

# LA/South Bay USA District Fall Ball Participation/Playing Rules 2025

- Objective:** To better prepare players for the upcoming Spring season by providing an instructional, developmental softball program for girls in all age divisions 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U and HS.
- Eligibility:** Only USA registered “B” or “C” Rec Ball Teams, Ages to be determined by the USA cutoff date of [August 31, 2025](#). (Spring 2026 age). Exception: **Only first year or inexperienced players may play by the 2025 age and must have LASB approval. However, players who decide to play down will not be eligible for the Turkey Tournament. Please make sure your coaches and parents understand this rule.**
- Registration:** Administration fees will be \$30 per league and will be used to cover the costs of the program. Any funds left over at the conclusion of the season will be deposited into a District Fall Ball account. All team registration forms must be emailed by [Fri, Aug 8, 2025](#).
- Scheduling:** The LASB Fall Ball Committee will be responsible for the scheduling of games and fields. Games are scheduled to begin [Sat, September 13, 2025](#) and end on [Sun, November 9, 2025](#). **Team Registration and Field availability information must be submitted by email no later than [Fri, August 8, 2025](#).**  
Email registration to: [lasbfbgr@gmail.com](mailto:lasbfbgr@gmail.com) and [lasfallball@gmail.com](mailto:lasfallball@gmail.com)
- Rosters:** **All rosters must be completely filled out for each individual team including; birth dates, All Star status, day preferences and contact information when submitted.** Completed rosters (not your final rosters) must be submitted no later than [Mon, Aug. 18, 2025](#). Final rosters must be completed and turned in by [Oct. 1, 2025](#). (*This will be the official roster of players that will be eligible for the Turkey Tournament*) There should be **minimal** changes and/or additions between the completed roster and final/mid season rosters. There is no combining of teams or the moving of several players from one roster to another to compete in the turkey tournament. This will be strictly monitored and enforced.
- League Coordinator:** Each league must have one Fall Ball Coordinator that will communicate with the LASB committee. The LASB committee will deal with that person and/or the President. Please do not have your managers/coaches turning in their individual team paperwork or contact the committee. Have your Fall Ball Coordinator handle it. All rosters should be contained in the document provided to you by LASB. **Fall Ball League Coordinator information must be emailed to [lasbfbgr@gmail.com](mailto:lasbfbgr@gmail.com) and [lasfallball@gmail.com](mailto:lasfallball@gmail.com) by [Fri, Aug 8, 2025](#).**

**Umpires:** All umpires will be USA registered umpires. **Host team is responsible for scheduling umpires at their facilities.** There will be only one umpire per game for each age division 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U & HS. Each team is responsible for paying one-half of the umpire fees. The 8U, 10U, and 12U divisions shall pay \$35.00 per game (\$70 total for the double header) or \$90 (\$45 each team) for one long (2 hour) game. The 14U and HS divisions will each pay \$40 per game for a single man umpire or \$80 total for the double header. Umpires are to be paid prior to the start of the game! *Host team shall pay any additional fees required to meet the fee schedule set by the host league and the umpire association contract.*

**Forfeit Fees:** Each league will be required to include a \$200 deposit at the time of registration to cover umpire fees for no-shows/forfeit. Host team requires a **36** hour advance notice for cancellations. Rainouts require a two-hour advance notice. If a game is forfeited too late and the umpire shows up, the umpire is to be paid, in full, for one game, by the host league. The host league shall then submit a reimbursement request to recoup their expense from the deposit account of the team that forfeited.

**Select** There will not be any select divisions this fall. If leagues have interest in participating in “Select” games, they can schedule the games themselves between leagues. The games may be scheduled during the week or weekend depending on availability of individual teams and league field availability. The dates and times will be up to the individual teams. Please answer the questions on the registration form if any of your teams have any interest in participating in select games. That information will be distributed to the leagues with contact information for those leagues/teams to schedule games.

**Team Formation:** All 8U, 10U, 12U & 14U teams **MUST** be drafted. No handpicked or All Star teams. **All teams must be balanced with respect to age and all star distribution.** If a league has only one team it must determine whether it should be in this instructional and developmental “fall ball level” or an alternative will be to move the entire team up a division.

There shall not be more than **(4)** returning All-star players, returning to the same age division, on one team. More than **(4)** will require the team to move up a division or **receive approval from Bruce Sawyer.**

Team formation must be done so that all returning and incoming All Stars are evenly distributed amongst ALL the teams in each division. If a league has gold and silver or 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> team all stars, they both must both be distributed equally. Players must also be evenly distributed by age as well. Example: Teams cannot be separated by age with older players on one team and younger players on another team. Teams may not keep incoming all star teams together.

Players who participate on a “Travel Team” after **August 31, 2025** become ineligible to participate in the LASB Fall ball program. Players who may have participated with a Travel team prior to this date are eligible, but will count as one of the All –Star players. (Please note this on the roster)

Travel Teams **or Travel players** are NOT eligible to participate in the LASB Fall ball program.

**Violations:** If it is discovered that a team has violated the objective and/or rules of the LA/South Bay Fall Ball League, which has negatively affected a player or group of players, the following action will be taken. The Fall Ball Committee and a league representative of the participating teams will meet to determine the future of that team, manager, or coach for the remainder of the Fall Ball season. A team that has “stacked” their roster with talent may not participate in the Turkey Tournament.

Any ejection by an umpire will be in effect for the following game as well. Coach ejections are to be reported to Bruce Sawyer, LASB District Commissioner.

**Game Times:** All games will be double headers and will be scheduled on Saturdays & Sundays at 9AM & 11AM or 1PM & 3PM. Games are scheduled on Sundays due to field and team availability. Some leagues only have fields available Sundays due to fall soccer. **Game times can be changed if both leagues/teams agree to the change. Please contact the league/team directly.**

**8U teams only may request to play a single game. They will be scheduled against other teams requesting single games when possible. These games will be noted on schedule. If not noted on the schedule as a single game, then the games will be played as a double header. All other divisions will play double headers.**

**Rules:** All games will be played under the **2025** USA Rules except as modified by those stated herein. The **8U** division will be played using the most recent LA/South Bay Inter-league 8U rules except for the modifications stated herein.

### **Substitutions and Batting:**

1. All divisions will bat Round Robin with free substitution on defense.
2. A team must bat with at least 9 players in the line up to avoid the “short-handed” rule penalty. *In order to avoid a forfeit, if a team knows in advance that they will be shorthanded; players may be borrowed from another team within their league from the same or lower age classification. The borrowed player(s) must bat last and play the outfield positions. The players borrowed during the season to avoid a forfeit are NOT eligible to play with this team in the Turkey Tournament.*
3. Short-Handed rule: A team may start with 8 players but when another player arrives, they must be inserted into the lineup in the ninth batting position. If a 10<sup>th</sup> player arrives, they must be inserted in the 10<sup>th</sup> spot in the lineup. Subsequent arrivals must be listed in order of arrival up to the maximum number of players on the lineup card allowed by the league.
4. An out will be called the first time the vacant ninth position in the batting order appears. Subsequent at-bats in the vacant position will be skipped over with no "out" penalty being called.
5. Under round-robin batting:
  - a. The DP/FLEX rule will not be in effect.
  - b. A team may have between 9 and 16 batters and no more than 9 defensive fielders (or 10 fielders in 8-Under division) as modified in these Inter-League rules.
  - c. If a player needs to leave early, this must be declared to the plate umpire and the opposing team at the plate meeting (before the game starts). No penalty "out" will be assessed if the situation is declared before the game starts. If the situation is brought to the attention of the umpire and the opposing team during the game, a penalty "out" will be declared only the first time that the vacant spot in the batting order comes up. An inning or a game can end with an automatic out.
  - d. All batters must bat and run for themselves unless injured or requiring attention due to the ‘blood rule’. If a batter or runner becomes injured, or needs extra time due to the ‘blood rule’ and cannot complete their turn at bat or time on the bases, a replacement runner will be allowed to finish the at bat or time as a runner for that half inning only.

- e. When all play has stopped the team member who was the “last out” before the injured player’s turn at bat will be the replacement runner. If the last out is on base or at bat, the next available player in the line up before the injured player will become the replacement runner.
- f. Any batter or base runner that must use a replacement runner *a second time* due to injury will be removed from the game for safety reasons. When the player who has left the game due to injury and misses the next at bat, an out will be declared for that one time only. An inning or a game can end with an automatic out.
- g. A player may be used as a replacement runner only once per inning.

## Playing Rules by division:

### 8U Coach- Pitch will be used

- a. Double headers will be scheduled at 9:00 & 11:00 AM and 1:00 & 3:00 PM. (Early starts allowed for 2<sup>nd</sup> games if teams agree). Teams may request one game only on their roster form. We will try to honor that request with single games if possible. However, single games are not guaranteed and have to be agreed upon by both teams. Single games will be noted on the schedule.
- b. Games in the 8U division will be **no new inning 1 hour 15 min and drop dead at 1 hour 30 min.**
- c. There will be a (4) run limit per inning for the 8U division.
- d. In the 8U division the pitcher is limited to 2 innings per game.
- e. No infield fly rule.
- f. No dropped third strike rule.
- g. No stealing during coach-pitch.
- h. No bunting during coach-pitch.
- i. Walks are not permitted on any batter. The batter must put the ball in play or strike out.
- j. Players will pitch and the umpire will call balls and strikes while the player is pitching.
- k. After four (4) called balls, a coach from the offense will pitch to the batter. The coach assumes the current strike count. The batter will receive a maximum of 3 pitched balls to either strike out or put the ball in play. The umpire will call the coach pitches. A batter cannot foul out, pitches fouled off will be re-pitched. However, a foul tip caught by the catcher on the 3<sup>rd</sup> strike results in the batter being declared out.
- l. The coach must pitch with at least one foot on the 30-foot rubber.
- m. The pitcher shall remain adjacent to or behind the coach-pitcher and must have at least one foot in the pitcher's circle during coach pitch.
- n. The coach-pitcher shall not interfere with **any** defensive player making a play on the ball or a runner.  
The umpire shall call delayed interference if the coach-pitcher is hit by the ball or interferes with a defensive player.  
After all play has stopped, the umpire declares, “dead ball” and the defensive coach has the option to take the result of the play or the penalty for coach-pitch interference.  
PENALTY: the batter is declared out and all other runners are returned to last base held at the time of coach interference. Any outs made on the play are nullified.

### 10U

- a. There will be a (5) run limit per inning for the 10U division.
  - b. Games will be seven innings or **drop dead at 1 hour and 30 minutes.**
  - c. A pitcher may not pitch more than 3 innings per game in the 10U division.
  - d. The ‘run-ahead’ rule (aka. Mercy rule) is NOT in effect.
- Emphasis:** The infield fly rule **IS** in effect for the 10U division and hot plate.

## 12U

- There will be a (6) run limit per inning for the 12U division, including the last inning.
- Games will be seven innings or **drop dead at 1 hour 30 minutes**.
- The 'run-ahead' rule (aka. Mercy rule) is NOT in effect.
- A pitcher will be limited to 21 outs per week in the 12U division.

## 14U & HS

- There will be a (6) run limit per inning for the 14U, and HS divisions, including the last inning.
- A pitcher will be limited to 21 outs per week in the 14U and HS division.
- Games will be seven innings or **drop dead at 1 hour 30 minutes**.
- The 'run-ahead' rule (aka. Mercy rule) is NOT in effect.

**Turkey Tournament:** The Turkey Tournament will be held two weekends before Thanksgiving on Tue, **Nov 11<sup>th</sup> (Veteran's Day); Sat, Nov 15<sup>th</sup>; Sun Nov 16<sup>th</sup>; and tentatively Fri, Nov 14<sup>th</sup> (if needed).** **The 2025 Turkey Tournament will be hosted by San Pedro Girls Softball Association.** Rule updates for the tournament and fees will be the responsibility of the league hosting the tournament. Rules for the tournament should follow the spirit of Fall Ball season playing rules with exceptions as approved by District Commissioner. Player eligibility will be determined by an updated team roster to be submitted no later than **Sun, October 1, 2025.** **Players must have participated in 50% of the team's Fall Ball games.** (Rain outs and forfeits by the opposing team will count as played) **No combining of teams or taking players from another team to participate in the tournament.**

<b>General:</b>	Base paths / Pitching distances /Game Balls (optic Yellow)		
8 & Under	55'When able	30'	Rawlings 10" RIF SR10RYS
10 & Under	60'	35'	Rawlings 11" RIF SR11RYS
12 & Under	60'	40'	Rawlings 12" Dream Seam 12RYLAH
14 & Under	60'	43'	Rawlings 12" Dream Seam 12RYLAH
HS	60'	43'	Rawlings 12" Dream Seam 12RYLAH

Forfeit time is 15 minutes after scheduled game time.

Host team will be home team for the first game and the visiting team in the second game. The game ball and umpire fee will be provided by the host team for the first game and by the guest team for the second game.

Defensively, players must play every other inning. *It is recommended that they be tried at both the infield and outfield positions.*

Score books will be kept by each team only for the purpose of tracking the run limit per inning, innings pitched, participation, and for the manager's information.

*There will not be any scores kept for the purposes of determining winner or loser*

## **Final Reminder**

***Fall Ball: This is recreational softball for the purpose of developing better players for the spring season, it is NOT a competitive league, it is meant to be fun. Remember, there is nothing at stake with a win or a loss.***