

8U 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: 8u Softball ages are 7 and 8 year olds. A player can't be 9 years old before January 1st. All 9 year olds must move up to the 10u 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.
3. Eight (8) foot radius pitching circle rule WILL apply.
4. Will use an 11" softball. (Yellow in color).
5. 30 foot lines in between the bases will be used.
6. Batting helmets with face guard are mandatory.
7. Games will consist of six innings. A complete game can be called after four innings. Only exception after 3 1/2 innings and the home team is ahead.
8. 7 runs per inning limit. **This includes the last inning. In the event that the final inning cannot result in a lead change, the winning team must complete the final defensive inning.**
9. Run Rule: 15 run after 4 innings and 12 runs after 5 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.
10. 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.**
11. No infielder can play more than ten feet in front of any base until after the ball has been pitched.
12. Defensive player in the pitcher position must wear field guard. This is highly recommended for all infield players to wear.
13. A player fielding in the defensive pitcher position must have at least 1 foot inside the circle until the ball has been pitched.
14. Each batter will receive seven pitches or three strikes. There will be no called strikes. A foul ball on the seventh pitch does not count as a pitch.
15. Full swings only. No bunting is allowed.
16. Infield fly rule does not apply.
17. No Stealing is permitted. Head first sliding is strictly prohibited and constitutes an automatic out. All runners must slide if a play is being made on them at a base.
18. Defensive team may place 2 coaches in the outfield. These coaches are for instructional purposes only and may not touch the ball or assist the fielder in any way.
19. Coach pitchers must keep one foot inside the circle while pitching.
20. The coach/pitcher must make every effort to remove him or herself from the playing area after the ball has been hit.
21. To stop play, **an infielder must be in control of the ball and throwing it back to the pitcher or the pitcher has control of the ball in the circle.**
22. If the runner is past the 'halfway' line once the pitcher position has control of the ball, the runner will be awarded the next base. If the runner has not reached the line, they will be directed back to the previous base in which they came from.