

Brandon Valley Youth Softball Association

D League Rules Girls Teams Age 8 & Under

- Play with 11” Incredi-ball
- 30’ pitching rubber, 45’ base path
- Players pitch; adults pitch after 4 called balls
- No walks
- Parents will umpire
- Strike outs allowed
- No stealing of bases
- Leading off is allowed
- Coaches allowed on the field to instruct
- Open substitution
- All players play defense, extras in outfield
- All players bat
- Pitcher and catcher limitations
- Limit 5 runs per inning or 3 outs

The rules of the ASA will be followed with the following exceptions:

1. Our primary objective is to create an environment in which the participants have fun, learn good sportsmanship, and develop softball skills. **Coaches are responsible for ensuring that this objective is met and for the conduct of their players, parents, and fans. The use of tobacco, alcohol, or any other controlled substance by an umpire, coach, or other volunteer during a softball game or tournament is prohibited.**
2. This is a physical sport and injury may result.
3. Home team will be determined by a coin flip 5 minutes prior to the game’s start. The home team takes the field first.
4. Each team must supply a game ball to the umpire.
5. Uniform shirts must be worn and tucked in. No jewelry is allowed. **Protective pads or pants must be worn. Players will not be allowed to play in the game without these pads or pants.**
6. Catchers must wear a mask, chest protector and shin guards.
7. All batters and base runners will wear batting helmets with chinstraps and facemasks.
8. Please have the catcher ready early, to keep the game moving.
9. All players bat. Late arriving players will be added to the end of the line-up with no penalty.
10. Batters will not be awarded first base with a walk (4 balls). When a pitcher gets a count of 4 balls on the batter, the offensive team’s coach or an adult representative will then pitch to the batter until s/he hits the ball or receives 3 strikes. The strike count does not start over when the “adult pitcher” enters the field to deliver the remaining pitches. The “adult pitcher” will not be allowed to tell the batter when to swing.
11. Batters will be allowed to advance to first base after being hit by a pitch only if s/he made an attempt to get out of the way.
12. Dropped third strike rule is not in effect. Batters may not advance to first on a dropped third strike.
13. Stealing is not allowed. Leading off is permitted after the ball leaves the pitcher’s hand. A play can be made on the runner leading off.
14. Runners are encouraged to slide at home or any other base, if a play is being made there. .
15. All players must run for themselves unless injured. No courtesy runner.
16. The infield-fly rule is not in effect.

17. **Girls-** pitcher must start with both feet touching the rubber, and she may only stride forward to deliver the pitch. Must start with the ball and glove apart from each other.
18. **Boys-** pitcher must start with both feet touching the rubber, and he may stride back before coming forward to deliver the pitch.
19. Anyone under the age of 18 warming up a pitcher or being a base-coach must wear a catcher's helmet or a batting helmet.
20. The infield should consist of a catcher, a pitcher, a shortstop, and three basemen. The outfield will have the remaining players. The outfielders may not set up in the infield. Coaches **may** be in the field to help instruct their defensive players.
21. Open substitution is allowed. Please rotate players in as many positions as possible. Pitchers and catchers can play those positions for a total of 3 innings, but no more than 2 innings in a row. Even one pitch thrown constitutes a full inning. Teams can play with 8 players and no outs will be assessed; however, less than 8 players will constitute a forfeit. In that case, the forfeiting team can borrow players from the other team and play out the game.
22. Only BVYSA will be allowed to play in league games. Chattering is allowed; calling opposing players by their name or number will not be allowed. The catcher must remain quiet through the pitch.
23. The parent umpiring at the plate shall help the catcher by stopping the ball. This will allow the game to keep moving and prevent delays.
24. Single games begin at 7:00. No new inning may begin after 1 hour 30 minutes of play in single games. The inning will be completed unless the home team is ahead. The parent umpiring may stop a game when safety becomes an issue due to darkness.
25. Double headers begin at 6:00 and 7:30. No new inning may begin after 1 hour 15 minutes of play when double headers are scheduled. The inning will be completed unless the home team is ahead. The second game of the double header will begin as close to 7:30 as possible. The umpire may stop a game when safety becomes an issue due to darkness.
26. Ties are not played out. **
27. The player up to bat and the on-deck player are the only two people that are allowed to swing the bat. Be sure that the on-deck circle is in a safe place on the side of the infield.
28. Players who are not batting or running bases should be seated on their bench. Please do not allow players to sit on the back of the benches or hang on the fence.
29. All teams should have a first aid kit available at all games.
30. **If a game is cancelled due to weather, the game will not be rescheduled.** .
31. Games must stop if there is lightning. However, games will be played in the rain as long as it is just sprinkling. Remember if the game stops after starting it will not be rescheduled.
32. Each team is responsible for cleaning out their dugout.
33. When the ball is thrown to the infield from the outfield, runners must stop.
34. It is encouraged that coaches try to gradually move off the field by the end of the season during defense.

