

Red River Softball Association – 2023 League Rules – 8U

1. **FIELD DIMENSIONS:**
 - a. Bases – 60 feet
 - b. Coach Pitch Line – 30 feet
 - c. Pitcher Circle – 8-foot radius around 40' pitching plate
 - d. Half way hashes marked between bases
2. **GAME:** 5 innings or 60-minute time limit
3. **INNING RUN RULE:** 5 runs.
4. **GAME ENDING RUN RULE:** 10 runs after the 4th.
5. **OFFENSIVE:**
 - a. Continuous batting order of all players.
 - b. The coach will throw five (5) pitches. A swing and miss constitutes a strike. The batter can strike out. **(Note: if the batter fouls the 5th pitch, she will continue to receive a pitch until she swings and misses or puts the ball in play.)** There will be no walks.
 - c. Players arriving after the umpire has started the game will be entered at the end of the batting order.
 - d. A substitute or “pinch” runner for an injured player will be the batter who made the last out.
 - e. An automatic out is taken for the 8th batter when playing with the seven (7) player minimum. There will be no out for the 9th or 10th batter.
 - f. Safety Bag must be in place at first base.
6. **DEFENSIVE:**
 - a. Ten (10) players in the field (4 outfielders). Infield must be filled first, this includes catcher.
 - b. Seven (7) players minimum to field a team. NOTE: The missing 8th player will result in an automatic out. The 9th and 10th players are not scored as automatic outs.
 - c. All players must play in normal defensive positions. Infielders will be no closer than five (5) feet in front of the baselines until the ball is hit. Outfielders will be no closer than ten (10) feet behind the baselines until the ball is hit.
 - d. The player pitcher must be in the circle at the time the pitches are thrown by the coach.
 - e. Players must not “ROLL” or “BOWL” the ball in an effort to put out a base runner. Players must throw the ball. Failure to conform to this rule will result in the batter-runner/base runner being declared safe (this is all bases including home).
 - f. **All infield players must wear face mask**
7. **ADVANCE ON AN OVERTHROW:** Runners may advance until the ball is in control inside the circle or until the lead runner is stopped.
8. **FREE SUBSTITUTION:** Allowed.
9. **MANDATORY PLAYING TIME:** See RRSA Rules (G).
10. **BUNTING:** Not allowed.
11. **INFIELD FLY RULE:** Not applicable.
12. **STOPPING OF PLAY:** Pitcher must have control of the ball within the eight (8) foot circle, or the defensive player with the ball must be in a position to stop advancement of the lead runner until time is called by the umpire. NOTE: Base runners that are at least half way to the next base when time is called shall advance to the next base. If the base runner is not to the half way mark, the base runner will return to their base of origin.
13. **PITCHING:** Coach will pitch 5 pitches to the batter. Strikes for a swing and miss will be called. The batter can strike out. There are no walks. NOTE: Once the ball is put into play, the coach pitcher must exit the field in a manner that will cause the least obstruction to the play. Interference by the coach will be an umpire-based judgment call and is not debatable.
14. **COACH PITCHER HIT BY BATTED BALL:** In the event that a coach is hit by a ball put into play by the batter, the ball is considered a dead ball/no pitch. The batter is not penalized in this case.
15. **BASE STEALING:** Not allowed.
16. **BASE RUNNER:** The base runner must maintain contact with the base until the ball is hit. Any violation will result in the base runner being declared out.
17. **LEAGUE STANDINGS:** Town commissioners will be responsible for keeping win loss record for the purpose of All Stars. See General Rules for explanation.
18. **BALL SIZE:** 11-inch official ASA fast pitch softball.
19. **ABBREVIATED GAMES:** In the event of inclement weather or darkness, a game will be ruled official if the losing team has batted at least three (3) complete innings. The score will revert to the last complete inning to determine the winner. If three (3) full innings have not been completed, the game will be declared a suspended game. See RRSA Rules and Regulations (J).
20. **COACH ROLE:** The coach pitcher is the only coach allowed on the field. The pitching coach may NOT overtly coach or encourage the batter to swing at a specific pitch or at a specific time. NOTE: Once the ball is put into play, the coach pitcher must exit the field in a manner that will cause the least

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obstruction to the play. Interference by the coach will be an umpire-based judgment call and is not debatable.