

Official Rules - Howell Girls Softball League

PITCHING RULES - Sophomore, Junior and Senior divisions

- ASA pitching rules apply. No imaginary pitching circle. No sidearm deliveries
- Pitcher is allowed to pitch a maximum of **4** innings per game.
- Innings **MUST** be consecutive. Pitcher cannot reenter game as a pitcher.
- *If STARTING pitcher is injured before her 4 inning limit, she may reenter and the RELIEF pitcher is NOT charged for an appearance*
- A batter hit by a pitch will be awarded 1st base, **even if** the ball hits the ground first. A batter **MUST** attempt to get out of the way of the ball - Umpires discretion
- A pitcher that hits 2 batters (on the fly) in one inning, is removed for the remainder of the inning, but may re-enter as the pitcher the following inning. This is assuming that the 4 inning maximum has not been reached.
- If a pitcher hits 3 batters (on the fly) in one game, the pitcher is removed for the remainder of the game, and may reenter the game in another position.
- Delivery **MUST** start with one or two feet on the pitching rubber.
- **Goal is to teach the girls to throw hard and throw strikes while keeping the game moving and fun. Allowances will be made to keep the game fun.**
- Pitchers **MUST** throw 4 pitches to the batter for an intentional walk. **NO** rolling the ball to the catcher.

VISITS TO THE MOUND BY COACH

- Second visit to the mound in one inning, the pitcher must be removed. Maximum 3 visits per game; injuries do not apply.

BASE RUNNING RULES - Sophomore, Junior and Senior divisions

- No crashing into fielders.
- Players **MUST** slide or avoid collision.
- If umpire feels that collision was intentional, the player will be thrown out of the game.
- Fielder **MUST** have the ball and be waiting for the runner.
- If the fielder at any base does not have the ball, she cannot block the base.
- Runner may not leap over fielder with ball to avoid being tagged.

SAFETY BASES

- 1st baseman cannot block the runner from base.
- White section of base is fair territory / colored section is foul
- Defensive player uses white section / Batter/runner uses colored section
- When tagging on a fly ball runner uses white section
- On extra base hits or balls hit to the outfield the runner may use either side of the base as long as no play is being made at first

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BATTING RULES - Sophomore, Junior and Senior divisions

ALL HI TECH / COMPOSITE BATS ARE NOW BANNED FROM HGSL RECREATIONAL PLAY.

All bats must have sticker verifying approval by HGSL.

- No walk limit
- Maximum number of hitters allowed to bat in any inning is your total of players or the opposing team's number, whichever is greatest.
- Each team **MUST** bat their entire line-up.

** Batters must be instructed the proper way to release their bat after contact. A THROWN BAT (or any equipment) will be treated as follows:*

- *1st time - umpire will warn both benches*
- *2nd time - player can be called out*
- *3rd time - player can be ejected from game*
- *Umpire's decision is final*

PLAYERS MUST MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO WEAR THEIR HGSL TEAM UNIFORM. PLAYERS COMING FROM HIGH SCHOOL OR MIDDLE SCHOOL GAMES MUST CHANGE INTO HGSL UNIFORMS.