

2025 Arrowhead Fastpitch League

League Rules: 8U

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Arrowhead Fastpitch League will follow USSSA Rules unless otherwise indicated below.

All teams must roster all players through USSSA.

1. **Age** is determined by player's age as of midnight on December 31, 2024. The board must approve any player desiring to play in a lower age division. However, any player 'playing down' is not allowed to be a pitcher or catcher and will not qualify for tournament play at the lower age level. Limit of two players playing down per team. Players are allowed to play in higher age divisions, but must be rostered on each team.
2. **Number of Players.** There is not a minimum number of players to play a game as this to give the girls experience playing. However, there should be no more than 12 players on the field at a time, with no more than 7 in the infield.
3. **Game Time.** Game time as posted. Most games will be 45-60 minutes at coach discretion.
4. **Run Limits.** Each inning consists of once thru the lineup, max of 12 batters.
5. **Batting Lineup.** All players bat with continuous batting in effect and free defensive substitution, max of 12 batters. (See playoff rules which start in July.)
6. **Game Balls.** Game balls should be Softie 11-inch balls.
7. **Coach Pitch.** Coaches pitch 5 pitches, on a horizontal plane without arc. If a ball is not hit after 5 pitches, then bring out a tee for the batter. "Player-pitcher" should stand with one foot in the pitching circle.
8. **Equipment.**
 - A. No metal cleats.
 - B. All offensive players must keep batting helmets on until they are safely inside the dugout.
 - C. Batting helmets must be NOCSAE approved and should have facemasks.
9. **Play.**
 - A. If the batter hits the ball to the infield players, they may advance only one base. If the batter hits to the outfield, they may advance up to two bases.
 - B. No stealing, no bunting.
 - C. No infield fly rule.
 - D. Batters do not advance to first base if hit by pitch or on dropped third strike.
 - E. Leading off is allowed after the pitch crosses home plate.
 - F. If a player is out, she is out and should not continue to run bases.
10. **Lightning.** In the event lightning occurs during a game, the game will be suspended 30 minutes from the last lightning strike.

11. **Postponements/Rescheduling.** Coaches should decide if games should be cancelled due to weather. Games should be rescheduled if possible.
12. **Playoff rules** will take effect as of July 1.

2025 Arrowhead Fastpitch League 8U Playoff Rules

THESE RULES SHOULD BE FOLLOWED STARTING JULY 1.

We will follow our league rules with exceptions and emphasized rules as noted below.

1. Number of Players. ONLY 10 girls in the field per inning, with only 6 players playing infield. (Pitcher, catcher, first base, second base, shortstop, third base.) Remaining four players will be in the outfield, which means they should be in or on the edge of the grass. You may have more players on your team, and they should all bat, but only 10 can play in the field per inning. Teams can also play with fewer than 10 players in the field, but should have at least six.

2. Run Limits. Four runs or three outs per inning. (No longer batting the full lineup.)

3. Batting Lineup. All players should be in the lineup.

4. Coach Pitch. Coaches pitch 5 pitches, on a horizontal plane without arc. If a player does not hit the ball with 5 good pitches, then she is out. (No tees for playoffs.) If the batter “fouls off” the fifth pitch, then she may receive another pitch until she hits a fair ball or completely misses.

5. Play.

- If the batter hits to the dirt of the infield, they may advance only one base. If the batter hits to the grass whether in the air or on the ground, they may advance up to two bases. No advancing on overthrows.
- No stealing, no bunting.
- No infield fly rule.
- Leading off is allowed after the pitch crosses home plate.
- No intentional rolling of balls to get an out.
- We will keep score, with winners and losers at the end of the game.
- No new inning to start after 50 minutes.