

## Mon County Girls Softball 6U Rules (2023 spring season)

The 6U age group may be many girls' first introduction to softball. The primary focus at this age is to make playing as fun as possible. Three key words to remember when coaching at this age: fun, fun and fun!!

Focus the game on having fun, ensuring that everyone gets adequate and equal playing time and rewarding the effort put forth rather than the outcome. We want to create a positive fun environment that also allows us to address the key basic skills for softball: proper throwing, catching and hitting. Additionally we want to introduce the basic rules and fundamentals of the sport. The ultimate goal is to impart the beginning stages of developing a "love of the game".

The following are the basic rules set for Mon County Girls Softball 6U division. Note that there are other general rules that exist for Mon County Girls Softball dealing with time limits etc. Those rules do not apply to 6U and are not included here.

### 6U Rules

1. Coaches shall pitch three (3) – four (4) balls to each batter from any distance determined appropriate by the coach. If the batter fails to hit the ball by the fourth pitch the ball shall be placed on the Tee for batter to hit. No strikeouts or walks everyone gets to hit the ball.
2. Coaches will serve as catcher. (This is primarily done for safety. The concern is about a girl catching and chasing a ball into the batter's swing, or a batter not focusing and swinging the bat when the catcher is nearby. Hopefully the coaches can stay focused.)
3. No base stealing.
4. No score will be kept.
5. Batter/base runner may be out at first base or any other base and shall return to the dugout or stay on base as a result of the play. Calls will be made by the coaches on the field. It is recommended this progression of the game be implemented/introduced half way through the season.
6. Batter and runners shall only advance one base with each hit until the last batter hits. After the last batter hits, all remaining base runners advance through all the bases.
7. Batting order should be rotated each game so that each player has the opportunity to bat first and last at some point during the season. As a suggestion, rotate sequentially by jersey number starting with the lowest Jersey number for the first game. (i.e. # 1 first for first game, # 2 first for second game, etc.). It is permissible to adjust the batting order to allow more than one player an opportunity to bat last in a given game if there are not enough games throughout the season for every player to bat last.
8. Games will consist of 3 to 4 innings with every child batting one time in each inning. Games will be limited to one hour.
9. Each player should play 2 or more positions per game. It is suggested that all players rotate in some fashion for each inning.
10. Coaches may be on the field to help direct and guide the players. To obtain your background check, SafeSport, and ACE certification (ACE is only required for Head Coaches), go to [www.registerusasoftball.com](http://www.registerusasoftball.com).