



# 2020 VACAVILLE BOBBY SOX LOCAL RULES

## All Divisions

(not applicable to 6U)

1. Each manager is responsible for ensuring that all pitching records are accurately reflected in the official scorebook. All pitching changes should be reported to the plate umpire and the official scorekeeper. It is each manager's responsibility when they sign the scorebook at the end of each game to ensure that all innings pitched by each girl who took the mound are properly recorded for that game. In the event that innings are not properly reported/recorded, any pitcher identified as having pitched in that game will be charged with the max number of innings of that game. ***For Example, if the game goes 5 innings every pitcher will be charged with 5 innings.***
2. To clarify the "hurt" rule, if a girl has to leave a game for a minor injury and her turn comes up in the batting order shortly after the injury (i.e.; the next inning) and has to miss her turn at bat, it will not be counted as an out. However if after an inning or 2 has passed and the girl is still too injured to bat, she will be considered out for the rest of the game, with no out recorded in any subsequent at bat.
3. Unlimited runs inning. Open or unlimited runs innings will be the last inning of a regulation game.
  - In 8U it is the 5<sup>th</sup> inning and in all other divisions, it's the 7<sup>th</sup> inning.
4. During games, there are only 4 rostered adult volunteers allowed in the dugout, maximum. Required at all games the female Team Manager, female Team Chaperone and at minimum, at least one Coach.

## 6U Division

1. Pitching distance is 25 feet.
2. It is highly recommended that Coaches begin teaching the Mini Soxer the **slingshot** form of pitching when teaching a new pitcher to pitch rather than the more complicated art of the windmill. It is highly recommended that each team select a Coach to be a pitching coach for the season. The Coach/Pitcher shall pitch from the pitcher's plate which is set at 25 feet. The Player/Pitcher will stand approximately even to the left or right of the pitching plate, inside the pitching circle and can only move from her position after the ball has been released to the batter. After the Coach/Pitcher delivers the pitch, they will remain in the pitching circle avoiding interfering with the defense until all play has been completed.
3. Game times are only 1 hour. It is imperative that 10 minutes prior to game time, the team's Managing staff proceed to home plate where they will shake hands, exchange line-ups, and review local rules. Players line up behind the base chalk line and Managers should inspect for jewelry, earrings, and chin strap on all helmets. Players will then state the Pledge of Allegiance and the Bobby Sox Prayer.
4. Each team Manager will present her line up/batting order (must include players names and jersey #) to the opposing Manager and it will remain the same throughout the entire game. Reason: record keeping of opposing team players when ALL STAR selections are made.



# 2020 VACAVILLE BOBBY SOX

## LOCAL RULES

### 6U Division *(continued)*

5. For the 1st half of the season, before **April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020**, there will be NO base outs. Each player will have an at bat throughout the entire season. NO STRIKEOUTS in 6U.
  - 2 Player pitches
  - 3 Coach pitches
  - 1 Tee
6. Starting in the 2nd half of the season after **April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020**. Players can be called OUT on bases only and will return to their Dugout. No use of Tee at this date forward. If a player still does not get a hit after the third Coach pitch, Players at bat will be considered a WALK and will run to first base.
  - 3 Player pitches
  - 3 Coach Pitches
  - NO TEE
7. Each team must have 4 Coaches on defense at all times making every attempt to move out of the way of a hit ball.
  - In pitching circle
  - Behind catcher retrieving all past balls
  - Right side of infield
  - Left side of infield
8. Fair Ball Territory. We want to encourage hitting. Some players may struggle with hitting throughout the entire season. Therefore, Managers should allow some wiggle room with foul lines keeping the ball live and in play, to be agreed upon at plate meeting before the game.

### 8U Division

This division is the stepping stone to real softball for young girls. Most girls at this age have never played softball or are coming from Mini-Sox (VERY FEW RULES). As a result, it takes a while to indoctrinate them to the world of RULES. The following modifications will apply as stated for the 8U division to allow a learning/transition period for this age group. The intent is to also prevent unrealistic events due to the disparity in talent levels at this age.

1. Pitching distance is 32 ft.
2. Until **April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020**, there will be NO stealing of home. The only way a runner can score from 3<sup>rd</sup> base:
  - On a fair ball hit into play.
  - A bases-loaded walk.
  - A hit by the pitch batter with the bases loaded.

**NO OTHER RULES CONCERNING A LIVE BALL APPLY.** This rule supersedes them. This year the change will come after **April 10<sup>th</sup>**, and all games played that day and for the remainder of the season will allow stealing of home.



# 2020 VACAVILLE BOBBY SOX LOCAL RULES

## 8U Division *(continued)*

3. There is **NO dropped 3rd strike** for the entire season.
4. The **FIRST PLAY RULE** is in effect until **April 10th, 2020**. After a batted ball, once the ball is thrown into the pitcher's circle (rolling or caught), the play stops and runners cannot advance any further. If a batter walks, they must stay at 1st base. This year the change will come after **April 10<sup>th</sup>** and all games played that day and for the remainder of the season will be played without the First Play Rule. \*\*Play stops when the ball is thrown into the pitcher's circle. Train them to backup throws, retrieve an overthrow and send to pitcher.
5. **STEALING BASES RULE** is in effect until **April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020**. Runners Stealing will be limited to 1 base at a time. Regardless of overthrows. A runner **STEALING** a base is not the same as a runner after the batted ball. This year the change will come on **April 10<sup>th</sup>** and all games played that day and for the remainder of the season will be played without the Stealing Bases Rule.
6. **6<sup>TH</sup> CONSECUTIVE OUT**. Players no longer have to play 6 consecutive outs. Players may now rotate on defense every inning. However, each player must play a minimum of 2 total innings.

## 12U/14U/16U Division

1. Will allow 5 runs per inning for the entire season.
2. Any player in the American Girl division, born before January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003 is ineligible to pitch for entire season.

**The Vacaville Bobby Sox Board and/or Umpire in Chief have the ability to update these local rules or interpret them as needed to maintain a safe and educational environment for all the girls.**