



**Burlingame Girls Softball
2010 Annual Billie Sue Tournament
8U Tournament Rules – 2010
Revised 6.15.2010**

This is a fun, jamboree format with no winners or losers. All teams participate in five games over two days. We use youth umpires to call our games. Positive team cheers only please. The point is to develop a love of the game and allow young players to get some experience that relates to the 10U and older divisions of play. The BGS board members monitor parent and coach conduct and we reserve the right to warn and then remove any parent or coach demonstrating inappropriate conduct at any time.

A. Game Length and Structure:

1. Each game will be 55 minutes in length. This will be the drop dead time limit. Generally, we will play 2-3 innings per game.
2. Four run limit for each inning.
3. Every player must play at least one inning of infield each game.
4. Every player will bat in a continuous order.
5. Three outs or batting through the entire order retires the side.
6. Ten players allowed on the field, 4 in the outfield. You may play with fewer than 10 players.
7. Outfielders must be on the grass or at least 15 feet behind the infield during the pitch.
8. Substitutions are allowed during play, but should be kept to a minimum to speed up the game. Generally they will be for an injured player. Injured players may return to the game.
9. The team traveling the longest distance from home will call the toss and the winner of the toss will call the home or visitor side.
10. The team listed first in the order will take the third base dugout unless they are already set up from a previous game.

B. Pitching:

1. Pitchers may pitch up to two innings in each game.
2. Pitching distance is 32 feet.
3. Youth umpires call balls and strikes from behind the pitchers. After a pitcher has 4 called balls, the coach will come in to pitch. Coach pitching: Coaches pitch from the pitcher's plate. Strike count remains the same and balls go to zero. Umpire remains and calls strikes. Three strikes total (including player pitched strikes) is an out. Four pitches by the coach maximum unless last pitch is a foul ball. Batter can continue to foul off pitches until the last pitch is put into play, missed or taken.
4. Hit batter is counted as a ball. If pitcher hits 3 batters in one inning, the coaches and umpire must judge if the batting girls had ample opportunity to avoid the pitch and if the batters are at risk of injury. If so, the offensive coach may request a pitching change. The girl may come back in to pitch one more inning later in the game.

5. No walks.
6. Defensive coaches must coach from the dugout. Defensive coaches are not allowed on the field
7. BGS strongly recommends the use of defensive facemasks for pitchers.

C. Batting and Base Running:

1. We allow sliding for safety of the players, but it is not expected.
2. Players may not steal.
3. Runner may leave the bag and take a leadoff when the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. Leaving prior to that will constitute an out if called by the umpire. Umpires will provide one warning per team for leaving early. Lead offs should be about 10 feet.
4. Catchers may throw down to any base if the runners are exceeding the 10-foot lead off. If tagged off the bag, the runner is out. Runners may not advance on an overthrown ball or on any ball thrown down, they must return to the bag.
5. Batted ball that hits the coach-pitcher is a dead ball with no pitch.
6. No infield fly rule.
7. Balls hit to the infield and thrown to first base stops all play, even if there is an over-throw. Runners can advance only to the base they are running to. A ball thrown to 2nd, 3rd or home does not stop play if there is an over-throw. Runners may have a maximum one base advancement on an overthrow to bases other than first. A ball that a player throws to the pitcher or pitcher's circle stops play. Pitcher does not need to catch the ball.
8. Ball hit to outfield: Runners can advance until the outfielder throws the ball into the infield. Runners only go to the base they are running to at that time the ball crosses into the infield. The defense may put out runners at anytime.
9. Bases will be set at 50 feet.
10. Girls must wear helmets with facemasks and chinstraps at all times when batting on the field.

D. Additional Information:

1. No Food, Seeds, Nuts, Gum, or Beverages of any kind other than Water are allowed on the Osberg or Franklin Turf Fields of play at any time.

Tournament Contacts:

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