

Softball Coach Pitch Rules

1. To start the games, a team must have seven (7) players. Teams may invite another coach-pitch player, as agreed to by both head coaches, to fill the roster.
2. A meeting between both coaches and the umpires for the game is required before the game can begin to go over the ground rules and agree on the official start time.
3. A game will consist of five (5) innings or 55 minutes. In the event of inclement weather, three (3) innings will constitute a complete game. No new innings will start after 50 minutes. In the last inning, if the home team is winning, they will not bat. Games in at the regulation time or the end of regulation.
4. Three (3) coaches are allowed on the field during offense: one pitching, one at third, and one at first.
5. Teams must bat their entire roster. The sides will retire after each player has batted (each team will bat an equal number of players), regardless of the number of outs the defense achieves.
 - a. In the last 2 games of the season, we will introduce “3-outs” into the game. In these games, the side will retire when 3 outs are achieved.
 - b. When this “3-out” play goes into effect. A run limit will go into effect as well. There is a 4-run limit rule per inning. The 10-run rule will apply after five (5) innings of play have been completed.
6. If a defensive player makes an out, the offensive player is out and removed from the bases.
7. A coach from the batting team will stand inside the pitcher’s circle and throw a maximum of 3 pitches. If the 3rd pitch results in a foul ball, the batter will get additional pitches until a pitch does not result in a foul ball. After 5 pitches, batters will get a chance to hit the ball off a tee. The batter will receive as many attempts as necessary to put the ball in play off the tee.
8. When the ball is put in play off the tee, runners may advance only one base. A hit without error off the coach that is truly a multiple base hit, runners can advance.

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9. No intentional half swings or bunts allowed. If the batter throws the bat, they will receive one (1) warning. If they throw the bat a second time, they will be called out.
10. When a ball is overthrown, runners may advance 1 base..
11. No sliding
12. Stealing/Leading Off: No stealing is allowed. A runner may leave the base only after the ball crosses the plate. If the runner leaves early, they are out. A runner may advance only with a ball that is put into play by the batter.
13. On-deck batters must have batting helmets on before entering the field of play.
14. All players play defense. All regular infield positions are to be occupied, and the remaining players fill in the outfield. Outfielders must remain on the outfield grass or 20 feet behind the bases until the ball has been hit. Players playing outfield positions should not be covering infield positions.
15. First and third basemen should be within three to five feet of the base they are playing and cannot stand on the base until the ball is hit.
16. Coaches must avoid a hit ball and attempt to get out of the way so that the player playing the pitching position can field the ball. In the event the ball hits the coach, the ball is still live and must be played.
17. The player playing the pitching position may play next to, but not in front of, the coach who is until the ball is hit.
18. The infield fly rule is not in effect.
19. Catchers must wear full catching gear.
20. All players on the field must wear defensive face masks.
21. Players must remain in the dugout at all times when not actively playing or warming up. The only people allowed in the dugout are coaches and players.