

CENTRAL BUCKS SOFTBALL LEAGUE 8U - RULES

The rules below are a guideline agreed to be best for the girls. However, flexibility throughout the season is encouraged. Our goal is to develop skills and the love of the game, so as coaches we need to work together to make sure everyone is enjoying the game.

1. Each team must attempt to field at minimum 6 players on the field.
2. All infielders must wear a Fielding Mask. Fielders playing the pitcher's position are encouraged to wear a helmet with face guard. All Catchers must wear proper gear which is inclusive of shin guards; chest protector and helmet/face guard.
3. No score will be kept for this division.
4. Up to 2 fielding coaches will be allowed on the field during the game. These are in addition to the coach pitching and catching (if needed), for a total of 4 adults on the field.
5. Team Parent will remain to supervise in dugout.
6. Home team supplies at least one new game ball. Game balls will be 11", "softie" type (Rif1).
7. 1.5 hour target. Our goal should be to achieve 5 complete innings.

BATTING:

1. Each team bats seven (7) batters or three (3) outs, whichever comes first.
2. Coach pitch
3. Batting helmets with faceguards and chin straps must be worn by batters and base runners.
4. Bunting, leading and stealing are not permitted.
5. No infield fly rule.

BASE RUNNING:

1. Runners do not leave their base until the ball is hit.
 2. Runners may advance only one base on a hit ball that remains in the infield. Runners may try to advance more than one base if the ball goes into the outfield. Runners must stop when the ball enters the pitching circle. Play is then called "dead".
 3. Play will be called dead when the ball is returned to the pitcher's circle. Runners will go back to nearest base when play is called dead. If the ball rolls into the circle, it is dead.
 4. Runners cannot advance on an overthrow.
 5. Players can be tagged out. Even if there is not a catcher, there can be plays made at home by the infielders. Force outs and Tag outs will apply.
 6. No sliding to any base! But a player will not be called out if she slides.
 7. Failure to reach first base safely will result in 1 out. Runners will not stay on the bases unless they reach safely.
-

CENTRAL BUCKS SOFTBALL LEAGUE 8U - RULES

PITCHING:

1. Pitching will be coach pitch. Coaches will keep at least one foot inside the pitching circle to start.
2. Coaches will pitch to their own team.
3. Players must be encouraged to swing.
4. No bases on balls will be awarded.
5. No batter will be awarded a base if hit with the ball by the coach. Every effort should be made to avoid this. The emphasis is to get them to hit the ball to get to base.
6. The player at the pitcher position must stay behind the line of the pitcher's mound and inside the circle
7. **OPTIONAL PITCHER:** If you have a player who would like to try pitching and it is established they can consistently get the ball over the plate at 35ft. they can pitch up to 3 pitches per batter.