



## 12U DIVISION SUPPLEMENTAL RULES for SPRING 2026

All rules will be adhered to USA softball rules and NAGS Gray Book rules with the exception of the following:

### Game Duration

1. No new inning may start after 1 hour and 30 minutes (90 min), **season games may end in tie**. Finish the inning. Playoffs and championship games require a winner.
2. If for any reason (sundown, etc.) an inning cannot be completed, the score will revert back to the end of the last completed inning unless the home team is ahead and batting at the time the game is called.
3. USA Mercy Rules apply (i.e., fifteen (15) runs ahead after the third inning, twelve (12) runs ahead after fourth inning, or eight (8) runs ahead after the fifth inning).

### Substitutions

4. All Players will be in the batting order, round robin.
5. Minimum of eight (8) defensive players on the field. Maximum of nine (9) defensive players on the field, three (3) outfielders with free substitution throughout the game.
6. No penalty for a player leaving the game for any reason. That position in the batting order will be skipped without an out recorded.
7. Unless due to injury, illness or absence, no player shall sit out defensively for more than one consecutive inning; not sit more than three total innings in one game.
8. Players arriving late will be placed at the bottom of the order and **may not be inserted into the middle** of the lineup.
9. One or more players may be **pulled-up** for a game when the manager reasonably believes it necessary to field a team of nine (9). Once pulled up, the player may play regardless of the number of players. Pull up players must play outfield and bat last.

### Pitching (40 feet from back of home plate)

10. No pitching restrictions for girls who were drafted unless the pitcher has been identified as a "known commodity" who did not try out. Such "known commodities" may not pitch all season. A late signup may only pitch after she has played in one half of the games available to her when she registered.
11. No pitcher may pitch more than nine (9) consecutive outs per game. Additionally, a pitcher must then not pitch for at least one inning before returning to the game as a pitcher for three (3) additional outs for a total of twelve (12) per game.
  - a. If a pitcher pitches thirteen (13) or more outs in a single game OR if that pitcher attempts a 13<sup>th</sup> out, that pitcher is considered "burned" and cannot pitch in the next game until the third inning.
  - b. Burn Rule – **ONLY APPLY in NAGS vs NAGS games and are not applicable during interleague games.**

12. If a pitcher hits three (3) batters in a game with a pitch, each of whom are awarded first base, that pitcher shall be deemed ineligible to pitch the balance of that game.
13. A pitcher who is forced out of the game as defined by USA rules may not re-enter regardless of the number of outs recorded.
14. There is a five (5) run per inning restriction. When the fifth run is scored, the pitcher of record will be charged with the remaining outs.
15. Known Commodity Rule:
  - a. A player who might be selected as a pitcher in the draft as determined by the managers and player representative at tryouts and/or the draft, who elects to not tryout to pitch is **ineligible** to pitch the entire season, including post-season. If pitching restrictions are lifted to the season, known commodities remain **ineligible** to pitch for the duration of the season and post-season. Her use as a pitcher will result in **game forfeiture and disciplinary action**.
  - b. If a girl who is NOT a known pitching commodity does not tryout as a pitcher, she is **ineligible** to pitch for the **first half of the season**. Her use as a pitcher during the first half of the season, will result in **game forfeiture and disciplinary action**. This rule is meant to encourage the use of drafted pitchers whom tried out.