



# Silver City Girls Softball League Rules

**AUTHORITY** Silver City Girls Softball League is conducted by authority of the Board of Directors.

**PURPOSE** The purpose of Silver City Softball is to promote the highest ideals of sportsmanship, fellowship, athleticism, and fair play by providing recreation, fun, and cooperation through voluntary participation. In no manner is this program intended to hinder school athletic programs, but rather, it is intended to give all eligible individuals the opportunity to participate in the tradition of softball.

**ELIGIBILITY** All players must be registered with Silver City Girls Softball prior to the close of the registration period.

- Participation by players not registered with Silver City Girls Softball will result in immediate removal of the player from the game and the league. The player will not be allowed to register until the next open registration period.
- Participation by players not registered with Silver City Girls Softball will result in penalties to the head coach, and include, but are not limited to immediate suspension of the head coach.
- Players may play in a league equivalent to one year above their birth year.
- There will be no "play up requests" for players beyond the one year.

## COACHES

- An individual may be denied coaching privileges for any violation of Silver City Girls Softball code of conduct.
- Eligibility for adults as coaches in the Silver City Girls Softball Program is as follows:
  - Coaches must demonstrate knowledge of Softball rules.
  - The assignment of coaches will be at the discretion of the Softball Board.
- The Softball Board will be the final judge of fact in all questions of eligibility.
- Only coaches with current background checks are allowed on the field or in the dugout during any game.

## PLAYERS

- Teams may play with up to 10 defensive players at one time, including 4 outfielders. (8U-12U)
- Teams may play with up to 9 defensive players at one time, including 3 outfielders. (14U)
- Teams must field at least 6 players for an official game. Less than 6 players will result in a forfeit.
- Players all must adhere to the Player Code of Conducts.

## REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

- A batting helmet with a face mask is required for all batters.
- Face masks are required for infield positions.
- 12U & 14U fast pitch will use the 12" ball.
- 8U & 10U fast pitch will use the 11" ball.

**ATTENDANCE** All planned practices are mandatory. Attendance is key in the development of all players. At least one coach must be told in advance of a practice that a player will not be able to attend, except in the case of emergencies. All players should arrive for practice and be ready to take the field on time. All necessary equipment should be brought to practice including glove, bat, batting helmets and cleats.

### *Practices*

- In order to maximize practices, it is imperative that players give 100% of their effort and attention to the practice. This requires the players to be at the field on time and ready to practice.
- Players will hustle on and off the field and between stations.
- Players will not talk to anyone when a coach is talking to them specifically or to the group.
- All equipment must be treated with respect and picked up at the end of practice.
- All trash will be picked up before leaving the fields and dugouts.
- All cell phones must be turned off or on vibrate in player's bags at all times.



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## ATTENDANCE CONT.

### Games

- It is important to support our teammates and to learn from the game time situations. In order to succeed in this, the following game time guidelines, apply:
- Players are to remain in the dugout during the entire game.
- Players not playing are to keep a positive attitude and support team members that are currently on the field.
- Parents/Guardians shall not coach players on the field.
- Parents/Guardians are encouraged to cheer and encourage all players during the game. Negative statements will not be tolerated.
- All cell phones must be turned off or on vibrate in player's bags at all times.

## GAME DAY

- All players participating are required to wear complete softball uniforms selected by the Board of Directors. No players shall wear identical numbers.
- The Board of Directors will make the final decision regarding game scheduling.
- The home team will use the 1st base dugout; the visiting team will use the 3rd base dugout. (with the exception of field 3 at Columbus Park)
- During the duration of a game, players must remain in the dugout.
- Only players and coaches are allowed in the dugouts during a game.
- Coaches will submit scores to the board of directors within 48 hours of game conclusion.
- At any time, limit is reached, the game will be stopped at the completion of the current Batter if the game is in an unreachable/un-tieable state.
- If a game that is called due to weather or darkness is rescheduled, it will be restarted at the exact point at which it was called and will continue until the completion of a regulation game or the expiration of a new, complete time limit— whichever comes first.
- Weather – It is up to the umpire as to whether the game will be played as scheduled.
- Game time starts on the first pitch to an opposing batter (8U) or first warm up pitch (10U). Teams must be warmed up and ready to play at the scheduled start time of the game.
  - EXCEPTION: Failure of the Head Coach to have their team ready to play at scheduled game time will result in the game clock starting at the scheduled game time.
  - If the field is being used for another game prior to the scheduled games, teams should warm-up outside the fences or on adjacent unused fields.
- Between half-innings, teams will be allowed only 5 warm-up pitches, or a time of one minute, whichever is reached first.
- If used, batpersons must wear helmets and must wait until the completion of any play before leaving the dugout to retrieve a bat.
- No Coach or defensive player shall at any time, whether in the Coach's box or on the playing field, use language, cheers or arbitrary noises which are intended to affect the performance of an opposing offensive player. Cheers, of a positive nature only, are allowed from the dugout area while occupying the offensive position.
- The on-deck batter must stand either at the far end of their team's dugout or in the on-deck area corresponding to the dugout their team occupies.
  - For insurance reasons, the dugouts are restricted to current team players and coaches with completed, up to date background checks. Absolutely no others will be allowed in the dugouts.
  - All rosters will have to be approved by the Silver City Softball Board.

## EXCEPTIONS

- All items not covered by these rules will be decided by the Softball Board.
- The Softball Board is the final judge of fact and interpretation of these rules.
- All complaints must be submitted to the Softball Board in writing.
- The Softball Board reserves the right to make exceptions in special cases for all rules, procedures, and policies.