

# Welcome to All American Girls Softball 2017!

The All American Girls Softball League has made a difference to girls in the area since 1979. We strive to make learning softball fun and enjoyable for our players, families, friends, and coaches. The purpose of this brief document is to outline some rules that we play by and to avoid any future conflict, as often as possible. These rules have been outlined by the 2017 Board Members and is meant to serve as a guide. If a rule or issue is not addressed in this document, ASA rules are to be followed. During game time, the umpires are the rule enforcers and have final say in decisions. Any conflicts that cannot be answered in this book or by ASA's rules, will be decided by any board members present that do not have a conflict of interest in the decision if an immediate decision needs to be made. We hope everyone has a great season!

# General Rules

- Division lines are subject to change based on the needs of the league and registration. Lines can change up to and including the start of practices of a season.
- Teams will be determined based on the previous season and parents' requests first. Any coach with concerns about team placements should see any of the board members as soon as possible.
- Team sizes will be kept approximately equal.
- Although coaching is a volunteer position and we greatly appreciate those who give their time, we reserve the right to turn away any coaches from coaching at all or from a head coach position at any point in the season.
- If a game needs to be rescheduled on a coach's behalf, please see a board member as soon as possible (preferably at least a week before the scheduled game) and we will accommodate to the best of our abilities.
- If coaches have scheduling requests, ( for example, preferences weekday games, ect.) please let me know as soon as possible. I will do my best to accommodate you as often as possible.
- Coaches do not have the right to forfeit a game on behalf of their players.
- This league is recreational and for the sake of teaching the girls. Please keep in mind that you as coaches are their role models and they look up to you.
- No player is to sit on the bench more than 3 innings in 2 consecutive games time. It's not fair to make the same players sit out half the game every game. By the end of the season, every player should have sat the bench at least once. (N/A to 5-7 division)
- Players are permitted to wear their league issued black shorts or black pants if desired. Jean shorts, any other color shorts, or very short black shorts are not permitted. "Very short" will be determined by if the shorts are more than halfway up the thigh. Please make sure your players are dressed appropriately especially in the older divisions. The girls should be

sliding or starting to and their legs need protection. If a player comes dressed inappropriately please inform their parents that the next game they show up not dressed to play, they will not be playing.

- Players playing the catcher position need to squat during the game or the player cannot play that position. Catchers wear shin guards for their protection and kneeling takes away that coverage. Coaches need to make sure their catchers are squatting.
- New coaches will need to provide the league with an ASA background form filled out, a copy of their drivers' licenses, a copy of their child abuse clearance, a copy of their state police background check, and a signed FBI disclosure form in order to be registered with ASA and covered on the insurance. Parents or coaches looking to only help out minimally are welcome to do so if they provide me with a copy of their child abuse clearance, a copy of their state police background check, and a signed FBI disclosure form. Sorry, it's the law.
- Signups will occur in January before each season, with a mail in deadline of receiving registration forms by February 1st. Coaches are expected to have all their clearances in to the league by February 21st no exceptions. They are free and easy to complete so there is no reason there should be any issues.
- No one is allowed on the field with the players without their clearances. If parents wish to help at any point of the season once it is started, please refer them to me as soon as possible.
- Any property left behind at practice or a game needs to be reported to one of the board members immediately (even if you know which player it belongs to).
- During games and practices, we ask that parents are respectful of the coaches and other teams. They are young girls and we do not need any behavior getting out of hand.
- Any garbage should be cleaned from the dugout when a team is finished.
- League age is determined by the child's age on the December 31 before the season begins.
- Games will begin promptly at their scheduled times.

# 5-7 Year Olds

- Both teams will keep score, but players remain on bases to get practice running.
- Coaches should confirm scores at the end of each inning.
- Coaches will pitch 7 pitches max to each batter and then the batter will hit off the t. If the player has to hit off the t, an out will be counted.
- 11 inch balls will be used.
- Games will be a minimum of 45 minutes. A new inning will be started up to the 45 minute mark exactly and the whole inning will be finished.
- A minimum of 4 players is needed for each team, otherwise the team with less will take the loss for the game and the girls will scrimmage.

# 8-11 Year Olds

- 11 inch balls will be used.
- Each team may play 10 players on the field. If coaches opt to use 10 players in the field, the following positions will be filled: pitcher, catcher, first baseman, second baseman, short stop, third baseman, right outfielder, right center outfielder, left center outfielder, and left outfielder.
- If a team only has 7 players at the start of a game, they have a ten minute grace period until they have to forfeit the game, at which time the teams will still scrimmage but the team with more than 7 players will be awarded the win.
- If a team only has 8 players at the start of a game, they will be expected to take an out in their batting lineup where the 9th batter would have occurred. If a ninth player arrives before this position is reached in the batting order but the game has already began, the team will not be expected to take an out in the 9th batter position.
- In the case of missing players, league age 7 year olds are permitted to play any of the four outfield positions in an 8-11 division game to fill in. When this is exercised, parent consent is needed. There will be a log book kept in the concession stand in which the parent of the player will fill out the players name, the date, and sign that they are allowing their child to play up that day. Coaches will also need to notify one of the board members when this occurs prior to the start of the game.
- Games will be approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes. A new inning will be started up to and including the 1 hour and 20 minute mark exactly. Then the inning will be completely finished.
- Infield fly and drop third strike rules do not apply.
- Base runners may only steal on 2 outs.
- There is a 5-run rule per inning. After the team batting scores 5 runs, their turn to bat is over and the teams switch. In the event where RBI exceeds 5 runs, ONLY 5 runs for that inning will be counted.

# 12-16 Year Olds

- 12 inch balls will be used.
- Each team may play 10 players on the field. If coaches opt to use 10 players in the field, the following positions will be filled: pitcher, catcher, first baseman, second baseman, short stop, third baseman, right outfielder, right center outfielder, left center outfielder, and left outfielder.
- If a team only has 7 players at the start of a game, they have a ten minute grace period until they have to forfeit the game, at which time the teams will still scrimmage but the team with more than 7 players will be awarded the win.
- If a team only has 8 players at the start of a game, they will be expected to take an out in their batting lineup where the 9th batter would have occurred. If a ninth player arrives before this position is reached in the batting order but the game has already begun, the team will not be expected to take an out in the 9th batter position.
- In the case of missing players, league age 11 year olds are permitted to play any of the four outfield positions in a 12-16 division game to fill in. When this is exercised, parent consent is needed. There will be a log book kept in the concession stand in which the parent of the player will fill out the players name, the date, and sign that they are allowing their child to play up that day. Coaches will also need to notify one of the board members when this occurs prior to the start of the game.
- Games will be approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes. A new inning will be started up to and including the 1 hour and 20 minute mark exactly. Then the inning will be completely finished.
- Infield fly and drop third strike rules DO apply.
- There is a 7-run rule per inning. After the team batting scores 7 runs, their turn to bat is over and the teams switch. In the event where RBI exceeds 7 runs, ONLY 7 runs for that inning will be counted.
- Base runners may steal regardless of how many outs there are.