

Girls Softball 8u (Rookie) League Rules

This is a Coach/Kid Pitch league for the spring. This will allow the girls to start to understand the rules about outs and innings. Games should be friendly and both team coaches should be instructing the girls during the game.

Positions and Field Setup

- All Players field – Maximum of 6 Infielders (C, Pitcher/Pitchers Helper, 1B, 2B, 3B, & SS), 5 if catchers gear is not available in which case a parent should retrieve the balls. Maximum of 4 outfielders (LF, LC, RC, RF).
 - If there are 11 or 12 players at the field you can put them in the outfield instead of sitting on the bench.
 - At no time shall an outfielder run into the infield to make an out.
- Outfielders should be on the grass of the outfield or at least 10 yards past the infield.
- It is ok to play a game with 6 players.
- It is Mandatory that all fielders wear a fielding mask.
- There is one pitcher's helper during coach pitch games. That pitcher's helper must start farther back than the coach pitching and may not move closer to the batter until the ball is hit.
- Bases – 50 feet.

Pitching

- All pitching will be from 30 feet
- The first half of the season (approximately 5 games) will be coach pitch. The coach should pitch the ball under hand and on a line.
- During coach pitch there are no walks but there will be called and swinging strikes and the girl can strike out.
 - A foul ball with 2 strikes the batter will continue the at bat.
- The games that are kid pitch will remove the Pitchers helper position as the Pitcher will now be a fielder after they deliver a pitch.
- After 4 balls to a batter the coach will continue the at bat with the number of strikes that the batter has. Example: Pitcher throws ball 4 with the batter having 1 strike. The coach will now pitch to the batter with 1 strike. **The count does not reset.**

Batting

- All girls will bat (universal lineup) throughout the game. An inning consists of 3 outs or 4 runs. The final inning will be unlimited runs until team records 3 outs. The final inning of a game cannot be started more than one hour and thirty minutes after the first pitch.
- No Bunting or Slap hitting is permitted.
- No infield fly rule applies.
- Play stops when the ball is in control of an infielder. Infielders who have the ball at the end of play should be encouraged to signal for time out, but a failure to do so will not permit runners to advance.
- There are no walks.
- A batter can strikeout by either swinging and missing or a called strike by the umpire (Umpire will be either behind the plate or behind the mound depending on if they have equipment)

Base Running

- An overthrow at any base will NOT allow a runner to advance.
- There is a 2 base limit on any clean hit to the outfield and runner advancements. Use your judgement in regard to allowing a runner advance 2 bases. We want to eventually try and teach the fielders the difference between a force and out and when they need to tag the runner.
- A batted ball that hits the coach pitching will be treated as a ground rule single and all forced runners will advance one base.
- First Base is a double base the bright orange "safety bag" is for the runner and lies outside the foul line.
- The fielder touches the white bag inside the line.
- There is no leading - runners must stay on base until the ball is hit.
- There is no stealing
- Fielders should stand clear of base paths! Runners who run into fielders while attempting to field the ball are called out. Runners who are blocked by fielders are called safe. It would be nice if the girls learn to slide but that will come as they get older. Coaches should pay attention to this and position fielders accordingly to avoid unintentional collisions.

Syosset & Plainview LL Girls Softball Coaches Agreement:

The Boards of Syosset and Plainview LL thank you for accepting the role of coach, and we reserve the right to remove you from the coaching ranks if we find that you fall short of the following Syosset or Plainview LL goals and rules of behavior. As a coach in Syosset or Plainview LL, you pledge to:

- Bear in mind at all times that Syosset & Plainview LL exists for the benefit of the youth of our towns.
- Teach the skills and rules of softball in a safe, fun and nurturing environment.
- Conduct an adequate number of team practices so that all girls may learn the game and improve skills.
- Place the emotional and physical wellbeing of the players ahead of a personal desire to win.
- Respect the authority of the umpire and abide by his or her decisions, which are based on the rules of the Amateur Softball Association (www.asasoftball.com).
- Respect the authority of a Syosset or Plainview LL League Commissioner and abide by his or her rulings.
- Strive to ensure that all girls on my team play an equitable amount of time and have a positive team experience.
- Refrain from the use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs at all Syosset and Plainview LL sporting events.