 does not apply.

4. The official ball will be a Softballnation approved (11) inch softball.

5. Batters and base runners must wear approved helmets.

**Players & Substitutions**

1. A team failing to field at least (9) players by game time shall forfeit the game. When both

 teams fail to field (9) players by game time a double forfeit shall be declared.

2. All players present must be in the line-up and bat.

3. Only (10) players on the defense with free substitution.

4. Failure to follow the above rules will result in a forfeit.

5. Any player arriving after the beginning of the game will assume the last position in the

 batting order.

**The Game**

1. Offensive coach pitches to his/her team.

2. The game will consist of (6) innings or 70 minutes. No new inning will start after the

 time limit.

3. All defensive players must play by position, outfielders outside of the baseline (umpires

 Judgement).

4. One defensive coach is allowed on the field behind the outfield. He/she should give

 instruction before the ball is hit. After the ball is pitched the defensive coach cannot

 physically touch any player. Penalty. Runners advance (1) base after play has stopped.

5. An inning will be over when three outs are obtained or (5) runs scored. On the play in

 which the 5th run of the inning is scored all play is stopped by the Umpire and the inning

 will end.

6 Batter will be allowed (6) pitches or three strikes.

7. A foul ball on the sixth pitch is not an out.

8. Offensive team will be allowed (3) coaches as follows: one first base coach, one third base

 coach, and one coach serving as pitcher. The pitcher will pitch from (35) foot rubber.

9. No bunting allowed. Umpires judgement.

10. There will be no base on balls.

11. Hit batters are not allowed a base.

12. The run rule wiil be 12-10-8 (12 after 3 innings, 10 after 4 innings, 8 after 5 innings).

13. An injured player may re-enter the game bust must return to the same position in the

 batting order.

14. Softballnation rules apply to anything not covered above.

**Pitchers & Catchers**

1. The player playing the position the position of pitcher shall keep both feet within the (16)

 foot diameter pitching circle until the ball is hit.

2. The defensive coach, for safety reasons, may at their option move the pitcher behind

 second base. Violation of the above rule will result in the offensive team having the option

 of taking the results of the play or declaring no play.

3. If the batted ball hits the adult pitcher, the ball is dead. An adult pitcher must make an

 effort to keep from being hit by the batted ball. If no effort is made in the judgement of the

 umpire, the batter is called out. First offense draws a warning or ejection based on severity

 Second offense draws an ejection.

4. Catcher may play anywhere from the catcher’s box to the back screen

5. Catchers must wear an approved mask until the ball is hit, than it may be removed to field

 the ball.

6. Courtesy runner may be used for the catcher, it must be the last previous player to have

 made an out.

7. Dropped third strike will not be used.

8. A defensive coach can stand behind the catcher to retrieve balls to speed up the game, but

 they cannot coach from that position on the field.

**Batting**

1. No play (but not an out) shall be declared if a batter hits the ball with one or both feet

 outside the batters box.

2. For safety reasons, coaches will caution players about throwing/slinging the bat. Each

 team will receive one warning from the umpire. The second offense by the same player

 will result in an automatic out.

3. Each team can bat 10, 11 or 12 players but all players must bat at least once during the

 game. If a player is sick, hurt or refuses to bat, this must be brought to the attention of the

 other coach, umpire and scorekeeper.

4. Failure to bat constitutes a team out. The individual batter will resume their correct

 position in the batting order when returning to the game.

5. There will be no infield fly rule in effect.

**Base Running**

1. Base runners must be in contact with the base until a legally pitched ball reaches home

 plate. Violation constitutes an out and the ball becomes dead.

2. Base runners shall be entitled to the base they are going to, plus one when the ball is

 over-thrown into the dugout, through, or beyond the fence line.

3. If a player is hurt or injured after the ball is batted, the offensive team may advance only

 one base and then time is called to attend to the injured player.

4. Umpire will call TIME when the ball is returned to the pitcher circle, or the lead runner is

 stopped.

5. Any coach touching a base runner while the ball is in play will cause the runner to be

 declared out, and other runners may advance at their own risk.

6. A chalk mark will be place 30 feet off of each base. If the base runners have passed the

 line, they are entitled to the next base. If they have not reached the line when the umpire

 calls time, they must return to the previous base.

7. Stealing will not be allowed.

8. Sliding is allowed.

9. No metal cleats will be allowed.