

Soderville Athletic Association

2009 Rules for 8U Fastpitch

(adopted as revised on April 19, 2009)

American Fastpitch Association (AFA) rules apply except as follows:

Each team shall keep score in the SAA supplied score book. Please exchange line-ups prior to the 6:30 start time. Each scorer shall keep score for both teams and are encouraged to check with each other throughout the game to confirm the score and minimize any scoring disputes. The umpire does not keep any score and will not resolve any disputes involving game scores.

Ball roll - closest to pitcher's plate as rolled from home plate will select either Home or Visitor. Home team supplies the parent umpire and game ball.

Starting time for games is 6:30 PM. If games end in a tie, international rules will be used for one more inning. If after that inning, the score is still tied, the game will be complete and finish in a tie. No inning will begin after 8:15 during the regular season (Umpire holds official time).

Five runs per inning rule. A team may score a maximum of five runs per inning. This also includes the last inning.

Two coaches will be allowed to be out in the field (plus the coach who is pitching) at all times. This will allow the girls to learn. The goal is to teach the girls. All coaches must be 18 years of age or older.

Each girl will get up to six (6) pitches. But will only be allowed to swing at three (3). If they miss on three swings, they will strike out. The one exception will be, if a girl fouls out on the sixth pitch, the girl will get one more pitch. (This is called a courtesy foul.)

All outfielders must start play in the grass (unless it is an exceptionally deep infield, as agreed by the coaches). They can be as far in or out as the coach chooses.

The player playing in the pitcher position must remain within 3' on the right or left side of the pitching rubber set at 35' until the pitch is made by the coach. The coach will pitch from the farthest distance off home plate they can deliver a hittable pitch in the strike zone. **(new for 2009)**

As soon as the ball is thrown by a fielder, the runner needs to stop at the base they are running to. There will be no stealing of bases. There will be no leading off on bases.

Teams are required to bat the full roster with unlimited substitutions. No player can sit twice until all players have sat once. Batters will warm up in front of their teams' bench. Only one batter will be allowed to warm up at a time. No throwing of the bats allowed.

A helmet must be worn by all batters. The helmets do not need a face guard or strap. Coaches cancel games because of weather before the 6:30 start time by speaking with each other and then notifying the team players and umpires as needed. If in doubt go to the field.

Once a game is in progress, the umpire on the field is solely responsible for game delays, continuation, or termination due to weather, lightning, field conditions, etc. In the event a game is terminated, the score reverts back to the previous completed inning unless the Home team is in the lead and the game is in the bottom of the inning. A terminated game is considered complete if at least 35 minutes of the game had been played. Games not meeting this requirement should not be recorded.

Both teams are required to report the score to the league coordinator same day or next day by email. Any scores not reported within 24 hours will be recorded as a 1-1 tie.