

O & S 5/6 Grade (A) Softball Rules (based off USSSA Rule Book)

General

- The field will use 60' bases with the pitching rubber set at 40'.
- 12" softball will be used.
- Games will be no more than 7 innings in length.
- No metal spikes.
- There is a 100 minute time limit. An inning in progress at the 100 minute mark will be completed. No new inning may be started after 100 minutes.
- Any game called because of time is complete regardless of the number of innings played.
- Minimum of 8 players required for a game.
- Teams are allowed to borrow players (borrowed players cannot pitch, catch or play in the infield). They must also be placed at the bottom of the batting order.

Batting

- Bats may be made of wood or metal and must not be more than 34" in length, 38oz or have a barrel in excess of 2 ¼ inches.
- All players will be listed in the batting order. The batting order does not change when substitutions are made.
- Late arriving players must be added to the bottom of the order.
- Borrowed players must hit at the bottom of the lineup.

Base running

- Runners may not leave the base until the ball leaves the pitchers hand.
- When the catcher is on base and there are 2 outs, it is **required** that the catcher be pinch ran for. The pinch runner should be the last player to make an out. Pitchers are recommended to be pinch ran for when they are on base with two outs, but it is not required.
- Runners are allowed to attempt to "steal" home on passed balls. (Players must seek to avoid contact.
- Players are allowed to run on overthrows until the umpire stops the play. (Rules the ball dead from it going out of play, etc.)

Fielding

- Four outfielders may be used. No "short" outfielders.
- Each player must play a minimum of 9 defensive outs (3 innings) per game. If a player does not get the 9 defensive outs (3 innings), those innings must be made up in the next game.

Pitching

- Pitchers will be allowed to pitch up to 12 outs per game. Rest time for pitching great than ½ of the maximum pitched outs is 40 ½ hours. Pitchers, pitching less than or equal to ½ of the pitched outs are required to rest 20 ½ hours.
- Once a pitcher has been removed from the game as pitcher, they are not allowed to re-enter that game as pitcher. They can be entered into the game at other positions.
- There will only be 8 warm up pitchers between innings.

Mercy Rules

- 5 run maximum per inning even if three outs have not been made. The last inning is uncapped.

- Games are complete after 4 innings (or 3 ½ for the home team) if one team has 15 or more runs than the other team. Games are complete 5 innings (or 4 ½ for the home team) if one team has 10 or more runs than the other.

Personal Conduct Policy

- On any conduct problem concerning coaches, players and/or spectators, umpires are instructed to deal only with coaches, who are responsible for correcting the problem. If the problem persists, a forfeit will result.
- No manager, player, coach, or spectator may charge, threaten, or abuse an umpire before, during, or after a game. Such behavior will result in ejection from the league.
- All spectators not directly involved in the game must stay more than 10ft outside of the foul territory.
- If a discipline problem with a player arises during a game, and a coach wished to remove a problem player, he/she shall notify the opposing coach and the umpire in order to adjust the batting order. If the discipline issue persists, the coach must notify O'Fallon Parks and Recreation to explain the situation.
- Players must remain in the designated bench area during the game
- There shall be no heckling of an opposing team by anyone, nor shall any spectator or player verbally or physically attempt to distract an opposing player. Violations of this rule will result in ejection of the offending player(s)/spectators and/or forfeit of the game.
- The coach is responsible for the conduct of his or her spectators, parents, and players on the field and bench. **COACHES, SPECTATORS, AND PLAYERS SHALL NOT DISPUTE CALLS MADE BY THE UMPIRE.** Coaches, players, or spectators who are verbally abusive to the umpires, players, or each other may be ejected by the official or field supervisor and must leave the field immediately.