

**PENN HILLS GIRLS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
TOURNAMENT & PARK RULES**

2009

8 & UNDER DIVISION

1. Rosters and proof of insurance are to be turned in at concession stand prior to first game.
2. Individuals allowed in the dug out areas are 1 manager, 2 coaches, 1 scorekeeper and rostered players only.
NOTE: Alternates, not on the roster, may NOT enter dugout.
3. Each team will submit a roster with a maximum of 15 players. A copy of each player's birth certificate **must** be in the manager's possession during the tournament. **A questioned player who does not have a birth certificate on hand will cause their team to forfeit the game.** 6 / 7 / 8 year olds. Birth dates as of January 1st.
4. Teams must report to the field **20 minutes** prior to the start of their game. Any team not at the field at this time will forfeit their game.
5. The team line-up is to be turned into the umpire and opposing team 10 minutes prior to game start time.
6. All bats must have the 2004 ASA approved logo visible and be on the ASA approved bat list (No Anderson Rocket Techs).
7. No infield or batting practice on the field of play. Warm-up will be allowed on the sidelines or in the outfield, time permitting.
8. No metal spikes are permitted.
9. No earrings or jewelry may be worn by players. Studs may be covered with Band-Aids.
10. All players must have a numbered shirt. This is required to identify players.
11. EQUIPMENT - Batting helmets with straps, catcher's masks, catcher's chest protectors. These are required in order to play. **Pitcher (player) may wear a helmet while in the field (not required). Chest/heart guards recommended but optional.*
12. FIELD DIMENSIONS - Bases 60 ft.
13. Pitching distance - 35ft. One foot must start on the line.
14. Pitching is coach pitch. There is an arc requirement: **the ball must arc at a height above the height of the batter's head, or 4 foot minimum to 10 feet maximum.** Penalty for flat pitches shall be counted as a pitch, but not hittable. If the ball is hit, it will be called dead and batter will return to hit again. If it is hit on a 7th pitch, batter is out. On the third illegal flat pitch, the batter is out.
15. Coach pitcher is part of the field, and may not direct players in any way once the ball is hit. Verbal or motion. Only base coaches, from designated area, or manager from dugout.
16. All teams will use a continuous batting roster. Each player **MUST** play a minimum of **two (2)** full innings by the end of the **4th** inning. There will be free substitution of players in the field.
17. There will be **3 swinging strikes**. A maximum of 7 pitches. If the ball has not been hit in fair territory in seven (7) pitches, the batter is out. A foul ball on the 7th pitch is also an out. No tee will be used.
18. Games will be **6 innings**. There will be a maximum of **5 runs** per inning unless the 3rd out is made prior to the **5th run**. When the 5th run scores, the inning is over, no other runs count. A **10 run rule** applies (if a team is up by 10 runs) at the bottom of the 4th inning. **6th inning is unlimited runs**. All ties will be played out.

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19. Teams may field with ten (10) players. This will consist of a standard infield, and a four (4) player outfield. (*Otherwise known as Left Fielder, Right Fielder, Right-Center Fielder, and Left-Center Fielder.*) "Rovers" must remain **at the edge of the grass** behind the infield baselines until the ball is hit. *Either Center-fielder may be used as Rover. They are still considered an outfielder.*)
20. Possession will be ruled when the ball is in control of an infielder. At this point, ALL runners must stop at the next base. In the event that there is more than one (1) runner on base, the leading runner will govern the placement of runners. A runner that runs through a base that they should have stopped at will be returned to that base. Time will be called at the conclusion of the play. *NOTE: An outfielder running the ball into the infield is not possession.*
21. **Throwing of the bat.** If the batter throws the bat, she will be called out immediately. *Please consider this the warning for the team.*
22. A collision between a base runner and a fielder attempting to field the ball will result in the runner being called out. The runner must accept the tag not attempt to avoid contact. A collision between the base runner and a fielder NOT attempting to field the ball will result in the runner being safe at the base they were attempting to go to. Once the runner reaches the base they are running at their own risk and may be put out.
23. **No infield fly rule.**
24. *No relaxed step.* One foot must remain on the base at all times. If a player steps off the base and the ball is not hit, the runner will be called out. **"One foot must remain on the base at all times. If a player steps off the base and the ball is not hit regardless if the batter swings OR not, the runner will be called out. This will be at the discretion of the umpire"**
25. Runners can advance only one base on any hit ball that does not leave the infield.
 1. There will be no advancement on an overthrow at any base; this includes other runners on a base at the time of the overthrow. The ball is dead and the runner receives only the base she was running to at the time of the overthrow.
 2. A player hitting a ball into the outfield can continue to run until the ball is brought into the infield and under control.
26. The pitcher cannot cover Home Plate (unless the catcher is out of position due to the play of the ball). If the pitcher does cover home, rather than letting the catcher make the play, the runner is automatically safe. THIS IS A JUDGEMENT CALL OF THE UMPIRE.
27. All protests will be settled by tournament officers and the umpire at the time of the protest.
28. Game will be stopped **immediately** when a player is injured. A player that must leave the game leaving a vacancy in the batting rotation does not constitute an out, but she can not re-enter the game.
29. Each manager will be responsible for the actions of their coaches, fans and players. Should a situation arise for which a manager cannot or will not control, he/she will place the team in jeopardy of a forfeit.
30. **No alcoholic beverages are permitted. This includes the picnic pavilion and park areas.**
31. **The use of tobacco products is strictly forbidden on playing fields and dugout areas.**
32. **NO SWEARING ALLOWED on the field or around the bench areas, or in the stands. ANYONE that is disorderly will be asked to leave immediately.**

*** Unless specified above, Penn Hills Tournament and/or ASA rules govern.**