

West Sac Girls Softball: 12U Division Rules for 2024



West Sac Girls Softball (WSGS) is a member of [USA Softball](#) and [NorCal Girls Softball Association](#). WSGS follows [NorCal rules of play](#) and supplements them with their own local rules. West Sac Girls Softball local rules appear in bold in this document.

Change Log	1
1.0 INNINGS & TIME	1
2.0 EQUIPMENT & FIELD	2
3.0 DEFENSE	2
4.0 PITCHING	2
5.0 OFFENSE	3
6.0 HITTING	3
7.0 RUNNING	3
8.0 OTHER	3

Change Log

This change log describes the changes to last year's rules.

Date	Change
2/21/2024	Added rule 3.7: All Players must wear a facemask while playing defense.
2/21/2024	Changed rule 5.1: Old version: New version: Five up Rule Applies- You are allowed to score 5 runs each until there is 20 minutes left in the games at that point if the game is tied and at the start of a new inning rule 1.3 "International tie breaker" will be implemented. The home team is responsible for letting the umpires know when the 5 runs have been reached. Five up Rule Example- Example: Team A can score 5 runs and the inning is called if team B has no runs. Then team B comes up to bat, team B can score a total of 10 runs - its first 5 and then an additional 5 - then team B will be 5 up.
2/21/2024	Changed rule 6.2:

	<p>Old version:</p> <p>New version: Dropped 3rd strike. When the catcher fails to catch the third strike before the ball touches the ground, there are fewer than two outs and first base is not occupied at the time of the pitch or any time there are two outs." If the batter does run, the catcher must tag or throw out the runner at first base to complete the out.</p>
2/21/2024	<p>Changed rule 6.4: Old version:</p> <p>New version: Dropped 3rd strike. When the catcher fails to catch the third strike before the ball touches the ground, there are fewer than two outs and first base is not occupied at the time of the pitch or any time there are two outs." If the batter does run, the catcher must tag or throw out the runner at first base to complete the out.</p>

1.0 INNINGS & TIME

- 1.1 Regulation game is 7 innings.
- 1.2 Game length 1 hr 30 min; cannot start new inning after 1 hr 30 min unless tied and umpire determines there is sufficient light to play an additional inning.
- 1.3 Sudden death rules or "international tiebreaker" then applies with the last batter from the previous inning starting the new inning at 2nd base; once a new inning is called, it must be completed unless the game is called due to darkness, in which case final score is that of the last complete inning.
- 1.4 Home plate umpire and scorekeeper shall keep time.

2.0 EQUIPMENT & FIELD

- 2.1 Ball 12 inches.
- 2.2 Base 60 ft.
- 2.3 Pitching 40 ft.
- 2.4 Outfield is defined as 10' from the natural baseline.
 - If space allows, a 10' chalk line should be marked and used by the umpire.
 - If Field size or conditions do not allow for a 10' line to be reasonably marked in the infield, the outfield grass will be used as the line between infield and outfield

3.0 DEFENSE

3.1 Minimum of 8 defensive players to field a team; team will forfeit if they have less than 8 players.

3.2 Play 9 defensively, can play 10 if agreeable to both teams; 10th player must play outfield.

3.3 Free substitution of defensive players at any time subject to minimum play requirements.

3.4 All players should get an equal amount of game starts. That is, the same players should not be out of the game defensively to start in a majority of the games over the season. If possible, the same players should not be out of the game defensively to start in successive games.

3.5 Minimum rules apply-12 players/12 outs by the top of the 4th inning.

3.6 Every player will be given the opportunity to play an infield position at least one inning per game. Two innings of infield per player is recommended, however infield positions will be predicated on safety of players.

3.7 All Players must wear a facemask while playing defense.

4.0 PITCHING

4.1 Walks awarded after four balls.

4.2 Pitchers have 1 minute or 5 pitches to warm up.

4.3 No player can pitch more than 7 innings in two consecutive games. Rainouts or missed games by a player do not count in a two-game sequence. Each team shall record innings pitched by players in their scorebooks which are available for review by the opposing team. Pitchers are ineligible to pitch in a given game (assumed to have filled their 7 inning limit) if pitching inning totals cannot be determined from the scorebook. Scorebook must note absent players.

4.4 One or more pitches by a pitcher counts as an inning.

4.5 Illegal pitches shall be questioned only by the head coach of the opposing team and in conference with the umpire and other head coach.

4.6 Hit batters awarded 1st base.

5.0 OFFENSE

5.1 Five Run Rule- You are allowed to score 5 runs each per inning. If the game is tied, there is less than 20 minutes left in the game and at the start of a new inning rule 1.3 "International tie breaker" will be implemented. The inning must be completed by both teams for the inning to count. If the inning is not completed because of darkness, weather, or other safety concerns the score

reverts back to the previous inning. The home team is responsible for letting the umpires know when the 5 runs have been reached.

6.0 HITTING

6.1 Bat the entire game roster in whether play defense or not. This will ensure that every player on the team receives the same number of at bats throughout the season.

6.2 Dropped 3rd strike. When the catcher fails to catch the third strike before the ball touches the ground, there are fewer than two outs and first base is not occupied at the time of the pitch or any time there are two outs." If the batter does run, the catcher must tag or throw out the runner at first base to complete the out.

6.3 Infield fly rule.

- Definition: Batter is out on a fair fly ball (not including a line drive or an attempted bunt) which can be caught by an infielder, pitcher or catcher with ordinary effort when first and second, or first, second, and third bases are occupied with less than two outs.

6.4 Courtesy runner (player making the last out) may be used for the pitcher or catcher only when there are 2 outs and the pitcher or catcher is a base runner.

6.5 If a player leaves the game for any reason before the end of the game, that player will be removed from the line- up for the remainder of the game. When that player is scheduled to bat that position will be skipped with no consequence.

7.0 RUNNING

7.1 Leadoffs and stealing (including home) allowed.

7.2 Two bases can be taken on an overthrow of a ball beyond the field boundary lines and into an out of play area.

8.0 OTHER

8.1 All-star season and winter league.

8.2 No jewelry of any kind worn at games and practices except medical alert bracelets (must be taped to wrist) or necklaces.

8.3 Where there is no WSGS/NORCAL rule specified, then ASA/USA rules will prevail.

8.4 Make up games and cancellations will be made up by the board members only. Coaches are not allowed to postpone games between one another.

