

Sanford Youth League
Sanford, Coleman, Westown, Southtown
MAJOR GIRLS SOFTBALL RULES
11-12 Years
Revised 2/2014

Official High School Softball Rules will apply with the following exceptions:

1. Pitchers can only three (3) innings per game. One (1) pitch constitutes an inning.
2. Any offensive player on the playing field must wear a batting helmet.
3. Bat the full roster. A maximum of 6 runs per inning can be scored, or 3 outs per inning.
4. All players will play 2 defensive innings.
5. No infield fly rule, and no batters allowed 'on deck'.
6. Free substitution is allowed, batting order does not change.
7. Each game will consist of 6 innings. 4 ½ innings constitutes a complete game.
8. Starting time is 6:15 p.m. Game time is forfeit time. No inning shall begin after 2 hours from the beginning of the game. Each game will consist of 6 innings unless called due to darkness or weather.
9. Teams can play a game without forfeit with 7 players, but they must list 8 players on their batting roster. If there is not an eighth batter, the team must take an out.
10. Batter or base runner will be out for intentionally throwing of helmet or bat.
11. 60 feet bases
12. Pitching distance is 40 feet
13. Base runner must slide if a play is imminent. Players not sliding will be called out.
14. Stealing is allowed after the ball leaves the pitchers hand.
15. 12" Yellow non-restricted flight Official ASA softballs shall be used.
16. 8 run mercy rule is in effect after 4 ½ innings.
17. No intentional walks.
18. Bat diameter must be no larger than 2 ¼"
19. Coaches shall attempt to play games missed due to weather. If games cannot be made up, it will result in a tie. All make up games must be played no later than 1 week after the last scheduled game in the league. If a coach refuses to reschedule a game, it will result in a forfeit for that team.
20. Batter may advance on a dropped third strike providing that first base is unoccupied with fewer than 2 outs or with 2 outs batter may advance regardless of base occupation.
21. Home team is responsible for getting the field ready and supplies home plate umpire & field umpire and supplies a new ball.
22. Please see ByLaws for All Star rules – updated 2013

23. Pitching rules will follow NFHS Pitching guidelines outlined in Rule 6 of the NFHS rule book:

ART. 1 . . .

Prior to starting the delivery (pitch), the pitcher shall take a position with the pivot foot on or partially on the top surface of the pitcher's plate and the non-pivot foot in contact with or behind the pitcher's plate. Both feet must be on the ground within or partially within the 24-inch length of the pitcher's plate.

- a. Prior to pitching, the pitcher must take a position with shoulders in line with first and third base with the ball in the glove or pitching hand, and with the hands separated.
- b. While in this position, the pitcher shall take (or simulate taking) a signal from the catcher.
- c. After completing "b" above, the pitcher shall bring the hands together in front of the body for not less than one second and not more than 10 seconds before releasing the ball. The hands may be motionless or moving.
- d. The pitcher shall not be considered to be in pitching position unless the catcher is within the lines of the catcher's box and in position to receive the pitch.
- e. The pitcher may not take the pitching position on or near the pitcher's plate without having possession of the ball.
- f. The pitcher may remove herself from the pitching position as follows:
 1. before the hands come together, the pitcher may legally step back from the pitcher's plate with both feet;
 2. when the hands are together and no part of the windup motion has been made, the pitcher may legally step back from the pitcher's plate with both feet;
 3. either foot may be removed first.

PENALTY: (Art. 1) An illegal pitch is called.

ART. 2 . . . About the Pitch:

- a. The pitch starts when one hand is taken off the ball or the pitcher makes any motion that is part of the windup after the hands have been brought together.
- b. Once the hands are brought together and are in motion, the pitcher shall not take more than one step which must be forward, toward the batter and simultaneous with the delivery. Any step backward shall begin before the hands come together. The step backward may end before or after the hands come together.

EXCEPTION: See Rule 6-1-1f2 - When removing self from the pitcher's position.

NOTE: Towards is interpreted as within or partially within the 24-inch length of the pitcher's plate. (See Figure 6-1)

c. the pivot foot may remain in contact with or may push off and drag away from the pitching plate prior to the front foot touching the ground, as long as the pivot foot remains in contact with the ground and within the 24-inch length. Pushing off with the pivot foot from a place other than the pitcher's plate is illegal.

Figure 6-1

