

ATWATER LITTLE LEAGUE
GROUND RULES SPECIFIC FOR
SBAA 2020

1. Teams may begin a game with eight (8) players but must field nine (9) for defense by the end of the second inning. The team not fielding nine (9) players will forfeit and receive zero points towards their playoff standings.
2. Every player on the team roster will participate in each game for a minimum of six (6) consecutive outs.
3. The “All Bat Rule” is in effect. The team will bat a continuous batting order that will include all players on the team roster present for the game. A player may be entered and/or reentered defensively in the game anytime, provided they meet the requirements of mandatory play. (See Rule 4.04)
4. Coaches pitch for their own team. The pitcher-coach will start a pitch with at least one foot inside the chalk line of the circle. A Board Member can help any team, except for the position of the “Player Agent”. If a pitcher-coach is hit by a thrown ball, it is a live ball.
5. Each batter will be allowed five (5) pitches. If the fifth (5th) pitch is hit foul it is considered strike two (2) and batting will continue. If at any time a batted ball hits the pitcher-coach, the ball is dead. The hitter will hit again but the batted ball will count towards her five (5) pitches. If the batter hits the pitcher-coach on the her fifth (5th) pitch it will be considered as strike 2 (2) and batting continues.
6. Three (3) swings and misses (and foul balls) will be considered the same as three (3) strikes and the batter will be out.
7. Play will stop if the defensive pitcher has control of the ball inside the pitcher’s circle and time will be called by the umpire. The “Bump Rule” is in effect. Bases are determined and awarded with respect to the last base obtained by the lead runner. A base runner will only be awarded the last base which the runner successfully touched prior to the softball being controlled within the pitcher’s circle. On a batted ball that is fielded by the pitcher in the circle and no attempt is made to get an out on any runner or the batter-runner, all runners have the right to advance at least 1 base with the risk of being put out. Furthermore, if any defensive player fields the ball, and does not attempt to make a defensive play, all runners have the right to advance at least 1 base with the risk of being put out.
8. No bunting is allowed, but slapping is allowed. The batter must break their wrists in order for the ball to be considered a slap. If there is no break in the wrist, it will be considered a bunt, and the hitter will be called out.
9. No stealing is allowed.
10. Teams can score no more than five (5) runs each inning, (not including open innings). The sixth (6th) and subsequent innings of all games will be Open Innings. An open inning is defined as an inning that has no run limit.

11. There will be a Ten (10) Run Rule in place. If after three and a half (3.5) innings the home team is ahead by more than ten (10) runs the home team wins. If the visiting team is leading by ten (10) runs or more the home team must bat in its half of the inning. (See Rule 4.10 for further explanation)
12. The defensive pitcher should start with one foot inside the chalk line of the pitcher's circle.
13. There will be a one (1) hour and thirty (30) minute time limit on all games. A minimum of three and one-half (3.5) innings must be played. Regular schedule games may end in a tie. There will be a drop-dead time limit of two (2) hours. The game will be rescheduled by the Player Agent or President to be completed only if the outcome of the game has any impact on any team's playoff status or seeding. The suspended game will resume from the exact point that the game was suspended. The suspended game will only be replayed using eligible players from the original game date.
14. All players must wear the appropriate league given uniform with no embellishments or added items to the uniform, visors and helmets.
15. Sliding is allowed at any base except at first base. If a player slides into first base, she will be called out. There is no head first sliding/diving into any base. However, diving back into any base is allowed, including first base.
16. The In Field Fly Rule is NOT in effect.
17. A runner will be called out if at anytime she is hit or touches a batted ball.