

## 8U—girl pitch—guidelines.

In an effort to promote better pitching in older divisions, TWYSL and BGSL is implementing the following procedures for the season. The mission is to get girls experience live pitching before they reach 10U, in an effort to eventually be able to revert to all girl pitch in 10U. Please integrate some pitching work into your practice, targeting those girls who will most likely play pitcher's helper for you. Here are the rules we will follow:

- The pitcher's helper will throw the first two pitches to each batter.
- The pitch must be delivered from inside the circle. The pitch may be delivered with a simple underhand motion, or the pitch may also be delivered with a windup. Both will be deemed legal pitches.
- There will be no illegal pitches called on the girl pitcher. Work with the pitcher to maintain contact with the pitching rubber through the motion but do not declare an illegal pitch.
- If the ball is put into play on either of the first two pitches, it is a live ball. If a girl fouls or misses either of the first two pitches, it will count toward her strike total.
- On the third pitch, the coach will assume pitching for the remainder of the at bat, throwing up to four (4) more pitches, or until the ball is put into fair play. If the player fouls the coach's fourth pitch, she will receive one more pitch, which must be put into play in fair territory, otherwise the batter will be declared out.
- There are no limits to the number of innings a girl pitcher may pitch, except for the inning where she is required to play outfield (see the "rotation rule")
- A coach may use as many pitcher's helpers as he wants in a game, but he may not switch pitcher's helpers during an inning except in the case of injury.
- The coach will remain in the pitcher's circle while the pitcher's helper is pitching in order to maintain pace of play. If a batted ball hits the coach, the ball will be declared dead and will not count toward the pitcher's total pitches, nor the batter's total pitches.
- In order to also help maintain pace of play, each team, on offense, will have an adult behind the plate to help with pitches that get away from the catcher. This coach will throw the ball back to **the coach in the pitching circle, not the girl pitcher.** This way the coach can hand the ball to the pitcher, and we aren't chasing the ball all over the diamond in between pitches.
- After a few games, umpires will be calling strikes on clearly hittable pitches.  
ENCOURAGE YOUR GIRLS TO SWING.

The TWYSL & BGSL Board maintains the right to modify or suspend these rules at any point during the season.