

**Sanger Softball Association**  
**GIRLS SOFTBALL RULES**

*Agreed upon January 2018*

**These rules govern Girls Softball leagues held in Sanger, Denton, Argyle, Aubrey, Tioga, Ponder, Valley View, Pilot Point, and Justin.** In addition to the current year USSSA Girls Fast Pitch Softball Rules and Regulations, teams will abide by the following:

**T-Ball – 5 & 6**

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**Playing Field:**

- The base path will be 60 feet.
- The pitching distance is 35 feet.
- A line will be dashed at 45' for infield players.

**Equipment:**

- The home team will provide the batting tee.
- The official ball will be an 11" safety ball with Level 1 core.
- Players must wear batting helmets when batting, or in the on-deck circle. Do not remove helmets until inside the dugout.
- Catchers are required to wear full protective headgear, mask, chest protector and shin guards.
- NO JEWELRY.

Always remember, T-Ball is instructional. Teach the basics and have fun!

**Game Play:**

- T-Ball games are 60 minutes long. No new inning shall start once time has expired. The home team will be allowed to bat and finish the inning. Game will be called when time expires if the home team cannot come back and tie or win due to inning run limit. Score will be kept, but the focus should be on skill development.
- Only one (1) coach and three (3) assistant coaches will be allowed in the dugout during the game. The defense will be allowed to have two (2) coaches positioned in the outfield to help instruct the outfielders, and teams should provide one (1) defensive coach at the fence behind the catcher to help keep the game moving.
- All players will play the field. The pitcher must play somewhere in the back half of the pitching circle. The 4 infielders must be at least 45 feet from home plate. Teams must field the catcher's position. All remaining players must be in the outfield somewhere behind the baselines. No minimum number of players to play a game.
- If a pitcher fields the ball and makes a play on a runner, the pitcher must throw the ball to a baseman or the catcher, if applicable, in an attempt to make an out. The pitcher cannot tag a player running to first, or home, or run home and touch the plate. She must throw the ball. **No rolling balls to the bases. The ball must be thrown overhand. These rules help ensure fundamentals are taught.**
- Each coach must bat his/her complete roster.
- **Batters will receive four (4) pitches from a coach pitcher first; if batter does not hit any pitches, she will receive three (3) swings off the tee. If the batter is not ready to hit pitches from a coach, then they will receive four (4) swings off the tee. At midseason every batter will receive four (4) pitches from the coach pitcher.**
- No bunting allowed.
- Slinging the bat is a strike. The batter will receive one warning. The second offense is an out.
- No base stealing allowed, tight base running. Base runners may not lead off before the batter hits the ball. In the event of an infraction, the runner will be called out.
- A ball thrown over the fence or in the dugout will entitle the runner to advance one (1) base. If a ball is overthrown at 1<sup>st</sup> base, the batter/runner may advance (1) base at her own risk.
- Play will stop when the pitcher has possession of the ball inside the pitcher's circle. Time will be called once the runner stops on a base. Once the ball is in the pitcher's circle, the base runner must have one (1) foot across the halfway line between bases in order to advance to the next base.
- An offensive team will be allowed to score a maximum of five (5) runs per inning.
- A maximum of two (2) timeouts per inning per team will be allowed. Calling "time" to prolong a game will not be allowed.
- In the event of an injury, play stops immediately.

**Participation:**

- **All coaches must abide by the player participation rule:** All players must play every inning, unless injured.
- Coaches should ensure a different child is in the last batting position each game.
- Players at 1<sup>st</sup> base and pitcher can only play 1 inning in each position per game.

**Coaches Etiquette:**

- Protested games will not be allowed. All disagreements shall be resolved at the time of the dispute.
- Coaches and players must pick up and properly dispose of paper and trash after each game.
- **Coaches cannot touch base runners during live play. Pushing or physically assisting a runner is prohibited. Penalty; one (1) warning, second time is an out.**

