

Riverfront 8U Softball Rules

1. Bases will be 60' apart.
2. A coach from the batting team will pitch from the 35' pitcher's mound.
3. The defensive team may have 1 or 2 coaches in the field. The purpose of the coaches is to assist players into the proper position and provide verbal guidance. The coaches may not physically assist a player in any manner.
4. 3 strike strike-outs are in effect. A batter will get up to 6 pitches. After the sixth pitch the batter will be called out (strike-out). There are no walks. If the batter fouls off the 6th pitch, or any pitch after the 6th pitch, the batter will receive an additional pitch.
5. Play will be considered dead when, in the opinion of the umpire, a player in the infield IS ATTEMPTING to return the ball to the pitcher and has possession of the ball with the intent of throwing the ball to the pitcher. A base runner who is already past the halfway point to the next base may continue to that base. If the runner has not reached the halfway point, the runner must return to the previous base. If a lead runner is forced to return to her previous base, any following runners must return to their previous base if forced. This is an umpire's judgement call.
6. The player pitcher must have both feet inside the circle and be to the left or right of the coach pitcher but must also be BEHIND the pitching rubber.
7. A team's entire roster will bat. Rosters will be exchanged prior to the game. **Coach pitchers must remain silent while on the playing field.**
8. Dropped third strike **will not** be used.
9. No leading off a base.
10. Stealing **is not** allowed.
11. No Infield Fly Rule.
12. Bunting **is not** allowed.
13. No sliding.
14. A defensive player may not block a base unless she is in **possession** of the ball.
15. Outfielders must start with both feet in the outfield grass.

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16. Outfielders may not cover a bag to make an out. They must throw the ball to the player playing that base.
17. Courtesy runners maybe used for a catcher or injured player. The courtesy runner is the last player to make an out. If there are no outs in the current at bat then the courtesy runner will be the player who was the last to bat when the third out was made in the previous inning.
18. Continuous walks **are not** in effect. (Going to second base immediately after a walk).
19. A new inning may not begin 1 hour and 45 minutes after **the start of the game.**
20. Games will be 6 innings in length. Games will be official after 4 innings (3 ½ innings if the home team is leading). If a game is called after 4 innings for weather or darkness, and the inning is not completed, the winner will be determined by score of the last completed inning.
21. Only one base on an overthrow when the ball is in foul territory. If the overthrow goes into fair territory players may advance as many bases as they wish.
22. There will be a 5 run rule or 3 outs per inning. The last inning will have unlimited runs. No runs can be scored after the 5th run (no continuation).
23. A 15 run mercy rule is in effect after 4 innings (3 ½ if the home team is leading).
24. 11” softballs with .47 cores, mid compression, either yellow or white will be used.
25. If a team does not have the minimum number of players 20 minutes after the posted start time of the game that team must forfeit.
26. A ball hit into the infield is a 1 base hit only, unless there is an overthrow, then runner can keep running to the next base(s).
27. A new inning may not begin 1 hour and 45 minutes after the start of the game.