

OC Fall Ball
12U Recreational Rules
Updated 8/27/2021

1. HOME TEAM & DUGOUTS

The team listed first on the schedule will occupy the third base dugout. If a team is playing a double header they will not be required to change dugouts.

ALL GAMES WILL USE A COIN TOSS TO DETERMINE HOME TEAM.

2. BASE AND PITCHING DISTANCES

The distance between bases and the pitching plate shall comply with ASA/USA requirements. Currently, the distance between bases is 60 feet and the pitching distance is set at 40 feet.

3. GAME LENGTH

All games in the 12u division will be one hour and thirty minutes (1:30) drop dead. At fields where overhead lighting is not available, all play will stop (drop dead) based upon the umpire's judgment of unsafe conditions.

4. OUTCOMES OF DROP DEAD TIME BEING REACHED

When drop dead time is reached the game ends at that point, unless a team has a player that still has not had 1 at bat, the game continues until every player gets at least 1 at bat.

5. STANDINGS

There are no standings.

6. GAME FORFEITURES

Every attempt should be made to play. In the event a team is unable to field a minimum of eight players, the game may still be played. The other team is encouraged to provide additional defensive players for outfield positions only. If a game must be cancelled due to lack of players, both teams must still pay the umpire for the cancelled game, and no make-up will be scheduled.

7. RUNS ALLOWED

Each inning is limited to 3 outs or four (4) runs; whichever comes first per inning.

8. DEFENSIVE PLAYERS

a. Each team shall use three (3) outfielders for a total of nine (9) defensive positions.

b. No player may sit on the bench more than one inning in any game until all other players on their team have sat one inning.

c. It is recommended that each player shall play at least one (1) inning of infield by the completion of the 4th inning. If the game is less than four (4) complete innings, the player must start the next game at an infield position.

Note: This rule is recommended to get all players involved in infield positions if they do not create a safety hazard as determined by the player's coach..

9. PLAYER RE-ENTRY

Unlimited defensive substitution is allowed. Substitute players may be entered at the beginning of innings or whenever the umpire calls time out. Late arriving players should be placed at the end of the batting order.

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10. BATTING

- a. All teams will bat round robin for players present at the start of the game.
- b. All teams will present a batting line-up to the other team prior to the start of the game, which will include all players present
- c. Late arriving players must be added to the bottom of the lineup. The opposing team must be notified of any additions when the player enters the game.
- d. The batting order remains fixed once presented to the opposing team and umpire.
- e. Batters hit by a pitch will be given the option to continue batting or take their base. If the batter is unable to continue batting, they will be awarded first base. If the hit batter is unable to advance to first base, a courtesy runner is allowed. The batter does not have to advance to first base for the courtesy runner to take the batter's place on base. If the batter opts to continue batting, the pitch that hit the batter will be recorded as a ball.
- f. Injured players or players otherwise forced to leave the game shall be reported to both the umpire and the opposing team. If a player leaves a game, there is no penalty. Any player leaving a game for any reason may not return to the same game.
- g. NO out will be taken for injured players not able to take their turn at bat, however they shall not return to play in the game.

11. RUN AHEAD RULE

None.

12. INFIELD FLY AND DROPPED THIRD STRIKE

The infield fly rule and the dropped third strike rule are in effect *per ASA/USA rules*.

13. BASE RUNNING

Stealing bases will be allowed in accordance with ASA/USA rules. Runners may leave a base when the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. Runners leading off the base prior to the pitch will be called out.

14. PITCHING RULES

The pitching distance is 40 feet. The umpire will keep track of balls and strikes.

- a. Pitching Limits
There are no official limits on innings pitched. The expectation is that all girls that practice pitching will have an opportunity to pitch in the Fall Season.
- b. Pitchers Substitution
A pitcher removed from pitching by the coach may return to pitch in the game.

15. COURTESY RUNNERS

Courtesy runners will be allowed for the pitcher and catcher of record. The runner shall be the player making the last recorded out. In the case that no outs have been recorded in the game, the runner shall be the last batter listed in the roster.

16. SAFETY BASE

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A safety base (double base) must be used at first base. If a field is not equipped with a safety base, the umpire has the option to continue the game utilizing an imaginary safety base and batter runners will be instructed to run through as though a safety base is present. All determination of safe or out per an imaginary safety base is at the sole discretion of the umpire.

17. SPORTSMANSHIP

No derogatory cheers will be allowed. No deliberate attempt to distract the pitcher and/or the catcher by the offensive team shall be tolerated. We will follow the General Policies of the league and/or ASA/USA rules for unsportsmanlike conduct. If a manager, coach, or parent is ejected from a game, the league will contact your associated league and share the report from the umpire as to the reason of the ejection. Each league will handle their own disciplinary process that could include suspension from games.

18. JEWELRY

No jewelry of any kind is permitted in accordance with ASA/USA rules.