

10U League Softball Rules 2021

Champaign County League

***All age groups are subject to Champaign County League-Wide Regulations.** All rules not covered herein shall be governed by high school rulebook

1. Age Qualifications: 10u Softball ages are 9 and 10 year olds. A player can't be 11 years old before January 1st. All 11 year olds must move up to the 13u softball league (No Exceptions).
2. Playing Field: Pitching: 35ft. from the back corner of home plate to front edge of the pitching rubber. Base Path: 60ft. Eight (8) foot radius pitching circle rule WILL apply.
3. Will use an 11" softball. (Yellow in color).
4. Batting helmets with face guard are mandatory.
5. Defensive player in the pitcher position must wear field guard. This is highly recommended for all infield players to wear.
6. Games will consist of six innings. A complete game can be called after three innings. Only exception after 2 1/2 innings and the home team is ahead.
7. **3 outs, 5 runs, OR 7 batters per inning limit. This includes the last inning. In the event that the final half inning cannot result in a lead change, the winning team must complete the final defensive inning.**
8. Run Rule: 15 run after 3 innings and 12 runs after 4 innings. A game will be called and considered official if a team is ahead by fifteen(15) or more runs after three (3) complete innings (2 ½ innings with the home team leading) etc.
9. Play with 10 defensive players (4 outfielders). The 4 outfielders must be in a normal playing position. Depending on the size of the field it can be defined as the edge of the grass or an approximation of 20 ft. beyond the base paths.
10. **Pitching:** Pitchers may pitch either a maximum of 3 innings per game (free substitution) OR two consecutive innings. (Example: innings 1 & 2 or innings 1, 3, 5) Any pitches thrown will constitute an inning. A pitcher entering the game for the 1st time will be allowed (5) warm up pitches. A pitcher re-entering will be allowed (3) warm up pitches. If the pitcher hits 2 girls in a row or 3 girls in an inning, she must be removed for that inning only and may return but if she hits a 4th in a game she must be removed from the pitching position for the remainder of the game. One (1) more inning per pitcher will be allowed in extra innings. Extra innings start after the declared last inning. One (1) pitch is considered one (1) inning. Failure to comply will result in forfeit, if brought to the attention of the umpire/opposing coach during the game. A coach may make two mound visits. On the third trip, the pitcher must be removed. No intentional walks will be allowed. All batters must be pitched to. The intent of this rule is to prevent automatic placement of batter on first base.
11. Bunting is permitted. No slap bunts. (No squaring to bunt, then pulling back and taking a full swing. The intent of this rule is to avoid injury to a defensive player taught to charge when the batter squares to bunt).
12. The infield fly rule does not apply.
13. A runner may advance (1) base only on an overthrow from a ball that is in play by an infield player. Advance at your own risk. No additional bases will be granted on any additional overthrows per play.
14. Base runner may steal, but only one base per pitch and not until the ball has been released by the pitcher. Umpires can give one warning to a runner caught leaving early, otherwise the runner is out.
15. Base runners CANNOT steal home **or advance on a pitcher dropped ball, but may advance home on an overthrow at any base. Runs are awarded following a batted ball, walk, or an overthrow.**
16. Sliding: Head first sliding is strictly prohibited and constitutes an automatic out. All runners must attempt to slide if a play is being made on that base. A player may dive headfirst back into a bag.