



# El Segundo Girls Softball

P.O. Box 584

El Segundo, CA 90245

[www.elsegundogirlssoftball.com](http://www.elsegundogirlssoftball.com)



## Championship Tournament Rules 8U Division

### A. Game Information:

1. Game length will be 6 innings or no new inning after 1 hr. and 20 minutes whichever occurs first.
2. The Championship game of the tournament shall be 6 innings.
3. Game time is forfeit time.
4. Four (4) runs ahead limit per inning. The team that is winning at the beginning of their turn at bat may score a maximum of 4 runs. The team that is losing at the beginning of their turn at bat may score any number of runs up to the point that they are 4 runs ahead of their opponent.

### B. General Rules:

5. The "mercy" rule will be in effect. 15 after 3 innings, 8 after 5 innings.
6. Teams must flip coin for home/visitor – Board member or umpire must be present
7. ASA rules apply if not otherwise addressed.

### ASA rules emphasized:

8. A runner may not steal home on a pitch at any time. Runners may steal when the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.
9. A play at a base during a steal, an attempted pick-off, or an overthrow to the pitcher does not release the runner from third base.
10. Runners on first and second base may steal only one (1) base per pitch.
11. **No** dropped-third strike. The batter is out on a third strike at all times, whether it is caught or dropped.
12. **No** "Infield Fly" rule will be used. Meaning, with less than two outs and runners on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> or with bases loaded, a pop fly that could be easily caught by an infielder does not result in an automatic out on the batter if the ball is not caught.

### C. Line Up Cards, Substitutions and Field Positions

13. A team must bat with at least 8 players in the line up to avoid the "short-handed" rule penalty.
14. **Short-Handed rule:** A team may start with 8 players but when another player arrives, they must be inserted into the line up in the ninth batting position. An out will be called one time the ninth position in the batting order appears until a 9<sup>th</sup> starting player arrives and is entered. If a 10<sup>th</sup> player arrives, they must be inserted in the 10<sup>th</sup> spot in the line up. Subsequent arrivals must be listed in order of arrival. **Short handed rule will not apply this year 2009!**
15. Bat-Around Format will be used:
  - a. The DP/DEFO rule will not be in effect.
  - b. A team may have between 8 and 11 batters and no more than 10 fielders.
  - c. All batters must bat and run for themselves unless injured. If no substitutes are available when a batter or runner becomes injured and cannot complete their turn at bat or time on the bases, a courtesy player will be allowed to finish the at bat or time as a runner for that half inning only.
  - d. Courtesy Player (For injured player): When all play has stopped, the team member who is scheduled to bat *last* after the injured player, will be the courtesy player. Any batter or base runner that must use a courtesy player *a second time* due to injury will be removed from the game for safety reasons. When the player who has left the game due to injury and misses the next at bat, an out will be declared for that one time only. An inning or a game can end with an automatic out.
  - e. A player may be used as a courtesy player only once per inning.



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### **D. When a team is on Offense:**

16. The batter is out on the 3<sup>rd</sup> strike dropped by the catcher; however, the ball remains live and runners on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> base may advance at their own risk. Runner on 3<sup>rd</sup> may not advance home.
17. Runners on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> may steal only one (1) base per pitch.
  - a. The ball is live and in play.
  - b. Runners may not leave the base until the pitch has left the pitcher's hand. The umpire will declare "no pitch" and an out when a runner leaves too soon. If more than one runner leaves early the umpire must determine which runner left too soon first and only that runner will be called out.
  - c. A runner in sole possession of an illegally stolen base shall be returned to the correct base without liability to be put out when all other play has stopped. A runner standing on an illegal base cannot be tagged out. A runner not standing on a base can be tagged out.
  - d. Overthrows by the catcher to the pitcher or to the bases do not result in additional bases by the runners. After all play has stopped, if a runner(s) have advanced beyond the one base to which they are entitled, the umpire will call "time" and return runners back to the proper base(s).
  - e. A runner cannot steal home, even on a play to another base or an overthrow to the pitcher. Once the runner has touched home plate and after all other play has stopped, the umpire will call time and return the runner back to 3<sup>rd</sup> base. Note: the runner may be tagged out while off the base..

### **E. When a Team is on Defense:**

18. No more than 10 players will be allowed to play defense at one time.
19. No player rotation – positions can be fixed
20. Players must play 2 defensive innings based on a 5 inning game or less, if more than 5 innings players must play 3 defensive innings –
21. All subs must be entered by the top of the 3<sup>rd</sup> inning
22. No more than 6 players including the pitcher and catcher can be positioned in front of the base line.
23. Outfielders and the 10<sup>th</sup> player must remain behind the base line until the ball is hit, or a play is made on a runner (as a result of a batted ball).
24. No player except the pitcher shall start in a defensive position closer than 25 feet to home plate, measured from the front side of the plate anywhere between the 3<sup>rd</sup> baseline and the 1<sup>st</sup> baseline.
25. An unlimited number of "free" substitutions are allowed at anytime, during a dead ball situation, while on defense.