2025 Rec Softball League Rules

	Grades 4-5	Grades 6-8
Max innings or time limit (no new inning after time expires, new inn. begins after 3rd out)	7 or 1:20	7 or 1:20
Pitching distance	35	40
Base distance	60	60
Teams allowed 3 conferences per game. Pitcher is removed after 4th.	Yes	Yes
*Max runs per half inning	6	6
Mercy/run rule (15, 12, or 8 runs after 3, 4, or 5 innings)	Yes	Yes
Players on defense	9	9
Game ball (2 new/2 used per game, supplied by JC Parks, retrieve foul ball on your side)	11"	12"
Coaches allowed on field for defense (OK for coaches to be just outside the dugout)	No	No
Bat the roster & free substitution	Yes	Yes
If player does not bat due to injury, sick, or no sub, she is out unless opposing coach waives	Yes	Yes
Minimum players to play a game (9th batter is an out each inn.)	8	8
**Courtesy Runner allowed (see new rule for 2025 below)	Yes	Yes
Score & standings kept (verify with umpire & scorekeepers each inn.)	Yes	Yes
Official game if played 3.5 innings if home team leads or 45 minutes played	Yes	Yes
League games end in a tie	Yes	Yes
Infield fly rule	Yes	Yes
Lead off when the ball leaves the pitchers hand & steal	No	Yes
Dropped 3rd strike rule	No	Yes
Intentional walk (no pitches, Head Coach just notifies umpire)	No	Yes
Metal cleats allowed	No	No
Mandatory slide rule (but if umpire rules malicious, player is out & ejected for the game)	No	No
Bats must have USA or ASA stamp	Yes	Yes
Advance on wild pitch or passed ball	No	Yes
Bunting	No	Yes
Base on balls/walks	***No	Yes

*If the home team cannot win the game, due to the max runs per half inning rule, the game is over. We will not play, or let the home team bat, the last half inning.

**Once per inning for the pitcher and one position player. Same player may be the courtesy runner for both in the same half inning.

***The Coach makes 3 pitches. If the batter does not hit a fair ball from the coach, she is out. At bat is extended if the last pitch is hit foul.

If not mentioned in the rules above, USA Softball rules will govern play.