



2025

SOFTBALL YOUTH ALL-AMERICAN GAMES | RULES

Park/ COOLER/ANIMAL RULES:

Cincy: Coolers, dogs, and tents allowed

Reno: NO COOLERS ALLOWED - NO DOGS ALLOWED - Tents allowed - NO STAKE

TX: NO DOGS ALLOWED - Coolers and tents allowed

Chicagoland: NO DOGS ALLOWED

VA Beach: NO COOLERS, BIKES, SKATEBOARDS or ROLLERBLADES - Tents allowed - Dogs are allowed on a leash

Ozarks: NO COOLERS (EXCEPT FOR PLAYERS) or OUTSIDE FOOD - Tents allowed - Dogs are allowed on a leash

Myrtle Beach: NO DOGS ALLOWED - Coolers and tents allowed

LEGAL BATS : Only ASA/USA and/or USSSA softball certified bats are legal for game play. Any violation of this rule will cause the player to be called out and the head coach to be ejected from that game.

CLEATS :

No Metal Cleats in Reno, Chicagoland, Ozarks and Myrtle Beach - All athletes must wear rubber/molded cleats or turf shoes

HOME / VISITOR DETERMINATION : Home/visitor for pool play will be determined by a coin-flip before the game. Higher seed has the option (choice) of home/visitor in the elimination rounds. Players MUST bring both jerseys to ALL games. The home team will wear the "light-colored" jersey. Teams must change due to the coin toss outcome. If a player forgets a jersey, they must wear what they have.

PHOTOGRAPHY/SOCIAL MEDIA : Athletx Staff are permitted for on-field photography/social media ONLY. No parents/friends/or family members are allowed on the field/dugout for photography for liability issues.

GAME WARM-UPS : No warm-ups on the infields. All pre-game warm-ups will need to be made in the outfield grass. No soft-tossing into fences.

BATTING LINE-UP : All players will bat during pool play and bracket play games. Rolling line up for Pool play. Coaches have the option of choosing the order of their lineup for elimination day, all players will still bat on elimination day.

DEFENSIVE LINE-UP : No player will sit more than 2 defensive innings per game.

SUBSTITUTIONS : Free Defensive Substitutions with the exception of pitchers. See below for pitcher-specific reentry guidelines.

PITCHING DISTANCES :

HS: 43 ft (12 inch ball - 14U-18U)

12u: 40 ft (12 inch ball- 12U)

10u: 35 ft (11 inch ball -10U)

IN-GAME INJURIES : If a player is injured during the game, their spot in the lineup is skipped with no penalty.

INTENTIONAL WALKS : If the pitcher desires to walk the batter, all pitches must be delivered.

COURTESY RUNNERS : Courtesy runner for the pitcher and catcher allowed at any time. If substitutions exist, the courtesy runner must be a sub. If not, the courtesy runner must be the player who made the last batted out.

PITCHER RE-ENTRY RULE : Once a pitcher has been removed from the pitching position, she can re-enter as the pitcher once.

2020 PITCHING RULE CHANGES: In following the NCAA rule change to pitching for 2020, The All-American Games will abide by the below guidelines:

The pitcher is in the pitching position when she has her hands apart, her pivot foot in contact with the pitcher's plate, both feet on the ground within the 24-inch length of the pitcher's plate and her hips in line with first and third bases, and the catcher is in position to receive the pitch.

While the pitcher takes the signal, her stride foot may be on or behind the pitcher's plate as far back as desired. Once the pitcher initially sets the toe of her stride foot, she cannot move it to increase the distance behind the pitcher's plate. In addition, the pitcher must take or appear to take a signal while in the pitching and signal-taking positions

STEALING : Stealing is allowed in ALL age classes.

SLIDING : Must slide/avoid contact. A player must slide or attempt to avoid contact on all close plays (umpire discretion). If, in the umpire's judgment, there is intentional contact, that umpire may call the runner out on that play. If the contact is judged as intentional and malicious, that umpire may also eject the player from the game.

PITCHING LIMITS : There are no pitching limitations at SYAAG, coaches discretion. We expect all coaches to use good faith in how they utilize their pitchers and the amount of innings and pitches thrown throughout the tournament. Although we do not enforce any specific pitching limitations we expect that all coaches have their own reasonable limitations built in for each of their player's arms to protect them from overuse.

REGULATION INNINGS : 12u and HS will play 7 innings for a complete, regulation game time of 1 hour and 15 minutes.

10u will play 6 innings for a complete, regulation game time of 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Championship game is full 7 innings or 1 hour and 30 minutes of play...12u and HS.

Championship game is full 6 innings or 1 hour and 30 minutes of play... 10u.

TIME LIMIT / IN GAME TIE-BREAKER : The standard time limit for all age groups is 1 hour and 15 minutes. The time limit for the championship games is 1 hour and 30 minutes. Pool Play games can end in ties. No new innings should start after the 1 hour 15 minute time limit. IF there is a tie during bracket play games, we WILL use the International Tie-Breaker Rule.

RUN / MERCY RULE : A Run rule will be enforced for all games, including both pool play and elimination games. The run rule shall be 12 runs after 3 innings, 10 runs after 4 innings or 8 runs after 5 innings. If the home team is behind at the point of the defined run rule, they will still get their last at-bat. If the home team is ahead by the run rule they will not bat in the bottom-half of that respective inning.

DROPPED THIRD STRIKE : The dropped third strike rule will apply to ALL age groups.

INFIELD FLY RULE : The infield fly rule will apply to ALL age groups.

DUGOUTS/FIELDS : Parents/family members are not permitted inside the dugouts or on the playing surface unless otherwise instructed by a coach or a Softball Youth staff member. Parents also please refrain from coming behind the dugouts during game play.

INCLEMENT WEATHER/GAME GUARANTEE:

In case of a team event being canceled or shortened at any time due to inclement weather and/or field conditions, Softball Youth will issue credits as follows:

- 0 Games: 100% credit toward a future Softball Youth event in 2025/2026.
- 1 Game: 50% credit toward a future Softball Youth event in 2025/2026.
- 2nd Game Started: 25% credit toward a future Softball Youth event in 2025/2026.
- 2 or more Games Completed: No credits Due

AGE REQUIREMENT:

SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	AGE	DIV
2018	2018	2018	2018	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	5	6U
2017	2017	2017	2017	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	6	6U
2016	2016	2016	2016	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	7	8U
2015	2015	2015	2015	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	8	8U
2014	2014	2014	2014	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	9	10U
2013	2013	2013	2013	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	10	10U
2012	2012	2012	2012	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	11	12U
2011	2011	2011	2011	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	12	12U
2010	2010	2010	2010	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	13	14U
2009	2009	2009	2009	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	14	14U
2008	2008	2008	2008	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	15	16U
2007	2007	2007	2007	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	16	16U
2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	17	18U
2005	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	18	18U