

DOLLS League Rules
Juniors – 5th & 6th Grade
Revised 2.23.2009

1. Emphasis on this level is on improving basic softball skills and developing advanced softball skills such as proper mechanics, bunting, bunt coverage, proper base coverage and sliding.

DOLLS prioritizes Development over Winning and seeks to staff the teams with coaches who embrace this set of priorities as well.

2. ASA rules apply for this age group for all aspects of the game not addressed by the below rules.
3. The pitching rubber is positioned 37' (vs. 40' according to ASA), with 60' baselines. The home team will be responsible to set up the field and provide the game balls (game field should be ready 30 minutes prior to scheduled game time).
4. A continuous batting order is mandatory, along with free substitution of defensive players.
 - For a player that is injured while at bat or base running, the player that made the last out will replace the injured batter (assuming the ball/strike count).
5. A team must field at least 8 players in the field to avoid forfeit. During the end of the year tournament, a fifteen (15) minute grace period will be in effect for each team to field the required number of players before a forfeit is declared.
6. Rotation Rules: At every game, all players are required to play:
 - One complete inning in the infield
 - One complete inning in the outfield
 - No player may play outfield a 2nd inning until all player on the roster have played outfield 1 inning.
 - No player may sit out a 2nd inning until all players on the roster have sat out 1 inning.
7. If necessary, a maximum of 2 players may be called up from the level directly below. Each coach is responsible for calling up substitute players.
 - A substitute player shall not be called upon if her attendance would knowingly create a roster of 10 or more players. A substitute player is allowed to play if she is the 10th player, but not the 11th.
 - A substitute player may not pitch or catch.
 - A substitute player shall bat last in the line-up.
 - At no time shall a girl who is not a registered member of the DOLLS organization be allowed to participate as a player.
 - A player cannot be called up if she is on the roster for either Demons or Rebels, regardless of level.
 - If a team puts someone in its lineup that is contrary to these guidelines they shall forfeit the game regardless if the infraction is discovered during or after the game.

DOLLS League Rules
Juniors – 5th & 6th Grade
Revised 2.23.2009

8. A pitcher is allowed to pitch any part of 4 innings per 7 inning game.
 - A pitcher must be removed from an inning if she hits 3 batters in the same inning (this inning counts as an inning pitched for both pitchers).
 - One pitch shall constitute an inning for a pitcher.
 - A pitcher may return to pitch in subsequent innings if she has not participated in any part of 4 innings.

9. Rotation and Pitching Rule Violations
 - It is the responsibility of each team to monitor that the opposing team is following the rotation/pitching rules. A violation of these rules should be brought to the umpire and violating team's attention immediately so that it can be corrected. If a team has violated the rotation/pitching rule, the situation will be immediately corrected and that team will forfeit 2 runs (regardless of how many girls are out of rotation). If the team has no runs then it will incur a score of -2.
 - If the rotation/pitching violation is not discovered until after that half inning is over, there will be no penalty or repercussions.
 - A team will forfeit the game on its third violation of the rotation/pitching rules.
 - The rotation and pitching rules begin anew starting in the 8th inning of an extra inning game.

10. A game consists of 7 complete innings, or a time limit as defined below.
 - No new inning shall begin after 1 hour and 45 minutes of play. Any inning that has begun, must be completed (there is not a "drop dead" time limit).
 - During the end of the season level tournament, games cannot end in ties so the time limit is eliminated if extra innings are required.

11. The only base that girls can steal is third.
 - The steal must be a straight steal.
 - Catchers may make an attempt to "pick off" the runner at any base under no penalty (no advance base if overthrown)
 - Runners on 3rd are not allowed to steal home.
 - Base runners must stay on the base until the pitcher has released the ball. This applies to both stealing and leading off.

12. Home team is official scorebook.

13. A team's bat will conclude if:
 - 5 runs are scored (no continuation), or
 - The defensive team records 3 outs.

DOLLS League Rules
Juniors – 5th & 6th Grade
Revised 2.23.2009

14. Win/loss records/standing shall not be kept at this level. The season shall be completed with a level tournament. Teams shall participate in pool play (pool determined by draw), and feed into a single elimination tournament. There shall be awards for teams that place in the top 4 positions in the final tournament.
15. The league shall provide patched umpires.
- Rule clarifications between both head coaches and the umpire shall be conducted prior to the start of the game. Only head coaches may speak to the umpire regarding rule issues during the game and only in the presence of the opposing coach.
 - Questioning the umpire's call is considered unsportsmanlike conduct and will not be tolerated by the league.
 - Coaches or fans questioning the umpire's call will be at risk of forfeiting the game or removal from the coaching responsibilities.
 - Coaches need to remind parents this is a game and will be at risk of being ejected from the playing field if unsportsmanlike conduct is presented.