



# Petal Sports Association

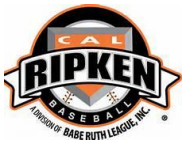
**Softball Local League Rules** (PSA will follow the USSSA Softball Rule book along with the additions below)

1. Game start time will be announced by the umpire. Game will be played until time has expired (if 1 minute is left and the bottom of an inning has ended, a new inning will start) T-ball will always be drop dead time. If game time expires when home team is batting, and home team is winning, the game is over. Start time will be the 1<sup>st</sup> warm-up pitch or the scheduled game time if a team is not ready.
2. During the Spring Season, if game is tied after time has expired, **we will play 1 more inning using the International Rule, 1 out and last batted out on 2<sup>nd</sup> base if still tied after this, game is over.**
3. Game times are age specific: See Below for umpires used and max runs per inning (**Once a team scores the max runs per inning, the team will switch out to defense no matter how many outs that team has.**)

Age Group	Game Time	Innings	Umpires		Max Runs per Inning	
			Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall
6U	50min	5	1	1	none	6
8U	1hr 10min	5	1	1	6	6
10U	1hr 15min	5	2	2	7	6
12U	1hr 20min	6	2	2	7	6
13-15	1hr 30min	7	2	2	unlimited	6
16-18	1hr 30min	7	2	2	unlimited	7

**8U - 12U Note:**  
If over the fence home run is hit, then all runs will count even if it is over the max runs per inning.

4. Run Rule 13-18: if a team is leading by 15 runs or more after 3 complete innings the game is over
5. Teams will not forfeit if they do not have enough players during Spring and Fall regular season. The opposing team will help the team that is short players by filling defensive outfield positions by rotating players that are not on base or at bat. Teams will not take an out if they do not have enough players while at bat.
6. Everyone will bat in a continuous order. If a player is hurt or sick and does not bat, that player will be removed from the game. The team will not take an out when that player should have come to bat. If a player is ejected from the game, the team will take an out every time that player would have come to bat.
7. **No player may sit the bench twice until all other players on the team have sat the bench at least once for that game. 10 players will be allowed to be on the field (4<sup>th</sup> outfielder only) for ages 6-10 year olds. (2019 Spring Season 6-12 will have 4<sup>th</sup> outfielder)**



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8. **If a batter slings the bat while batting, the umpire will give that team a warning. If another player from that team slings a bat during the same game, that player will be called out and no runners may advance.**
9. If runner is wearing a facemask, (helmet with facemask is required for softball) she will not be allowed to slide head first unless she is sliding back into the bag due to a pickoff from the pitcher or catcher. If she does, then she will be called out. (13-18 division may slide head first with a facemask.)
10. Courtesy runner will be allowed for your current catcher with two outs. Courtesy runner must be your last batted out.
11. Stealing is only allowed in the 9-18 year olds.
12. Age Specific Rules
  - a) 6u Softball-Coach pitch distance 35ft. Coach must stay in contact with pitching rubber while pitching
    - 3 Attempts to hit off coach and, if needed, 2 attempts off tee.
    - All players placed in line up and all player will play defense.
    - Time will only be called when the ball is controlled by a defensive player inside the pitching circle or in front of the lead runner, and all runners have stopped advancing at the umpire's discretion.
    - Pitcher player will wear a facemask.
    - Coach Pitcher will squat or move to get out of the way of the play. The team on defense will provide a Coach behind home plate to help with passed balls and move the bat after the hit. Coach behind the plate must stay quiet.
  - b) 8u Softball-Coach pitch distance 35ft. Coach must stay in contact with pitching circle while pitching.
    - Coach Pitch- 5 Pitches Or 3 Strikes.
    - All players placed in line up and 10 players on defense.
    - No Walks, No Stealing, No Bunting
    - Pitcher player must wear a facemask and stay behind pitching rubber in pitching circle.
    - Time will only be called when the pitcher player gets the ball in the pitching circle or in front of the lead runner and all runners have stopped advancing at the umpire's discretion.
    - Coach Pitcher will squat or move to get out of the way of the play. The team on defense will provide a Coach behind home plate to help with passed balls and move the bat after the hit. The coach behind the plate must stay quiet.
  - c) 10u Softball-Player Pitch distance 35ft
    - All players placed in line up and 10 players on defense.
    - Stealing Allowed Once Release of Pitch
    - Infield Fly Rule Applied
    - Drop Strike 3 rule in effect



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- d) 12u Softball-Player Pitch distance 40ft
  - All players placed in line up and 9 players on defense.
  - Stealing Allowed On Release Of Pitch
  - Infield Fly Rule Applied
  - Drop Strike 3 rule in effect
- e) 13-18 Softball-Player Pitch distance 43ft
  - All players placed in line up and 9 players on defense.
  - Stealing Allowed On Release Of Pitch
  - Infield Fly Rule Applied
  - Drop Strike 3 rule in effect
- 13. Home Team Will
  - a. Occupy the 1<sup>st</sup> base dugout
  - b. Provide game balls
  - c. Will have batting cages 30 minutes before game time
  - d. Provide a book keeper for the official books
- 14. Visiting Team Will
  - a. Occupy the 3<sup>rd</sup> base dugout
  - b. Set up Tee if needed (will also lock these items up after last game)
  - c. Will have batting cages 1 hour before game time
  - d. Provide a score keeper to run the scoreboard.
- 15. Helmets with facemask will be worn for all batting practices and L-Screen must be used when pitching in cage.
- 16. Teams will not be able to take infield before their game.
- 17. You have a rule book, read it and ask questions, make sure you understand them as well as any other PSA local league rule.
- 18. Practices before the season starts will be scheduled by PSA. We will try and schedule you two practice per week, which you are allowed to swap with other coaches in your age group through your commissioner. After Games have begun you must schedule any practices through Shannon.
- 19. End of Season tournaments will be Pool Play into a single elimination tournament. Other rules will be put out before this tournament that will change or add to these rules.
- 20. Please use this time to teach your players during regular season. You will have time in the end of season tournament to play more competitively. PSA highly recommends that you rotate your players to different positions and rearrange your batting order, so each player gets a fair amount of plate appearances. Develop pitchers, it will help you when you get to the end of season tournament and helps the program grow.
- 21. Bat Rules: Please see updated bat rules on our documents page.
- 22. Metal Cleats are only allowed in 13-18 year olds.