

SOUTH GLENS FALLS GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES

MINORS (10U) and MAJORS (12U)

1. All games will be ruled under ASA Rulebook, in conjunction with the local rules for each division. Local rules are used with the intention of encouraging player development. See the chart of local rules.
2. Managers and coaches will not approach umpires. All umpires' decisions are final. No protesting of games is allowed.
3. Innings pitched for each player and game winner will be recorded in the concession stand. Coaches are to update these sheets after every game and to ensure their accuracy.
4. 10 players can play on the field. A game can be played with as few as 8 players without penalty. Any fewer players and the game will be considered a forfeit in the record book. However, the coaches may agree to add others players to the short team and continue playing the game without an umpire.
5. All players must play at least 2 innings defensively in the INFIELD and have one at-bat per game. **The batting order will include ALL players on the team regardless of whether a member is playing in the filed or not that inning.**
6. Pitchers MUST WEAR a facemask or helmet when pitching. This is mandatory.
7. Coaches are responsible for the safe condition of their team's equipment issued by the league. If league equipment appears to be unsafe, please notify your division Vice President. Chin straps and NOCSAE approved face guards are required on ALL batting helmets.
8. **In April and May, no new inning may start after 7:45 with a drop-dead at 8:00 on weeknights. In June, no new inning may start after 8:00 pm with a drop-dead time of 8:15 on weeknights. Saturday games (starting before 6pm) at any time during the season have a 2 hour limit Max. No new inning may start after 1 hour and 45 minutes from start.**
9. No jewelry, which includes visible body piercing objects, shall be worn in any sport. Any piece of jewelry that is visible at the start of or during a contest, is in violation of the NYSPHSAA Jewelry code. Religious medals must be taped to the body under the uniform. Medical medals must be taped to the body so they are visible. Soft, pliable barrettes are permissible, body gems are not. This includes starter earrings. Jewelry may no longer be covered by tape or band-aids.
- 9a. Reminder: Bunting is allowed for both Majors and Minors. Stealing of home is only allowed by Majors.
- 9b. MINORS ONLY: Runners can only advance one base at a time on a steal to 2nd or 3rd base. An overthrow from the catcher to either base of the lead runner is considered a dead ball. This encourages the catcher to attempt a throw to the base.

10. In an effort to avoid collisions and injuries, on close plays at any base (except 1st) runners are required to avoid contact with a defensive player. If in the judgment of the umpire, a runner intentionally causes a collision, then the runner will be called out. Fielders may not block the runners' path or they may be called for obstruction and the runner may receive an additional base.

11. If the catcher has possession of the ball, she may block home plate. All players must slide at home on a close play or may be called out. The catcher may be called for obstruction on the play if the ball momentarily drops from her glove either by her mistake or through physical impact by the runner.

12. Minors Only: Pitchers will be allowed to pitch a maximum of 3 innings in a Game. Innings are counted in thirds. Cross-Over games do not follow this rule.

Example:

Pitcher A throws 2 innings and one out in the third inning the pitcher has thrown 2 and 1/3 inning and can throw two more outs in the game at a later time.

13. Majors Only: Pitchers will have unlimited pitching in both league and crossover games.

RUN AHEAD RULE: When a team is up by 8 runs, the team that is up must replace their pitcher with another pitcher until the team is up by only two runs. This is meant for an ace pitcher and to prevent a team from running the score up.

13a. Run ahead rule does not apply to Cross Over Games

14. Pitchers must have both feet in contact with the pitching plate.

15. Leading off is not allowed. Majors: Runners may not leave the base until the pitcher releases the ball, or may be called out by the umpire. Minors: Runners may not leave the base until the ball crosses the plate or may be called out by umpire.

16. Minor Games are 6 innings in length. Major Games are 7 innings in length. An official game is 4 completed innings. A 5 run limit is in effect for innings but are unlimited in the 6th inning for Minors and the 7th inning for Majors.

17. Players are not allowed outside the dugout during a game unless playing a defensive position or playing offensive as a runner, batter or on-deck batter.

18. If for any reason there is a disagreement on the field, it is the coaches' responsibility to take care of the issue. If this cannot be conducted, it is the leagues' decision to determine the fate of the coaches for future coaching. Also, it is the responsibility of the team manager enforce the Code of Conduct for players and parents involved. If not, the umpire may eject the disrespectful fan(s), player(s), and/or coach(s) which may result in a forfeiture of the game. The board of directors will uphold any enforcement taken by a league umpire.

19. When a batter strikes the ball, the batter-runner goes to the orange side of the bag unless play is to the right of the bag. At that point, the fielder has priority as to which side she uses. After the play is made, the whole bag is safe.

20. A runner has 3 feet to either side of the baseline if a play is being made on the runner in motion. If player is running the bases, without a tag attempt, the 3 foot rule does not apply.

21. Batter-runners may attempt to continue running to 2nd base on a walk by pitch, only if 2nd base is not occupied by another runner, and only if she continues without hesitation on approach to 1st base. The running motion must be continuous. This continuation is allowed regardless whether or not the pitcher has possession of the ball on the mound. It must be clear the batter-runners' intentions to continue to 2nd base. Otherwise she may run through 1st base in fair or foul territory without being tagged out.

22. A pitch out of bounds, a player carries the ball out of play or a swiped tag and the ball comes out of the glove are all one base awards. Out of play to 1st base, runner advances to 2nd base. Ball stays in play, runner advances at own risk.

23. Bat throwing is not allowed. Umpires may remove a player from the game.

24. It is not the umpire's responsibility to stop play for all injuries. If the player is standing and the injury is not life threatening, play will continue.

25. Girls need to be ready to keep the game moving. Time between innings should be no more than 1 minute or 5 pitches. Catcher should have on all gear and be ready for the field.

25A. MINORS ONLY: You may have a designated runner for the catcher when there are 2 outs whether the catcher gets on (or is on). The catcher has to play catcher the following inning. This will help speed up time between innings.

26. Play must be suspended if there is lightning sighted. When determining whether or not to suspend play, the umpire and/or a designated weather watcher should use his/her common sense and good judgment. If a thunderstorm appears imminent before or during an activity or contest (regardless of whether lightning is seen or thunder heard), postpone or suspend the activity until the hazard has passed. Signs of imminent thunderstorm activity are darkening clouds, high winds and thunder or lightning. Even storms that are many miles away can pose a lightning danger. This may mean the appropriate decision is to suspend activities even before the first sight of lightning or sound of thunder.

27. If activity has been suspended due to lightning, the umpire and/or designated weather watcher should wait at least 30 minutes after the last lightning flash or sound of thunder prior to resuming activity. Each time additional lightning is observed or thunder is heard, the minimum 30-minute waiting period should be reset. A clear sky or lack of rainfall is not adequate indicators for resuming play. The minimum 30-minute return-to-play waiting period should not be shortened. Play should not be resumed even after the 30-minute waiting period if any signs of thunderstorm activity remain in the area or if the weather forecast indicates the threat is not over.

28. If you have any questions about these rules, please contact VP for your division.

LOCAL RULES BY DIVISION RULE	10U MINORS	12U MAJORS
Base distance	60 Feet	60 Feet
Pitching Distance	35 Feet	40 Feet
Runs per Inning Limit	(5) Unlimited in the 6th inning	(5) Unlimited in the 7th inning
All Players Present are in Batting Order	Yes	Yes
Warm up Pitches/Minutes	5/1	5/1
Infield Fly Rule	No	Yes
Dropped 3rd Strike	No	Yes
Continuation	Yes	Yes
Extra Innings	Yes / 2 Maximum	Yes / 2 Maximum
Live ball on catcher's attempted throw to 2nd or 3rd on a steal	No	Yes
Batter gets hit by Pitch	Yes	Yes
No. Rec. Innings pitched per Week	6	Unlimited
Pitcher Run Ahead Rule	No	Yes/Team up by 8 Runs
Leading	Take lead when ball crosses the plate	Take lead when ball leaves pitchers hand
Stealing Home	No	Yes
Pitcher Must Wear Facemask	YES	YES