

USA D2 FALL RULES 2021

ALL DIVISIONS, PLEASE OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING IN ALL LOCATIONS:

NO SOFT TOSS OR TEE-HITTING INTO FENCES (unless you are using foam or wiffle balls).

WHEN THE GAME IS OVER, PLEASE VACATE THE DUGOUT AND THE FIELD AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. IF YOU WANT TO TALK TO YOUR GIRLS, PLEASE ASSEMBLE THEM OFF THE FIELD.

At all levels, in case of rain, darkness, etc, game is official after four innings (3.5 innings if home team is ahead). The organizers reserve the right to modify rules as the season goes on, if it is in the best interest of the league and fair play

Physical Addresses:

Clark / Brewer Complex - 430 Westfield Ave, Clark

Contacts: Anthony Ventura, anthonyventura1972@gmail.com, 732-947-2719
Brian McNair, bmcnair425@gmail.com, 908-296-7801

Elmora / Elizabeth - Hanratty, 914 Westfield Ave, Elizabeth;
Sisselman Field, 1090 Neck Lane, Elizabeth

Contact: Manny Medina, mmedina0623@yahoo.com, 908-377-7786

Roselle Park Youth Baseball and Softball League Fields - 178 W. Webster Ave. RP

Contacts: Brian Downey, bands.downey@gmail.com, 973-460-9419
Dan O'Connell, daniel.oconnell@contentcritical.com, 917-217-0942

South Plainfield Ponytail Park – 507 Amboy Ave. South Plainfield

Contact: Gary Cassio, garrettcassio@gmail.com, 908-966-2947

Warren / Bardy Road - 99 Bardy Road, Warren

Contact: Alex Romero, arom23@gmail.com, 732-682-7264

LINEUPS

Games will not begin until you have handed the umpire physical lineup cards, including the full name – First and Last – of all players, their positions, and their uniform numbers. The umpire will inspect them, and then give them to your opponent. If you are using substitutes (and not batting the roster) you also need to list them.

I have instructed my umpires not to begin any game until both teams have handed in their lineup cards

Time Constraints - Please treat every game as a tournament situation, and move the games along.

- * Pitchers get 3 warm-ups, 5 at beginning of the game and for new pitcher
- * No infield / outfield balls after first inning
- * 8U, no new inning after 75 minutes
- * 10U, no new inning after 80 minutes
- * 12U / 14U, no new inning after 90 minutes
- * Get catchers off and geared up for next inning by using courtesy runner

PLAYOFF ELIGIBILITY / DOUBLE ROSTERING

All teams must keep an accurate book / electronic record showing all personnel used in games. Any player who has not played at least four regular season games for that squad (barring documented injury) is NOT ELIGIBLE to appear in the playoffs. If a player is challenged as being ineligible, and you are unable to document through your book that the player has appeared in the requisite number of game, she will be barred from appearing in the playoffs. The use of an ineligible player will also subject that team / town to further discretionary sanctions from the league.

Players may be cross-rostered between 12U and 14U teams, and may appear in the playoffs for both squads, as long as they have satisfied the minimum game rule above. Players from other town squad who are age-eligible may appear on an emergent basis if they are needed to field a team, but may not pitch, and of course will not be playoff-eligible.

14U Rules

USA Softball rules, as modified by D2 Parkway rules:

7 inning game, time permitting; ties are permitted; No new inning after 90 minutes. (No drop dead) 10-run "mercy rule" - losing team must bat 5 times

Further modifications for D2 Fall League:

Roster batting is ALLOWED BUT NOT MANDATORY

For fielding, there are no "maximum play" or "minimum play" rules

9 fielders, three outfielders must be in the outfield grass when the ball is pitched. However, there is no mandatory "forfeit" for being short players, and there will be no outs declared for "missing" lineup members

Pitcher's rubber at 43 feet.

Continuing pitcher limited to 3 warm-ups, including "coming down." New pitcher gets 5. Courtesy runner for pitcher, catcher – last batted out

For playoff games, ITB after time limit or 7 innings in case of a tie game

Seeding for playoffs: Record; Head to Head; runs allowed; coin flip

IT IS NEVER IN YOUR INTEREST, FOR SEEDING PURPOSES, TO RUN THE SCORE UP ON A WEAKER TEAM. RUN DIFFERENTIAL IS NOT USED FOR SEEDING

12U Rules

The league will observe all USA Softball Rules; EXCEPT

As modified by D2 Parkway rules:

10 players may be used in the field, but if 10 are used, there must be four players on the outfield grass when the ball is pitched

10-run "mercy rule" - losing team must bat 5 times

Further modifications for D2 Fall League

Roster batting is ALLOWED BUT NOT MANDATORY

For fielding, there are no "maximum play" or "minimum play" rules

There is no mandatory "forfeit" for being short players, and there will be no outs declared for "missing" lineup members

No new inning may begin after 90 minutes. No "drop dead" or inning reversion

Continuing pitcher limited to 3 warm-ups, including "coming down." New pitcher gets 5.

Courtesy runner for catcher, pitcher is last batted out

7 inning game, time permitting; ties are permitted

For playoff games, ITB after time limit or 7 innings in case of a tie game

Seeding for playoffs: Record; Head to Head; runs allowed; coin flip

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10U Rules

The league will observe all USA Softball Rules; EXCEPT

As modified by D2 Parkway rules:

6 inning game

No dropped third strike

No infield fly

Leading and stealing will follow the D2Parkway League 2020 Rules:

Stealing 3rd base ONLY is allowed on release of the ball by the pitcher. A runner on 2nd base may advance to 3rd base on an errant pickoff throw attempt to second base.

Under no circumstances may a runner advance home or to second base on an errant pickoff attempt; nor may the runner advance home on an errant throw to third base made in an attempt to catch the runner stealing. Runners are, however, subject to being put out if they are off the bag.

The runner need not leave 2nd base to steal immediately as the ball is released by the pitcher. As long as she leaves the base before the ball is again controlled by the pitcher in the circle, that is a legal steal.

Runners may lead from any base on release of the pitch, but of course are subject to being put out.

Pitcher's rubber at 35 feet.

No fake bunting (no "butcher boy")

10 players may be used in the field, but if 10 are used, there must be four players on the outfield grass when the ball is pitched

12-run "mercy rule" - losing team must bat 4 times 8-run "mercy rule" – losing team must bat 5 times

Further modifications for D2 Fall League

Teams must roster bat.

Inning End / 5 run max – The inning comes to an end when: 3 outs have been recorded OR 5 runs have been scored. There is no max if it is the last inning as deemed by the umpire and 2 managers

If a game goes to extra innings, the pitching inning limit is waived. Roster batting is mandatory
For fielding, there are no "maximum play" or "minimum play" rules

There is no mandatory "forfeit" for being short players, and there will be no outs declared for "missing" lineup members.

The USA Softball "Look Back" rule will not be strictly enforced. However, coaches and umpires should instruct players appropriately as a development point to inform them that they must immediately return, or advance, to a base once a pitcher has the ball in the circle after a pitched ball.

Game times:

No new inning after 80 minutes.

Continuing pitcher limited to 3 warm-ups, including "coming down." New pitcher gets 5. Courtesy runner for catcher, pitcher – last batted out

Seeding for playoffs: Record; Head to Head; runs allowed; coin flip

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8U - Play governed by 2021 USA Softball rules, with the following modifications:

1. Five runs maximum per inning. There will be no run limit for the last inning of the game, as agreed by the umpire and coaches
2. Regulation game is 6 innings. Game may be called, and is official, after four innings, or if the home team is winning after 3 1/2 innings.
3. Run Ahead Rule - 12 runs after the losing team has batted at least four times
4. Roster batting is mandatory
5. The minimum number of players to begin the game is 6. If a team has 6 players, when a girl leaves that lineup for any reason, no out will be recorded in her spot. Teams who are short-handed may **not** borrow fielders from the opposing team.
6. There is no infield fly rule or dropped 3rd strike rule.
7. Bunting, and stealing are not allowed. The runner may come off the bag with contact, or as the ball crosses the plate. She may not advance if the ball is not put into play, but she is in jeopardy of being put out.
8. Coaches will pitch to their own players from 35 feet. Walks are not allowed. The batter shall be called out after three swinging strikes or after she receives six pitches and does not put the ball into play. The umpire will call only the sixth pitch. If the sixth pitch is not swung at and is called a strike, then the batter is out. If the sixth pitch fouled off or called a ball, the batter gets another pitch, which will also be called by the umpire.
9. The coach who is pitching must make every effort to avoid interfering with the defensive play on a batted ball. If, in the umpire's judgment, the coach intentionally interferes with a defensive play or if the coach fails to make a good faith effort to avoid the interference, the play should be called dead, the batter shall be called out, and the runners shall return to the bases they occupied prior to the play. The coach who is pitching must remain silent from the start of the pitch until the end of the play.
10. Infield Hit - Base runners are limited to one base on all batted balls hit in the infield. No advances are allowed for overthrows to any base.
11. Outfield Hit - Base runners may take additional bases on all batted balls hit into the outfield, defined as any ground or fly ball that goes 10 feet beyond the base path or any ball that is fielded by an outfielder. The umpire must carefully note where the runners are at the moment the ball has been returned to the infield and is controlled by an infielder. Runners remain in jeopardy of being put out. At the end of the play, the umpire will decide the proper position for the runners. Those who had not attained the halfway point between bases at the moment the ball was controlled on the infield, will be returned to previous base attained at the moment the ball was controlled. For runners who had attained at least the halfway point between the bases, the result of the play will stand.

Again, the ball is not "dead" when controlled by the infielder on the infield. The umpire should allow play to continue, and then take appropriate action at the end of the play, based on her judgment. The

coach who is pitching must make every effort to avoid interfering with the defensive play on a batted ball. If, in the umpire's judgment, the coach intentionally interferes with a defensive play or if the coach fails to make a good faith effort to avoid the interference, the play should be called dead, the batter shall be called out, and the runners shall return to the bases they occupied prior to the play. The coach who is pitching must remain silent from the start of the pitch until the end of the play. had attained at least the halfway point between the bases, the result of the play will stand.

COACHES IN THE FIELD - COACHES MAY BE IN THE FIELD FOR 08UB PLAY ONLY. DEFENSIVE COACHES MUST BE OUTSIDE THE LINES FOR 08UA PLAY

For playoff games, ITB after time limit or 6 innings in case of a tie game
Seeding for playoffs: Record; Head to Head; runs allowed; coin flip

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