

PIKE COUNTY YMCA ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES

Rules not covered below will follow USSSA Guidelines

1. **Grace period** – No grace period.
2. **Length of games** – 7 innings or 75 minutes. Games are scheduled to begin on the half-hour: 5:30, 6:30 or 7:30pm. Teams should be warmed-up and ready to play at Game Time (i.e. The 6:30pm Game may not start until 6:45pm, etc.). Games cannot exceed 75-minutes.
3. **Run Rule** – 15 run lead by the third inning, 12 run lead by the fourth inning, and a 10 run lead by the fifth inning.
4. **Tie-Breaker** – In the event of a tie, the game will go to extra innings assuming the 75-minute time limit has not expired. If there is still a tie after the 75-minute time limit is up, the game will be determined a tie. League ranking would then be determined by the total number of runs scored up to that point in the season for those particular teams.
5. **Starting Game** – a minimum of 8 players. If the eighth player is injured during the game, the game will be over and the team will forfeit. There will never be less than eight players on each team in order to continue on with a game.
6. **Free substitution of players** – Coaches may take players in and out of a game as needed. A substitute may only bat in one spot in the batting order.
8. **Defense** – Defensive warm-ups will be in the first inning only.
9. **Infield fly rule** – in effect if there are less than two outs with runners on first and second or first, second, and third. With an infield fly, the batter is out and runners run at their own risk. Intentional dropped infield flies will result in the batter being out, the ball called dead, and runners do not advance. (Umpire discretion)
10. **Batting order** – Teams may bat a maximum of 12 batters (10 field players and 2 extra hitters).
11. **Batting** – Each batter will start with a count of one ball and one strike. A foul ball on strike three is an out.
12. **Roster** – No more than sixteen players (ages 16 and up only) will be permitted per team per game, which allows each team a maximum of four subs per game. At the conclusion of the THIRD WEEK of the regular season, no more players can be added. In the event a player's identity is questioned, the player must present a valid form of identification. If it is discovered before the second inning begins that a team is using an ineligible player, that team will forfeit the game. In the event that the player is not discovered by the beginning of the second inning then the game continues and there will be no grounds for protest. Once the team's lineups have been exchanged to both coaches and the scorekeeper, no additional players can be entered into that game. If a player(s) who have been submitted on the lineup show up once the second inning has begun, that player(s) must present a valid form of identification and the coach must prove they are on the master roster. If neither can be done, the player(s) cannot enter the game.
12. **Homeruns** – Each team will be allowed TWO home runs per game. After two home runs, any ball hit over the fence is an out.

13. **Stealing** – There is no stealing allowed.

14. **Sliding** – there is no penalty for sliding into a base. If there is a play at a base, that runner must slide. If the runner knocks the baseman over from sliding then there is no penalty. If there is a play at a base and the runner knocks the baseman over while standing up, the runner is out and ejected from the game. At first base, if the defensive player is intentionally knocked down, the runner is called out and ejected from the game. (Umpire discretion)

15. **Ball** – The Male Division will use a 12-inch stitched ball with a .40 core. The Female Division will use an 11-inch stitched ball with a .40 core. YMCA will provide game balls.

ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS AND CONDUCT

-The catcher can only question balls and strikes.

-The pitcher may only question if the pitch was inside, outside, or deep. Pitchers cannot be persistent.

-If the batter steps out of the batters' box after the ball has been pitched, a strike will be called.

-Once the batter steps into the box, he/she can be pitched to immediately.

-The coach is allowed one time out per batter per inning. If a second time out is called, it will not be granted and if the batter steps out of the batters' box, a strike will be called.

-If a base runner is hit with a batted ball in foul territory, the ball will be declared a foul. If a base runner is hit with a batted ball in fair territory, a dead ball will be called and the runner will be called out.

-If a player is ejected from a game, he/she must also sit out their next game. If there is a second offense, that player will be terminated from the league completely for that season.

-The umpire will give one warning per player for misconduct. If there is a second offense in that game, the offending player will be ejected.

-There will be no protests of games.

-Metal spikes of any kind will not be permitted to be worn during games

-ABSOLUTELY NO TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, OR PLAYING INTOXICATED! First offense results in immediate dismissal from the league for the offending player.

Good sportsmanship is expected at all times from both the players and the spectators.

Note: Umpire and YMCA staff can remove persons showing unsportsmanlike conduct at any time.

**Any rule not covered under this list will be covered under USSSA Rules.
The YMCA Program Director has final authority to make decisions pertaining to all softball league rules and regulations.**