



2025 PINTO 8U COACH PITCH INTERNATIONAL SOFTBALL CLASSIC RULES & REGULATIONS

Tournament Rules

In addition to the rules stated herein, all games are subject to the 2025 PONY Softball Rules & Regulations

Playing Field:

- A. Pitching Distance: 35 Feet
- B. Distance between bases: 60 Feet
- C. The recommended home run fence distance at foul lines and center field are:
150 Feet to 175 Feet (These are just recommendations)

Playing Rules:

- A. The team shall consist of not more than 18, nor less than 10 players on the affidavit.
- B. The tournament team must have 8 eligible players, who are physically able to play, present at the start of the tournament game. If 8 eligible players are not present within 15 minutes after the scheduled starting time of the game, the game shall be forfeited. The tournament team must have 8 eligible players, who are physically able to play, to start the game and complete the game or it is a forfeit.
- C. The entire roster of players present for the game shall bat in the rotation.
- D. The team will field the 10 fielding positions, with no shifts allowed. The 4 outfielders must be at least 20 Feet behind the baseline when the ball is pitched.
- E. All bats must bear the USA/ASA approved certification mark and must NOT be listed on an USA/ASA banned bat list. All bats must pass through a 2 ¼ inch bat ring to be legal. Not to exceed 34 inches in length and no heavier than 38 ounces in weight.
- F. If a batted ball strikes the coach pitcher, the ball will be considered dead. That pitch will not count as one of the batters six pitches and the runners shall not advance. The coach who is pitching shall at no time give coaching instructions or in any way interfere with a defensive player once the ball is in play. (PENALTY) The coach pitcher shall be warned once and if a second infraction occurs the coach pitcher must be removed for the remainder of the game and a new coach pitcher put in their place.

- G. The batter is out if failing to hit a fair ball after a maximum of six (6) pitches or after three (3) strikes from the coach pitcher. If the batter fouls off the sixth pitch, she continues to bat until he swings and misses or does not swing,
- H. The player fielding the pitcher's position shall take a position inside the pitcher's circle. The player may take a position to the left or right of the coach pitcher, but no closer to the batter than the coach pitcher.
- I. Batters are not allowed to bunt or soft swing at the ball. (PENALTY) The pitch is a strike and the ball is dead. Batters are allowed to slap swing.
- J. Base runners are not permitted to steal bases and shall remain in contact with the base until the ball is hit or crosses home plate.
- K. There is no Infield Fly Rule or Drop Third Strike.
- L. There is free substitution on defense, but the batting order may not change.
- M. When the ball is returned to the coach pitcher or player pitcher in the circle, the umpire shall call time and the ball is dead. The base runners that have crossed the half way line at this time will be entitled to the next base.
- N. On all over throws at first base, the ball is dead and the runners advance one base with the Hitter remaining at first base. (This is put in place to keep the game from becoming a Running merry-go-round the bases and hopefully gets more players to the plate each inning.).
- O. Players may tag up and run on a caught fly ball.

MERCY RULES:

- A. If the visiting team is leading by at least 11 runs at the end of the 4 inning or 6 runs after 5 innings, the game shall be declared complete and the visiting team shall be declared the winner.
- B. There is a maximum of 5 runs per half inning.

Managers / Coaches / Players:

- A. One manager, two coaches, one business manager and players listed on the affidavit will be the only ones allowed in the dugout or on the field. When a team is on defense, all members of the coaching staff must stay in the dugout.
- B. All players must be in full uniform and coaches must match. Every player and coach must have a tournament patch on their right sleeve or upper right chest if sleeveless uniform.

* Rules revised 06/26/2025