

Eagan Softball In-House Rules

Updated on 5/25/2025

A. DIVISIONS

Grades apply to the school year in session at the time of registration.

Rookies	Grades PK-K
Mites	Grades 1-2

B. GENERAL RULES

1. Rookies and Mites are instructional leagues. Emphasis should be placed on teaching the rules and skills of softball. No standings are kept during the season.
2. A game shall consist of six (6) innings or 75 minutes. All games start at time allotted in the sports engine app. It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that the field has been set up by that time. No new inning should start after 60 minutes of play. It is the duty of the coaches to keep the game moving.
3. Bases are set at 35'.
4. A maximum of two (2) coaches can be in the field during a game for the purpose of instructing their players.
5. No Catchers at the Rookie Level - If Catchers at Mites they must have Catchers Helmet
6. All players may be in the field each inning but there may only be five (5) infielders. All "extras" will be placed in the outfield.
7. Outfielders must be positioned at least 10-12 feet beyond the baseline at the start of each play.
8. All eligible players present at a game will bat in order for the entire game.
9. **EQUAL PARTICIPATION RULE:** No player will sit out an inning for a second time until all players at that game have sat out for one (1) inning. NO EXCEPTIONS.
10. Any player who arrives at the game after the first pitch will be inserted into the lineup at the bottom of the batting order.
11. In case of an injury, the batting order will remain the same less the injured player. If a batter is injured while at bat, the next batter in line will be up. There is no penalty.
12. Time may be called immediately by the Umpire in the event of an injury. It is the sole discretion of the Umpire to designate what base or bases the runner(s) should be awarded.
13. Leading off any base is illegal. Runners cannot leave their base until the ball is hit.
14. In case of inclement or unseasonable weather, players are allowed to wear extra clothing (jackets, sweats, etc.) over their uniforms.
15. Jewelry such as rings, earrings, necklaces, watches, bracelets, or hair clips may not be worn during a game.

16. No alcohol or tobacco will be used by coaches, players, fans, or parents at a game. Anyone doing so will be ejected from the game and required to leave the area.
17. Spectators will not sit directly behind the backstop. Seating should be outside the field of play along the first and third baselines.
18. Small children should be supervised by their parents or guardians. For safety reasons, children should not be allowed to go near the outfield, players bench, or hang on backstop fences.

C. DIVISION SPECIFIC RULES

1. ROOKIES ONLY:

- a. Players hit off a batting tee to begin the season. After two (2) games, coaches can start pitching to their own players (if the player wants to). **Each player will get four (4) pitches and if the ball is not put into play, the tee will be utilized.** It is important to follow the 4 pitch rule to increase the # of fielding opportunities and at bats all players in the game receive.
- b. Coaches act as the umpire for that half of the inning.
- c. No runner may advance more than one (1) base on an infield hit. No runner may advance more than two (2) bases on a hit to the outfield. It is the Umpires sole decision on what type of hit is made.
- d. Rookies bat through the order with every player getting 1 at bat per inning.
- e. Rookies play (4) innings or 60 Minutes whichever comes first.

2. MITES ONLY:

- a. Coaches will pitch to their own team and act as the Umpire for that half of the inning.
- b. Each batter will receive a maximum of six (6) pitches. After six (6) pitches, the batter is out and the next player comes up to bat. NO EXCEPTIONS. Three (3) strikes is an out.
- c. No runner may advance more than two (2) bases whether the ball is hit to the infield or the outfield.
- d. Mites remain at bat until three (3) outs have occurred or five (5) runs have scored, whichever comes first.

D. POSTPONED GAMES

1. When the Coach or Umpire determines that a game has become hazardous or unplayable, they must call the game immediately. Such conditions for calling a game are, but not limited to, rain, lightning, darkness, and weather-related sirens. Coaches should stop a game if lightning is sighted. In all cases, the primary consideration will be the safety of the players.
2. The In-House or Age Group Coordinator will set a makeup date and notify both coaches if the schedule allows. Rescheduling a game for any reason other than weather requires the In-House or Age Group Coordinator be informed.

E. EQUIPMENT & UNIFORMS

1. EAA issued jerseys should be worn to all scheduled games.
2. No metal cleats allowed.
3. Batting helmets are required for all batters and base runners. Each team is issued five (5) helmets.
4. Equipment turn-in will take place within two (2) weeks of the end of the season. During equipment turn-in, coaches will clean out the bags and sort equipment as needed.