

SGSL and Interleague 10U Division – UPDATE April 25, 2021

9 - 10 year olds

U10 will follow the 2020 Official Rules of Softball Participant Manual developed by USA Softball. For specific questions to standard rules, please refer to the manual. House Rules for the 2021 Recreational Season with Cumberland, Lincoln and Smithfield are as follows:

1. Players will pitch in this division. Players who walk four batters in a row (in the same inning) should be switched out for a different player.
2. Pitchers are limited to a max of 3 innings pitched per game.
3. A safely hit ball will allow both the batter and all base runners to advance as many bases as they chose with the possibility of getting put out.
4. Coaches are not allowed to be on the field to provide instruction.
5. Games will be 6 innings in length, unless shortened by the run ahead rule. No new inning will begin after 80 minutes. League games can end in a tie.
6. Run ahead rule: If a team is ahead by 12 runs after 4 complete innings (3 and ½ innings, if the home team is ahead), or 8 runs after 5 complete innings (4 and ½ innings if the home team is ahead), the game is over.
7. A maximum of 4 runs can be scored in all innings.
8. For obvious reasons, there will be no infield fly rule in this division.
9. A continuous batting order is to be used (all players bat). Should a player be unable to take her turn at bat for any reason, proceed to the next scheduled batter without penalty. The player that was unable to take her turn at bat is out of the lineup, and cannot return to that game. Free defensive substitutions.
10. All players must play a minimum of 2 innings on defense unless the game is shortened by the run rule.
11. Each player that throws the bat will be given one warning, the next time the same player throws the bat, an out will be recorded whether the ball was hit or not. If the ball was safely hit, all base runners will return to the base that they previously occupied.
12. Pitching distance will be 35 feet for this division. Base distance will be 60 ft
13. Stealing is allowed (passed ball or caught ball). No stealing home plate even on a passed ball. There is no drop third strike in this division.

14. 10 defensive players in the field, 6 in the infield, 4 in the outfield. The four outfielders do not necessarily need to be on the outfield grass in order to be considered an outfielder; however they must play behind the infielders, not along side of them. An outfielder cannot make a play in the infield unless the play is unassisted, (i.e. an outfielder cannot play over the second base bag and accept throws)
15. Players can tag up and advance to the next base on a ball caught in the air.
16. Air horns and other noise makers are not allowed.
17. Team cheers will be positive in nature and should be designed to rally the team that is doing the cheering, not to razz the opponent.
18. As is the rule for all USA Softball youth tournaments, no alcoholic beverages are allowed on the premises. Coaches please inform the adults that are associated with your team. No smoking is allowed on the field or in and near the dug out area.
19. There will be no arguing or disputing umpire judgment calls period! If this takes place, the offending coach will be given one warning that will apply to the entire coaching staff. If it occurs again the game will be declared a forfeit.
20. Only the head coach is allowed to speak to the umpire or state official when it comes to interpretation of the 8U playing rules. The game will be stopped and then resumed after clarification of the rule in question is completed. When the game is stopped, the timer is stopped also.
21. Courtesy Runners
The last scheduled batter at the time when a courtesy runner is needed will be the runner for a player that requires a courtesy runner. The insertion of an incorrect courtesy runner discovered after the next pitch is thrown will result in an out. Should the incorrect runner be discovered prior to the next pitch being thrown, the correct runner is inserted without penalty.

Example 1: The first batter of the inning pops out for the first out of the inning, the next batter gets a hit, and requires a courtesy runner. The courtesy runner is the batter that just made the first out of that inning.

Example 2: There are no outs in the inning when the first batter gets on base, the courtesy runner is the last scheduled batter in the lineup at that time