

2026 EYSA SOFTBALL RULES & REGULATIONS

8UG (Coach Pitch)

EYSA follows the general guidelines provided by USA Softball, except for the following modifications.

1. GENERAL

- a. There are no protests in the coach pitch baseball program.
- b. EYSA will follow the basic rules of baseball play, in addition to the modifications listed herein.
- c. All parents/guardians must complete an Emergency Medical Authorization form for each participant in the game. The head coach is responsible for maintaining possession of these forms.

2. RAINOUTS

- a. Rainouts will be determined by the director of Fields and Courts up to 2-hours before the scheduled game time. The director of coaches will notify team coaches of rainouts. Team coaches will notify their team. If a rainout is not announced within 2-hours of a game, it will be a gametime umpire decision.
- b. Rainouts will be posted on EYSA's Facebook page. Coaches are responsible for ensuring that they communicate rainout information to parents.

3. UMPIRES

- a. EYSA may provide an umpire. If an umpire is not provided, coaches, parents and/or spectators may be used.
- b. Umpires have the authority to stop the game in the event of a spectator/participant who is disrupting the peaceful flow of the game. If the person continues to disrupt the peaceful flow of the game, the umpire may eject the person from the premises. An offender's failure to comply with an ejection may result in a forfeit.

4. SCORES

- a. Scores, standings, and stats will be kept. It is the winning coach's responsibility to report the score of their game within 24-hours of the end of their game.
- b. Teams are required to keep a scorebook on the Game Changer app. The home team's scorebook is the official book of record.

5. EQUIPMENT

- a. 10in Softballs will be used.
- b. All metal bats must have a USSSA, USABaseball or BBCore stamp. Wood bats no larger than 2 ¼" diameter are permitted. No cracked, dented, or damaged bats.
- c. Metal cleats are prohibited.
- d. All batters and baserunners must wear a helmet.

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- e. Players and coaches who intentionally throw equipment out of anger, frustration, or disapproval will be ejected from the game. No warning will be issued.

6. FIELD OF PLAY

- a. Coaches are not permitted to coach on the field.
- b. Distance between bases will be 60-feet.
- c. Distance from the pitcher's rubber to the plate will be 35-feet. Coaches must keep one foot on the pitching rubber when pitching.
- d. The umpire may define the outfield prior to the start of the game if the division between the infield and outfield is unclear.

7. ROSTERS

- a. All players must be registered with EYSA to participate.
- b. Players must wear their EYSA shirt as the outer-most garment that is reflective of the team on which they are rostered. A garment of like color may be used in the event of a missing shirt.
- c. Teams found playing unregistered players will forfeit their game. The head coach will be subject to review and suspension.
- d. Coaches are required to provide all players the opportunity to an equal amount of playing time during practices and games.
- e. Coaches shall provide the opposing team and the umpire with their batting order prior to the start of a game. Any changes to the batting order after that must be provided to the opposing team and umpire.
- f. There is a 10-minute grace period for teams to field 8 players. A team's failure to field 8 players within the grace period will result in a forfeit. Coaches may request substitute players from the Director of Coaches in accordance with the policy manual.
- g. All players are in the batting lineup at the start of a game. If a player shows up late, they are added to the end of the batting order.
- h. Players may re-enter the game, either on offense or defense.

8. INJURY/ILLNESS

- a. If a player becomes sick/injured and his/her spot is passed over in the lineup, it will count as an out the first time through the lineup when that player's turn comes up again.

9. LENGTH OF GAME

- a. A full game is 6-innings or 60-minutes. No new innings will start after the 60- minute mark, regardless of the score and/or inning.
- b. A regulation game shall be 3 innings (2 ½ if the home team leads) in the case of an umpiring ending a game.

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8UG (Coach Pitch)

- c. A 5-run rule is in effect.
 - i. If, on the same play that the 5th run crosses the plate, additional runs score prior to the end of the play, the additional runs will count unless they are the product of an error on the play.
- d. Last inning is unlimited runs.

10. DEFENSE

- a. A team may have no more than 10 players on the field and may have no more than 6 players on the infield.
- b. Pitchers must stand inside the pitching circle while the ball is being pitched.
- c. Players may not play the same position in consecutive innings.
- d. Players may not play in the outfield and sit on the bench in consecutive innings.
- e. All players should be rotated through outfield and infield positions during the game. This rule does not apply to pitchers and catchers as these are specialized positions that not all players can or want to play.

11. PITCHING

- a. Coaches or their designees will pitch to their own teams.
- b. Pitching coaches will keep 5 balls at the pitching area. After a ball is pitched, it's placed behind the catcher until the current at-bat is completed.

12. BATTING

- a. Bunting is prohibited.
- b. Batters that are hit by a pitch do not advance to first base.
- c. Batters will have 5 pitches to put in play regardless of the pitch quality (location, speed, etc.). If a batter fails to put a ball into play after the 5th pitch, she is out.
- d. Batters do not walk.
- e. Players who throw the bat may be issued a warning or called out. Thrown bats that strike any player, coach, or game official – regardless of the team the struck player is on – shall be called out without warning.
- f. Batted balls that hit the pitching coach are live. Pitching coaches must make a reasonable effort to avoid being hit by the ball. Those who do not may be called for interference.
- g. Order of batting (“improper batter”) is an appeal play.
 - i. Coaches must notify the umpire of the improper batter prior to pitching to the following batter.
 - ii. If an improper at bat has occurred and the follow batter has received a pitch, there is no appeal for an improper at bat.

2026 EYSA SOFTBALL RULES & REGULATIONS

8UG (Coach Pitch)

13. BASERUNNING

- a. Primary and secondary leads are prohibited.
- b. Stealing is prohibited.
- c. Runners may not advance on overthrows that remain in the infield. Overthrows that go into the outfield are considered live and runners may advance accordingly.
- d. If an overthrow results in a dead ball, runners will be awarded an extra base
- e. Runners may advance extra bases if the ball is hit into the outfield and may continue to advance until the ball is returned to the infield and controlled by a defensive player.
 - i. Runners who are more than $\frac{1}{2}$ way to the next base when the ball is returned to the infield may continue advancing to the next base.
 - ii. Runners who are less than $\frac{1}{2}$ way to the next base when the ball is returned to the infield must return to their previous base.
 - iii. It is the umpire's discretion as to the location of the runner in relation to when the ball was returned to the infield and controlled by the defense.
- f. No headfirst slides. Runners who slide headfirst will be called out.
- g. Diving back to a base is permitted.