



## Putnam County Parks & Recreation U8 Girls Softball Rules

- **BASE DISTANCE:** 50'
- **PITCHING DISTANCE:** 35'
- **BALL SIZE:** 11" Yellow ball
- **TIME LIMIT:** 1 Hour & 15 minutes or 7 innings

### **PITCHING**

1. In U8 the coach of each team, or his designee, will pitch to his own team.
2. There will be no walks.
3. There will be seven pitches to the batter or a strikeout whichever occurs first.
4. A foul ball on the third strike is not considered an out, if the batter fouls the seventh pitch, one and only one more pitch will be given.
5. Teams may change the pitcher coach once each game.
6. A "defensive pitcher" will be positioned next to the pitching coach.

### **DEFENSIVE COACH**

In U8 two (2) defensive coaches are permitted on the field. The coaches shall stand behind second base and short stop. The coach may not touch players or the ball.

### **BATTING**

1. Every player present will be in the line-up.
2. An inning will be called when there are 3 outs or the 5th run crosses home plate.
3. No bunting is permitted; batter must take a full swing.
4. Batting helmets are required

## **RUNNING**

1. No stealing, no lead offs, runners cannot leave the base until the ball is hit.
2. The batter may advance one base at her own risk on an overthrow at first base.
3. Once the pitcher gains control of the ball within the 8' circle, play ceases, and the half-way rule will apply to all runners. Pitcher may not throw the ball once the ball goes back to the 8' circle.
  - 3a. The lead runner if not half-way will be sent back to the previous base, thus sending any trail runner back to a previous base. Exception: The batter will not be sent back to home plate.

## **SPECIAL RULES**

1. No infield fly rule.
2. During the regular season, if a game is tied after regulation, only one (1) extra inning will be played. If after one extra inning, teams are still tied the game will end in a tie.
3. Teams may field 9 players, six in the infield and three in the outfield (all outfielders MUST play in the grass. Outfielders will not be permitted to make a play in the infield)
4. Each player must play in the field a minimum of 2 innings and must not sit the bench more than 2 consecutive innings.
5. Free defensive substitution of all players is allowed.
6. Play Stoppage: Play stops when the pitcher has control of the ball in the circle area, approximately an 8-foot circle centered by the pitcher's plate.
7. PCPRD will attempt to accommodate all teams with size appropriate catchers gear
8. Teams are responsible for neat and orderly appearance of the dugout during games and practices. Teams are responsible for the cleanliness of the dugouts after use.
9. PCPRD will attempt to supply, to coaches, all needed equipment for a successful season. Bats, Helmets, Catchers gear, First aid kits, ice packs & a rule sheet are standard issue.