

Fort Hunt Youth Athletic Association Softball Rules

12 and Under League

(Supplement to ASA softball)

1. A new inning may not start after 1 hour and 45 minutes from the **scheduled** start of the game. A game must **end** after 2 hours. During tournament play, if a game ends in a tie, the International Tie Breaker (ITB) procedures will be used.
2. A team must have 7 players present to start the game. If by fifteen minutes after the scheduled start of the game a team does not have this minimum number of players, the game shall be declared a forfeit.
3. If a team will be short players for a game, the coach may use players from the lower league (7 – 9 league) to play in that game.
4. **Ten** players will play defense (**allowing 4 Outfielders**), shifting the regular infield is not allowed. Outfielders must play a reasonable distance from the infield (to be determined by umpire)
5. Every available player must bat in a maintained order. An automatic out shall be assessed against a team batting out of order.
6. Teams shall bat their entire roster of players. Any player that leaves before the completion of a game must be identified before the game begins. If a player leaves the game early and was **not identified** at the time of the lineup exchange, that spot in the order will be an **out** (except in the event of an injury). Players arriving late will be placed at the end of the order.
7. A courtesy runner is allowed for the catcher who is on base **with 2 outs**. The substitute **runner** will be the person who made the **second** out.
8. A pitcher removed from the pitching position during an inning may not return that same inning. The pitching limit is still in effect should a game go into extra innings. This rule may be waived with the agreement of both head coaches.
9. **The illegal pitch rule does NOT apply**. There will be NO intentional walks. A player who is ASA age 10 as of January 1st, may pitch with parental consent from the 35-foot pitching rubber when available.
10. **Drop third strike is NOT IN effect**.
11. **The infield fly rule does apply**. When first and second or first, second and third are occupied before two are out and the umpire declares “infield fly” due to a fly ball in the infield the batter is out. This does not include line drives **or** bunts. The ball is still live and all other rules are in effect.
12. **Bunting is ALLOWED**
13. Stealing is permitted. Runners may not leave the bases until the ball crosses the plate.
14. **Five** runs is the maximum a team can produce in an inning. However, unlimited runs are allowed after **one hour and thirty minutes of play or in the last inning (6th) or as declared by the umpire**.
15. Home team shall be in the first base dugout.