

Hudson Kiwanis Girls Softball Rules

GENERAL RULES & FIELD SET-UP

1. The recreational Girls softball league is reserved for girls 10 and under as of January 1 of the playing year.
2. The team roster will be limited to 13 unless the League commissioner determines otherwise. In some cases rosters will be smaller to establish more teams while maintaining the integrity of the game.
3. The softball used for each game shall be a 11" Softie ball issued by Hudson Kiwanis
4. The field dimensions will be as follows: a) 60 feet base path distance b) 30 feet pitching distance as measured from the front of the pitching rubber to the back of home plate. c) 84 feet 10 inches is the distance from the back of home plate to the back of second base.
5. The home plate will be 17" wide and the black extension parts will be used to call balls and strikes. There will be no balls and strikes for 6U and 8U, only a pitch count.
6. The use of a safety base at first is recommended.
7. Coaches can't reschedule games without consulting with the commissioner.
8. Games rain-out or cancelled must be rescheduled with the commissioner's approval.
9. Any violations of the Hudson Kiwanis rules shall be subject to discipline up to and including forfeiture of game.
10. If the league chooses, in the best interest of the players, to join a league outside of Hudson, the commissioner will communicate that and provide an option to participate. For games scheduled outside of Hudson, the commissioners will decide on the time and location of the games.
11. Umpires and coaches will meet before the game to discuss ground rules and mutually agreed upon rule exceptions if needed.
12. Only the manager or designated coach may talk to the UMPIRE. All umpire decisions are final. Arguing with, intimidating and/or disrespecting an umpire is ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED. All coaches are responsible and accountable for the actions of their respective team players and players' parents/guardians. The Hudson Kiwanis Board takes this issue very seriously and is prepared to take action.
13. Players are encouraged to cheer/chatter if it is not directed at the opposing team. Players may only use "positive or encouraging" chants while on the bench.
14. **CALL UPS:** If a team is running low on required players to complete their roster for a game, they can "CALL UP" players from the league below. For example, 10U teams can ask 8U players to play up in a game. The coach is responsible for contacting another coach to inquire about a player playing up. Coaches contact information will be provided. This typically happens due to kids taking summer vacations, etc.
15. Player Safety: All batters must have a helmet with a face guard. All fielders need to have a mask
16. All teams will have a team name and will be provided jersey, pants, bows, etc.
17. Kiwanis will provide equipment. We will schedule time in the next week for you to pick up your equipment
18. NO METAL SPIKES OF ANY KIND ARE TO BE WORN.
19. All bats must be of softball specifications
20. All players are on the bench except for the on deck batter.
21. Each team will have a sponsor.
22. Throwing the bat: The first time a player throws a bat they will receive a warning unless another person is hit by the bat, then the batter is out. The second time a player throws the bat they are out. If a player intentionally throws a bat, they are out of the game.

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23. All games are to start on time.
24. A regular order of batting shall be always maintained. All players on each team will bat in order, whether they are playing in the field at the time. NOTE: Anyone that comes late for a game must be inserted at the end of the batting line up.
25. The home team is responsible for setting up and taking down the field. However, it is encouraged that both teams work together.
26. HAVE FUN!! ENJOY THE GAME!

LENGTH OF GAME

1. Each game is scheduled for 1 hour and 30 minutes (90 minutes) or 6 innings whichever comes first.
2. In the event of inclement weather, the completion of 3 innings constitutes a game. If there is lightning, rain or thunder, which impedes player safety, the game needs to be immediately stopped. If lightning is observed, no game can resume until 30 minutes after the last lightning strike was observed.

6U & UNDER LEAGUE

PITCHING

1. The 6 and under league will be T-ball for $\frac{3}{4}$ of the season with the remaining $\frac{1}{4}$ of the season will be coach pitch.
2. For coach pitch, coaches will pitch a maximum of four pitches for the player to hit. If the player does not hit, the player will use the tee.
3. A maximum of 2 coaches in addition to the coach can be on the field for defensive instructional purposes. On offense the coach can have a first and third base coach.
4. Each team may supply a person to assist in retrieving passed balls

BATTING, BASE RUNNING AND FIELDING

5. All 6U players bat in an inning. If a defensive player gets an offensive player out, the offensive player is out. If the defensive team does get 3 outs the inning is over; otherwise the inning is over once all players for a given team have batted.
6. A minimum of 7 players will be permitted to play defense in 6U. A pitcher, 4 infielders and 2 outfielders. If you have more than 7 players you can play an additional player in the outfield.
7. Players must play at least 1 inning in the infield and 1 inning in the outfield.
8. No player can sit on the bench for consecutive innings unless they are injured.
9. There is no score keeping in 6U league play.
10. There is no bunting or stealing in 6U league play.

8U & UNDER LEAGUE

PITCHING

Hudson Kiwanis Girls Softball Rules

1. The 8 and under league will be coach pitch for $\frac{3}{4}$ of the season with the remaining $\frac{1}{4}$ of the season will be kid pitch.
2. During kid pitch the player will have four pitches, if the batter does not hit and or strike out the batter, the coach will come in and pitch four additional pitches.
3. A maximum of 2 coaches in addition to the coach pitch can be on the field for defensive instructional purposes. On offense the coach can have a first and third base coach.
4. During kid pitch, it is important for the pitchers to adhere to the following pitching rules:
 - a. Both feet must be touching the rubber when starting.
 - b. The pitcher must pause to look for a sign to prevent quick pitches. The catcher doesn't have to give a sign.
 - c. The pitcher must present the ball by touching the glove once before the delivery
 - d. No rocking, crow hopping or double windups are permitted.
 - e. The pitcher's stance must be with the shoulders lined up with 1st and 3rd bases.
 - f. A maximum of 3 warm up pitches for a returning pitcher and 6 for a new pitcher.
5. Each team may supply a person to assist in retrieving passed balls

BATTING, BASE RUNNING AND FIELDING

6. Each half inning consists of 3 outs or 5 runs, whichever comes first.
7. 10 players will be permitted to play defense. Pitcher, 4 infielders, 4 outfielders, and catcher.
8. In coach pitch the player gets 6 pitches. The player will be pitched a total of six pitches. The player will be permitted 6 pitches, if the ball is not in play it will be concluded as a strikeout or the batter could put a ball in play.
9. Players must play at least 1 inning in the infield and 1 inning in the outfield.
10. No player can sit on the bench for consecutive innings unless they are injured.
11. Scoring will be kept in 8U league play. The first two games of the season will be considered "Spring Training" and score will not be kept. All other games a score will be kept and used for seeding in the end of the year playoffs.
12. There is no bunting or stealing in 8U league play.
13. If a batted ball hits a runner before a fielder, the runner is out.
14. A player may advance beyond 1st base and a runner in front of the batter may advance more than one base as long as the ball has made it into the outfield and a play to get her out has not been made. All base runners must remain at their current base or the base they are advancing to, if they have advanced at least half way to the next base at the time the ball reaches the infield.
15. A player cannot advance an extra base on an overthrow.
16. No infield fly rule.
17. Sliding is optional. However, a player must avoid "stand up" collisions or they can be called out. Sliding MUST BE FEET FIRST. NO HEAD FIRST SLIDES.
18. Players cannot tag up on a fly out.
19. A player catching a foul ball will be considered an out.

10 & UNDER LEAGUE

PITCHING

Hudson Kiwanis Girls Softball Rules

1. The 10 and under will be player pitch. Each half inning consists of 3 outs or 5 runs, whichever comes first.
2. The strike zone will be liberal – borderline pitches will be called strikes. Chalk to Chalk and knees to shoulders approximately. 4 balls will constitute a walk and three strikes will constitute a strike.
3. During kid pitch, it is important for the pitchers to adhere to the following pitching rules:
 - a. Both feet must be touching the rubber when starting.
 - b. The pitcher must pause to look for a sign to prevent quick pitches. The catcher doesn't have to give a sign.
 - c. The pitcher must present the ball by touching the glove once before the delivery
 - d. No rocking, crow hopping or double windups are permitted.
 - e. The pitcher's stance must be with the shoulders lined up with 1st and 3rd bases.
 - f. A maximum of 3 warm up pitches for a returning pitcher and 6 for a new pitcher.
4. Coaches are allowed two (2) visits to the mound per game per pitcher. The pitcher must be replaced on the 3rd visit but can remain in the game at another position.

BATTING, BASE RUNNING AND FIELDING

5. 10 players will be permitted to play defense. Pitcher, 4 infielders, 4 outfielders, and catcher
6. Base runners can leave the base once the ball is released by the pitcher but cannot advance from 1st base to 2nd base unless the ball is put in play or a forced walk
7. Scoring will be kept in 10U league play. The first two games of the season will be considered "Spring Training" and score will not be kept. All other games a score will be kept and used for seeding in the end of the year playoffs.
8. Bunting is allowed in 10U league play.
9. Players can steal from second to third, but they cannot steal from
10. Players must play at least 1 inning in the infield and 1 inning in the outfield.
11. No player can sit on the bench for consecutive innings unless they are injured.
12. If a batted ball hits a runner before a fielder, the runner is out.
13. A player may advance beyond 1st base and a runner in front of the batter may advance more than one base as long as the ball has made it into the outfield and a play to get her out has not been made. All base runners must remain at their current base or the base they are advancing to, if they have advanced at least half way to the next base at the time the ball reaches the infield.
14. A player can advance one extra base on an overthrow.
15. A player cannot advance on a dropped third strike.
16. No infield fly rule
17. Sliding is optional. However, a player must avoid "stand up" collisions or they can be called out. Sliding MUST BE FEET FIRST. NO HEAD FIRST SLIDES.
18. Players cannot tag up on a fly out.
19. A player catching a foul ball will be considered an out.