

2021 7-8 SOFTBALL RULES

2021 NSA RULES APPLY EXCEPT FOR THE FOLLOWING:

This year the First half of the season will be coach pitch ONLY. At a date to be determined later the second half will transition to kid pitch and coach pitch

1. Coaches remember that this is a recreation league. **YOU** are responsible for exhibiting good sportsmanship. You are also responsible for your coaches, players **and** fans.
2. All players will bat in the lineup.
3. All players will play defensively every other inning. (No player to sit out consecutive innings)
4. Coach or kid pitch 30 feet, a rubber will be in place.
5. Games will be 7 innings or 1 hour & 30 minutes. Tie games will count in the standings. **NO** new inning will begin at or after 1 hour and 20 minutes. Game times is **FORFEIT** time.
7. You must be able to field 7 players at game time or forfeit will result.
8. Free defensive substitutions are allowed for **ALL** players regardless of position.
9. The 5-up rule is in effect. You are allowed 5 runs in the first inning, after that you can score 5 runs plus however many runs you are behind from the last half inning. The home team is responsible for letting the umpires know when the 5 runs have been reached.
10. Both coaches must sign the umpires' card at the end of the game. Home team is responsible for the official scorebook. At the end of the game the score card is then turned into UIC.
11. Player who throws a bat for a second time will be an automatic out. (This results in a dead ball)
12. Run rule in effect. 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 innings, and 10 runs after 5 innings.
13. Outfielders must play on the grass or 15 feet behind the base line, including the 10th player.
14. Shoes will be worn on the field. No open toe shoes. Coaches and Players
15. There will be 10 players with 4 outfielders in the outfield.
16. The Easton Ghost (Blue) **WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN LEAGUE PLAY**. Should the bat be used in a game there will be a possible ejection of both the **Coach and Player**.
17. Helmets **with** facemasks will be worn when leaving the dugout and anytime while on the field by batters, runners and on deck batters.
18. Bunting is **not** allowed. Infield fly rule is **not** in effect. Hesitation rule is **not** in effect.
19. Runner may lead off after the pitch is thrown. 10 feet only, the coach **MUST** get runner back immediately to the base if the ball is not hit. Stealing **not** allowed.
20. When the pitcher is in control of the ball with both feet inside the circle, they play is dead. At this time the runners must return to the last base they touched.
21. After the pitching coach has released the ball and the batter has hit the ball, the pitching coach **MUST** exit the playing area immediately in a manner that doesn't interfere with the play. The pitching coach will run toward his/her own dugout. The pitching coach must avoid contact with the ball. If the ball hits the pitching coach and in the judgment of the umpire the coach did not intentionally interfere with the ball, the ball is dead and is awarded 1 base. If ruled

intentional the ball is dead and the batter is out. The pitching coach will not instruct his/her unless the coach is next to his/her dugout.

22. Infielder may not play closer than 10 feet in front of the baseline, until after the ball is pitched.
23. Pitcher position. The pitcher shall keep one or both feet in the pitching circle when the coach pitcher is deliver pitches, typically to one side or the other. **Pitchers must wear a face mask at all times**
- 24. The First Half of the season will be coach pitch only. The second half of the season it will transition to half players pitching half coach pitch**
25. Hit by pitch – A batter, who is hit by a pitch from the player pitcher or coach pitcher, does **NOT** get a walk.
26. No walk rule. There will be no walks in the 7-8 division. The batter receives 4 pitches from the player pitcher which then, a coach will deliver a maximum of 3 pitches. A foul ball on the third pitch will be declared a no-pitch and replayed until the batter puts the ball in play or strikes out. The inherited strike count will remain in place. If a coach pitches a strike through the strike zone and the batter does not swing, it is considered a strike.
27. Coach Pitching – the coach pitcher is allowed a maximum of 5 pitches (see rule 24, No Walk Rule). The coach pitch must be delivered from the 30' mound, same as the girls. If a coach delivers a pitch from a place other than the pitcher's mound, there will be a warning for the first occurrence and the pitch will be considered a no-pitch and replayed. Additional occurrences will be considered a strike. Coach pitchers cannot coach the batter-runner. Coaches must make every attempt to avoid a batted ball while in the pitcher's circle. A batted ball striking the coach pitcher while in the pitcher's circle is a dead ball and counts as no pitch against the coach. A coach may remove himself from the field of play during a live ball. However, if the coach is deemed to have interfered with the play while leaving the field, the batter will be out and runners will be returned to their original positions. Use good judgement and timing when removing yourself from the field. Once off the field (foul territory) you may begin coaching the batter and or runners.