



8U 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 20 minutes (80 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 ten (10) defensive players on the field, four (4) 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. **Only one player from another 8U team** may be borrowed for a game when the manager reasonably believes it necessary to field a team of nine (9). All borrowed players will adhere to the existing call up rules (plays outfield only and bats last). **All other borrowed/call ups must be from 6U**.
10. Four (4) outfielders are permissible.
11. **EVERY player must play a position in the infield for a full inning by the end of the 4th inning**. No exceptions, except for safety reasons which will be discussed between the managers before game start. **Failure to do so will result in that team's forfeiture of the game.**

Pitching (30 feet from back of home plate)

12. No pitcher may pitch more than six (6) 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 nine (9) per game.
 - a. If a pitcher exceeds these limits they are considered "burned". This means they may not pitch in the next game at NAGS unless there have been six (6) consecutive outs or two (2) complete innings in the following game.
 - b. Burn Rule – **ONLY APPLY in NAGS vs NAGS games and are not applicable during interleague games.**

13. If a pitcher hits five (5) 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.
14. Coach pitch as follows:
 - a. After four (4) balls batter will receive three (3) coach pitches if there are no strikes.
 - b. After four (4) balls batter will receive two (2) coach pitches if there is one (1) strike.
 - c. After four (4) balls batter will receive one (1) coach pitch if there are two (2) strikes.
 - If last coach pitch is fouled, the player will get another pitch until ball is in play or out.
 - d. In the event of a hit batter by coach, it will still be counted as 1 coach pitch.
 - e. Coach pitch will be used **only** after a pitcher has allowed 2 walks per inning (2 awarded bases).
 - f. Coach Pitch – runner/s will advance maximum of one base.
15. There is a four (4) run per inning restriction. When the fourth run is scored, the pitcher of record will be charged with the remaining outs.
16. 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.

Baserunning

17. Home Plate is "Cold".
18. One base will be awarded on an overthrow.
19. The play is considered Dead Ball when the pitcher has the ball in possession in the circle.
20. Walk up music is allowed and music can be played in-between innings until the Umpire calls for "balls in".