

SOPRO Specific

9/10u School Softball Rules

Game Play & Batting

- **Batting Lineup:** Teams will bat ALL PLAYERS on their roster
- **Look Back Rule:** With the ball in the circle, runners between bases must immediately choose to advance to the next base or return to the previous one. Failure to do so **WILL NOT RESULT IN AN OUT**, but the runner will be sent back to the previous base.
- **Courtesy Runners:** Teams can use courtesy runners for pitchers and catchers. Since all betters are in the lineup, the courtesy runner will be the “player who made the last out”

Defense

- **FREE SUBSTITUTION:** Teams can substitute players in and out and change positions **AT WILL** and **AT ANY TIME** and **AS MANY TIMES** as youd like.
- **Defensive positions:** Teams can utilize 10 defensive players. 4 players must be positioned in the outfield at the release of the pitch

Game Structure & Scoring

- **Inning Limits:** Each team will bat **6 batters (or three outs)** whichever comes 1st. An inning is completed after three outs or after the sixth batter has completed the at bat.

In the event that the 6th batter has a ball in play, the inning is over when that batter (*or another base runner*) is out **OR** the ***ball is controlled AT HOME PLATE by the catcher with no runners past 3rd base.***

If a runner has advanced past third when the ball is **controlled** at the plate, the runner is live and a play must be made to end the inning.

(exception) If the runner does not attempt to score directly and returns to 3rd base or attempts to get into a rundown, the inning is over.

- **WALKS TO END AN INNING:** If the 6th Batter of an inning is walked (or hit by pitch) the result of the play will stand (ie, forces runners to advance/score, ect) In addition, the following inning will begin with the results of the walk STILL ON BASE.

Example. Runner at 1st with 2 outs, sixth batter at the plate. The batter walks (*runner at 1st moves to 2nd base, batter goes to 1st*) *The inning is now over, and the following inning starts with those runners back on those bases*

- **WALKS TO END A GAME:** A game cannot end with a walk. The result of the walk will stand and the next batter will bat
- **Time Limits:** Games are limited to **1:15 minutes** or **6 innings** (no new inning will start with less than **5 minutes** remaining on the clock)
- **RUN RULE:** There are no run rules. Each game will conclude in innings or time limit. **Scoreboard may be suspended in the event of a lopsided score"*