

**Lumpkin County  
Parks and Recreation Department**

8U Softball Rules



1. A regulation game consists of 6 innings.
2. There will be a 5 run limit per inning or 3 outs, whichever comes first. Each batter will get 5 pitches. If the 5<sup>th</sup> pitch is a foul, they get to swing again.
3. Catching equipment is mandatory.
4. Helmets with facemasks and chin straps are mandatory.
5. Base distance is 60 feet.
6. Pitching distance is 30 feet.
7. 11" Optic yellow safety ball will be used.
8. Coach pitch with no arch on the ball – modified fast pitch
9. ASA softball rules will be followed. Rule books will be provided by recreation department.
10. Games will have a 1 ½ hour time limit. No new inning will be started after time has expired.
11. Each player must play in the field at least 2 full innings by the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> inning. Free defensive substitution after the 4<sup>th</sup> inning.
12. Each team will bat a continuous line-up of all players who show up for the game, with the exception of a player who cannot or will not participate because of injury or other reason.
13. Scorebooks will be provided for each team. The home team will be the official book. Visiting team will keep the scoreboard.
14. Run rule: 12 runs after 3<sup>rd</sup> inning, 10 runs after 4<sup>th</sup> inning and 8 runs after 5<sup>th</sup> inning.
15. Runner will receive one base on an overthrown ball.
16. Ball is dead when thrown back to pitcher's mound.
17. A maximum of 10 players are allowed to play on defense. A team can play with 8 players, however, the 9<sup>th</sup> batter will be considered an out.
18. Coaches are responsible for making sure that all rules are followed.
19. The tie breaker rule will be used if a game is tied at the end of regulation play or time limit.
20. Visiting team will start the new inning with a base runner on 2<sup>nd</sup> base. The base runner will be the last batter from the previous inning. The home team will do the same in the bottom half of the inning. This procedure will be followed in each inning until a winner is determined.
21. Championship is determined by the following:
  - a. Overall season record.
  - b. Head to head record.
  - c. Championship game if a tie occurs.

**\*\*\* RULE VIOLATIONS MAY RESULT IN FORFEIT OF GAME \*\*\***