

2019 WESTFIELD IN-HOUSE SOFTBALL RULES INSTRUCTIONAL LEAGUE

Team & Player Guidelines

- Player's ages are 5 to 6 years old (age on December 31, 2018)
- Players on a team: Minimum of 8 and Maximum of 9
- Coaches will act as umpires

Rules of Play

- A team will practice for 30 minutes and then will play a 45-60 minute game depending on field availability.
- Each Inning every player will have a turn at bat and play multiple positions on the field.
- Safety helmets with face guard must be worn by the batter and the pitchers helper. You can have 2 pitchers helpers if you like. One on the right side and one on the left side of the circle.
- Coaches will pitch to their own teams.
- The coach will throw 3 underhand pitches to the batter. If the batter does not hit the ball then a tee will be placed at home plate and the batter will get 3 swings to put the ball in play.
- Outs- Batters hitting a fair ball and runners attempting to reach their destination base can be tagged out or forced out by a defensive player. When a base runner is declared out they will remain on the base. The last batter will run to 1B around to home plate clearing all the base runners.
- No stealing. Players must stay on the base until the ball is hit.
- An inning is over when all the players on the offensive team have batted through their lineup.
- There is no limit to the number of outs in an inning.
- Coaches for the defensive team will position themselves on the field with their players to maximize instructional guidance and teaching opportunities. Offensive coaches can position themselves at each base to help runners get to their destination.
- A hit ball shall be live when it is placed in to fair territory. It is considered dead once the coaches feel the play is over. Base runners must run station to station. No extra bases on an overthrow. Exception: If a players hits the ball to the outfield they can run until the ball is thrown back in to the infield. Once the ball is in the infield the base runner may advance if they are more than halfway to the next base.
- Scores are kept informally and unofficially by the coaches.