

DGAL 2016 SOFTBALL - RULES & REGULATIONS

Junior League Rules (2nd half of the season)

Junior League is made up of girls in Grades K-2

Girls in other grades may be allowed to play in Junior League on a case by case basis, as determined by the Softball Commissioner and the Softball Committee.

Rules for the Pee wee League will be governed by the standard rules set forth by the ASA except where noted as follows:

1. Field:

- Pitching distance at the Junior Division will be 30ft with a player pitching and 35ft with the coach pitching.

2. Length of game:

- Each game will last 90 minutes or 6 innings, whichever is first. If an inning is in progress at the 90 minute mark, the current full inning will be finished. Umpire will keep official time.

3. Umpire:

- During the 2nd half of the season 1 youth umpire will be assigned to each game. The umpire is to be treated with respect at all times. The intention is that the games will be a learning experience for the umpires as well as the players. If no youth umpire is available, the home team shall provide one volunteer to umpire the game. If the home team cannot provide a volunteer, the other team may provide one. The umpire will call balls and strikes for both player pitch and coach pitch.

4. Batters/Runs per Inning:

- Coaches or player pitcher will pitch to each batter.
- Balls and strikes will be called. There will be no strikeouts or walks.
- The count will start 1-0. If ball 4 or strike 3 is reached before the player get a hit they will be allowed to hit off of the tee.
- Score will be kept during the 2nd half of the season.
- There will be a 4 run limit per half inning, to include the last inning.

5. Outs:

- **OUTS ON THE BASEPATHS COUNT! Once a team gets three outs, clear the bases, and continue batting through the planned last batter for the inning. It is critical to the girls development as players that this is enforced.**

6. Pitching:

- A defensive team has the choice of using a player pitcher during each of the first 2 innings. If the defensive team decides not to use a player pitcher, a coach of the offensive team shall pitch to the batters.
- Player pitchers may use a slingshot or windmill motion. Coaches should try to teach a legal pitching motion, but there is no illegal pitch in the Junior Division.
- A player may pitch a maximum of 2 innings per game. The innings do not need to be in consecutive order.
- If a player pitcher hits 2 players in an inning, a coach pitcher of the offensive team will finish pitching that inning.

- The defensive coach may choose to replace the player pitcher at any point in an inning.
- Any player hit by pitch has the choice of taking her base or hitting off of the tee.

7. Bunting

- Not allowed.

8. Base Running:

- **The Batter Runner:**

1. **Advancement:** For balls hit off live pitching, base runners may advance an unlimited number of bases. There is a two base limit on balls hit off a tee.
2. **Overthrows:** The batter-runner may not advance on an overthrow, the ball is dead.

- **Base Runners:**

1. **Leading Off:** Base runner(s) may take a lead of up to 5 feet off the base after the ball is released from the pitchers hand. No lead shall be taken when a player is hitting off of the tee.
2. **Stealing:** Stealing is not allowed.
3. **Overthrows:** On an overthrow, runners may continue to the base they were running when the defensive player threw the ball. They must stop when reaching the base.
4. **Outfield throws:** On a hit to the outfield, play will stop when the ball reaches the infield. Control of the ball is not necessary. If between bases, the batter-runner/baserunner may continue to the next base at the risk of being tagged out.

9. Dead Ball:

- A dead ball is when the pitcher or coach pitcher possesses the ball within the pitchers circle, and no play is being made on a base runner. While the ball is dead, no runner may advance or score. Runners must retreat to the bases they previously occupied.

10. Infield Positions:

- Each player must spend AT LEAST 1 inning per game playing an infield position. All infield positions apply, includes the Catcher position. We STRONGLY encourage coaches to play girls at least half the time in the infield. Teams are encouraged to rotate players between infield and outfield so they can gain experience, however, a player's safety shall always be considered before placing a player in the infield.
- Exemptions from this rule made by Softball Commissioner only.