

Franklin Girls Softball Association 2026

Senior Division Rules

USA Softball Rules and Regulations followed.
Specific league rules are as follows.

Game Rules

The home team provides patched umpires and balls.

The home team is responsible for canceling the umpire on the day of the game in case of rainouts (no later than 2 hours prior to game time).

7 inning games. No new inning to start after 7:45 pm for 6 pm games or 9:45 pm for 8 pm games

5 run limit per inning, waived in 7th or last inning. (unlimited runs unless coaches agree in pre-game to limit the last inning).

Run Ahead Rule: 15 after 5 innings (4 1/2 innings if home team is ahead)

Minimum of 8 players required to start and end a game. Scrimmage regardless of forfeit.

Senior division teams may call up players from the Juniors division or other Seniors teams if they have less than 10 players for a game. (Not allowed in Playoffs)

A game is official after 4 innings (the home team does not need to bat in their half of the fourth inning if ahead).

Scorebook should be kept by both teams.

All players must play an equal amount of time in the field each game.

No player will be on the bench for 2 consecutive innings.

All players must play a minimum of 2 innings in the infield.

Free substitution of players in the field

12-inch Stamped ASA ball and 43 feet pitching distance

Facemasks required for pitchers and 3rd basemen. Highly recommended for all fielders.

9 fielders with 3 outfielders. Outfielders must start on the grass.

Pitching

43' Pitching distance

Pitchers shall not pitch more than 5 innings per game during the regular season. Special situations to allow a pitcher to exceed this game limit shall be at the discretion of home and visiting head coach.

Pitchers shall be removed from pitching after directly hitting 3 batters in an inning or 5 in the course of the game (bounced pitches will not count).

Prior to the start of any regular season games, a coach can ask to allow a pitcher to pitch more than 5 innings (under the premise that most teams only have 2 pitchers per team). The opposing coach must agree and if they do, the opposing coach can also pitch a pitcher more than 5 innings (i.e. the entire game).

It is expected that any team that has a pitcher "hurt" during a game, can allow another pitcher to pitch more than 5 innings.

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Batting

All players bat - a continuous batting order will be used.

Batters must wear helmets with cages. All players must wear a helmet when batting, on the base path, and when in the first or third base coaching boxes.

Slap hitting and drag bunting are allowed

Infield fly rule in effect

No slashing (faking bunt, then hitting away)

If a player is injured during a game and cannot continue or leaves in the middle of the game for other reasons, that player's position in the order is skipped for the remainder of the game without penalty (i.e. no automatic out).

Players who arrive after the start of the game will be added to the end of the order.

Base Running

Players must slide or avoid contact. All sliding rule decisions are at the discretion of the umpire.

A courtesy runner can be used for catcher or pitcher and should be the last batter from the previous inning. The second to last batter of the previous inning if both pitcher and catcher are on base at the same time.

Playoffs

All playoff games will be played with no time limit. International Tie Breaker will be used to decide the winner if the game is tied after 7 complete innings.

Lastly, for any playoff game, if a coach needs to have a single girl pitch, they need full board approval. Thus, the coach needs to inform their league representative and that representative needs to get approval from the extended KP board (each town in the league gets a vote). Only after getting board approval, can a team move forward. Again, if approved, the opposing team can counter with a single pitcher as well.