

GLEN ELLYN GIRLS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION PIGTAIL DIVISION RULES AND REGULATIONS

This League is for 1st Graders and 2nd Graders.

A. Uniform Requirements

1. Players must wear matching Park District T-shirt with numbers and Softball/Baseball Pants.
2. Players must wear gym shoes or rubber cleated shoes. Metal spikes are not allowed.
3. Batters and runners must wear protective helmets.
4. Catchers must wear a protective helmet, facemask, chest protector and shin guards.

B. Games

1. The league will not reschedule rain-outs. Coaches schedule a make-up game if they agree. (The home team will take lead in rescheduling any rainouts between coaches.)

C. Field Rules

1. Pitcher's mound will be 32 feet from the point of the plate.
2. Bases will be 55 feet apart.
3. An extra first base will be used . This base will be located in foul territory, directly across the foul line from the normal first base. This base is considered in foul territory and cannot be used by the defensive player as a force out. A runner will be declared out if she interferes with a play at first base by touching the normal fair territory base rather than the extra base in foul territory

D. Definitions of Official Games

1. A game shall be considered official if:
 - a. 5 full innings have been completed or one and one-half hours of elapsed playing time. No full inning can begin after one and one-half hours from starting time.
 - b. Both Managers agree to cease play.
2. A team should field at least seven players. With the agreement of the opposing coach, players may be loaned to a team with an insufficient number of players.
Every effort should be made to play games when scheduled.

The Park District will be responsible for declaring a rainout during its normal hours-Monday through Friday up to 4:00 P.M. Please check the "Rainout Line" of the Home Park District to determine if fields are open. The Park District will be responsible for declaring rainouts and updating the Website. If rain starts at times later than the Park District responsibility, it is up to the Managers or a GEGSA official to declare a rainout. The Managers or a GEGSA official control a game once it begins. They must act responsibly and stop play , at any point, due to rain, lightning, darkness or any other potentially harmful condition.

E. Participation Rules

1. The standard fielding alignment will be Pitcher, Catcher, First Base, Second Base, Short Center, Shortstop, Third Base and three Outfielders. However, all players present at a game must play in the field, every inning, extra fielders will be placed in the out-field. No extra infielders will be permitted. When a coach is pitching, a player will remain on the mound to play defense.
(The coach does NOT need to pitch from the mound, and may come closer as needed)

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Participation Rules: continued

2. No player may change fielding positions during the course of any inning except in the event of an injury.
3. Players must change positions every inning. Each player needs to be in an infield position every other inning.
4. The batting order is continuous and cannot be modified during the course of a game. Any player arriving after the game has begun must be inserted at the bottom of the batting order. Any player re-entering the game after missing an at-bat must re-enter the lineup in the same spot as she left.

F. Special Rules

1. A coach or parent will pitch underhand every inning. No balls and strikes will be called.
 - For the 1st Half of the season, If after six swings the player has not hit a fair ball, the tee will be placed at home plate and the player will hit off the tee. During the First half of the season, there shall be No Strikeouts.
 - SECOND GRADE ONLY: For the 2nd Half of the Season, the player will have up to 6 swings to hit ball fair. If the 6th swing is hit foul, the player shall continue to received additional pitches until the ball is hit fair or missed. If the Ball is not put into play, the at bat shall be considered a strikeout.
2. No walks can be issued
3. For each inning: each team will either bat until three outs have occurred, or one time through their entire batting order, whichever occurs first.
4. Runners may not leave a base until the ball has been hit by the batter. If a runner leaves early, she could be declared out.
5. The first instance of a thrown bat in a game will result in a warning being issued to both teams. Any subsequent thrown bats, by either team, will result in the batter being declared out.
7. All bats must be inscribed as " Official Softball " by the manufacturer. Each bat must have a rubber or taped handle for safety reasons.
8. Teams will be provided with a supply of new game balls. The home team will provide the game ball.
9. No base stealing or leadoffs are permitted.
10. Batters and base runners can advance one base per hit with one exception. If a ball is batted beyond the infield baselines, runners may advance until a defensive player throws toward the infield.
11. No bunting is permitted.
12. An emphasis should be placed on teaching players to throw the ball to the correct base. As a Result, runners may not advance on any overthrow.

F. Miscellaneous Information

1. No All- Star games will be held.

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G. Coaches / Helping Parent Responsibilities

1. Batting teams should have adults available to fill the following roles:

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| 1. PITCHER | 2. FIRST BASE COACH | 3. THIRD BASE COACH |
| 4. UMPIRE / BATTER ASSISTANCE | 5. DUGOUT COACH | |

The responsibilities of the Umpire are to call balls fair or foul, call runners safe or out, to start play by placing the ball on the tee and to assist batters. The batter assistance will encompass positioning the batter, making sure the tee is the proper height (if applicable) and helping the batter have a successful at-bat.

The dugout coach will insure that the players behave properly while waiting to bat and will assist the batters to follow the batting order.

The base coaches will provide assistance to base runners. *A base coach should not grab or otherwise touch a player during the course of play.*

2. Fielding teams should provide up to three on-field coaches. These coaches will position the fielders and insure that they are prepared for the next play.

3. Team managers are responsible for the maximum development of each player. Therefore, they should:

- Give all players the opportunity to regularly play all positions, regardless of skill level.
- Provide adequate training of skills and strategy through practices and practice games.
- Provide a high level of positive encouragement for players efforts, regardless of outcome.
- Avail themselves to the GEGSA Board for advice, techniques and coaching clinics.
- Provide each player adequate notification of the teams schedule of practices and games.
- Notify the GEGSA Instructional Chairman if any players leave the program, so that if possible, the team can be provided a replacement player.
- Contact the opposing coach to reschedule any game conflicting with a function (e.g., school) involving three or more players.
- *Insure that the enjoyment of the players and their development are not compromised for the sake of competition.*

H. Equipment and Field Cleanliness

1. All managers are responsible for the equipment assigned to them. It needs to be returned on the designated date. Failure to return all equipment can result in charge from GEPD and is a consideration for future coaching assignments.

2. All coaches and parents are responsible for keeping their fields clean. Please make sure all team trash is properly placed in containers.