

RULES

AWABSA Girls 5-6 Softball

- Purpose:** To explain and demonstrate what the sport of softball is and to teach catching skills, throwing skills, field layout, good sportsmanship and team spirit. Players should have a good understanding of these aspects when the season ends or before advancing to the next age group.
- Age:** Age group is 4, 5 and 6 years old (unless approved by commissioner.)
- Ball:** An 11" 'softie' or similar ball will be used at all games and practices.
- Team:** Parents are strongly encouraged to assist with on field instruction. Players and head coach will receive a t-shirt and hat to keep. All players will receive a participation award.
- Game:** All games will be 4 innings or 1 hour, whichever comes first, weather and daylight permitting. No player should sit on the bench. All players play the field, rotating positions each inning. No score is kept. There are no walks and no bunting. Outs may be made force, tag, or fly. Three outs will not end the innings; all players will bat each inning.
- Batting:** All players must bat in a half inning. Coach must tell opposing team when last batter comes to the plate. Last batter creates a force and play must be made at any base in front of the last batter to end the inning. Helmets must be worn by all batters and base runners.
- Base Runners:** Base runners cannot steal or lead off. All runners may advance one base on an overthrow at their own risk. When applicable, a safety base will be used at first base in foul territory next to the normal white first base bag. The runner should run toward the safety bag, which will be considered part of the white bag, and play will be called as such.
- Pitching:** An adult will pitch to batters. If a player misses 4 pitches, they will then hit from the tee.
- Catching:** An adult will serve as catcher/batting instructor for the batting team. Instructional hitting is an opportunity for the coach to teach their players correct batting stance, proper swing, and visual contact with the ball.
- Field:** Bases will be placed a distance of 40 feet apart. Coach should pitch from 25 feet. Adults may be placed on field to assist in teaching players' proper position and offensive play. Adults may not interfere with play.