

GIRLS FARM RULES

Pitching Machine

- **Pitching machine will be used ALL season.**
- There will be 6 pitches maximum per child. No balls. No walks
- Girls will catch when pitching machine is being used.

General Rules

- 5 inning Games. 3 innings constitutes an Official Game.
- **Time Limit** – A new inning **cannot start** after **1 hour and 45 min.** for games on **Saturday and Sunday.** Games **Monday through Friday cannot start** a new inning after **2 hours.** Darkness or weather is the Umpires call which overrides all time rules above.
- If game is called by umpire for time limit, weather or darkness, score will revert back to last full inning.
- Innings are 3 outs or 4 runs scored. Except for the last inning, which are unlimited runs. The designated “last inning” will be Umpires discretion. She/he will inform the Managers.
- Only Managers may approach the umpire for rule interpretation.
There is no questioning a judgment call by the Umpire – this means managers, coaches, players, and spectators. Yelling or commenting on a call will not be tolerated. This can result in being asked to leave the field.
- No one is permitted behind the backstop during the game. This includes all coaches, parents and children.
- No barreling. You must slide or give yourself up on any play to a base or home plate.
- No NEGATIVE CHANTING – respect the team you are playing against.
- **Each player must play the infield for at least two full innings.** UNIVERSAL BATTING must be used starting from the first game. At the end of each game thereafter, the on deck batter when the game ends is the first batter for the next game.
- **To keep the game moving, players should know where they are going before your at bat is over.**
- Only 1 manager and 2 coaches are allowed in the dugout.

HBA Softball 2016

GIRLS FARM RULES

Fielding

- All players will play the field. All extra players and outfielders must on the edge of the grass.
- A team must field at least 8 players to start a game. If you have less than 8, you can **only pull a player from another FARM TEAM**, to make 8, but they MUST play outfield and bat last.

Batting

- There will be no infield fly rule.
- Batter and base runners may advance up to 2 bases at their own risk if the ball goes past the infield to the outfield on a fly or on a ground base. A maximum of 2 bases can be taken per play.
- If the batter hits a fly ball or a grounder and it hits the outfield grass before a player touches the ball. And if the batter reaches 1st base and no player touched the ball, runner can try to advance to 2nd base .
- If a player leaves the game due to an injury or another commitment, the spot in the lineup is skipped and no out is incurred.
- **VERY IMPORTANT** – Only the player at bat can have a bat in their hands.
- Only approved ASA softball or little league bats are allowed. All players must wear helmets. Face shield on helmets are recommended.

Base Running

- Bases will be set at **60** feet.
- Stealing is not ALLOWED.
- There is **NO ADVANCING** on any overthrows.
- Once the ball arrives in the infield, runner must stop at the base they are advancing to. Umpires call.
- A runner more than half way to the next base when time is called will be awarded that base. A runner less than half way will return to the previous base. This is up to the Umpires discretion.
- If the opposing team's catcher is on base after two outs have been recorded, that player will be replaced with a courtesy runner. The courtesy runner will be the last batter out.

Mercy Rule

- The **13 run mercy** rule will be in effect after 4 innings, 3 ½ innings if home team is leading.

