

2019 Rules for Ponytail Softball Grades 3 & 4

1. All games have no walks (strikeout or hit the ball).
2. **Pitchers for 3rd/4th grade games will pitch from a pitching rubber of 35' starting the first game. Pitchers will pitch to the count of four balls, if no strikeout or hit after four balls, a coach will pitch.** For all games the count is **4 balls -3 strikes - START WITH 1 STRIKE**). **There is no walking.**
3. Game time is 12:30 pm unless arrangements have been made between coaches.
4. If rain threatens the playing of games, the traveling team should be called no less than two hours prior to game time.
5. Please stress **fundamentals** and teach proper **sportsmanship**.
6. Helmets and catchers masks **must** be worn until players cross home plate. **Optional facemasks for batting helmets.**
7. Games are 5 innings in length. A two-hour time limit has been set by the league for each doubleheader. No new inning can start after 3:00. If coaches agree you can start a new game after the first hour before the
8. **A 9-batter rule will be in effect.** After the 9th batter, if there is not 3 outs the inning will change and the other team will come to bat. The inning will be played out on the 9th batter. **Fielders should throw the ball home and ball will be dead.**
9. The size ball for 3rd and 4th graders is the 11" softball.
10. 15 run rule after 3 innings and 10 run rule after 4 innings. If teams have played 2 games and the 2 hour game limit has not been reached. Teams should keep playing until the 2 hour time limit is reached.
11. All players should bat and play in the field during each game.
12. The batting order should consist of all the players on the team. This includes tournaments. Players should play in the field equal amounts each game. At this level we are striving to have fun and give everybody an equal chance to play. Coaches are encouraged to flip the batting order the second game and to vary the positions the players play.
13. **How it works.** If a team has 15 players, then their batting order would contain 15 players. If a player sits out one inning, they **must** play the next inning. This rotation will continue so each player has **equal** playing time. Yes this means some of your better players will need to sit out for an inning or two