

Latham Lassies League Local Rules for 8U Division

1. MAKE SURE THE GIRLS HAVE FUN!

2. A game shall consist of 5 innings.
3. All regular season games will have a 1:45 time limit.
4. Each player should play 2 of every 5 innings in the infield (the only exception is if they do not want to play the infield).
5. Each player should be rotated to all positions throughout the season (with the exception if there is a position they do not want to play, this does not apply to when the girls are pitching. A girl should show the ability to reach home plate in the air with a pitch prior to being given a chance to pitch)
6. Regulation infield should be used, all other players are to play the outfield, at least 10 feet behind the bases, and cannot be designated to cover bases.
7. Pitchers and First base positions will be required to wear a face mask. Two masks will be provided to each team.
8. A minimum of 8 players is needed to start a game. Should a team not have 8 players they may:
 - Call up a 2nd year player from a lower division. Best judgment should be used when borrowing a younger player. This player need not play the infield, but will be included in the batting lineup. Or if a younger division player is not available
 - A player may be designated each inning from the opposing team to play the field for the team in need. Again this player need not play the infield and they will be included in their own team's lineup. Should there turn at bat come up while they are playing the field, they may be switched for a different designated player.
9. There will be a 5 run per inning limit in all innings during regular season play. The 5th run of the inning immediately ends the inning.
10. No standings will be kept.
11. Pitching distance will be 30 feet, measure rear of home plate to front of pitching rubber.
12. Coaches will pitch the entire game for the first half of the season. For the second half of the season, the coach will pitch once through the lineup and then the girls will take over pitching, even if that change will occur mid-inning.
13. There are no called strikes when the coach is pitching.
14. Coaches pitching should have a foot on the pitching rubber as they pitch. The pitcher coach MAY NOT direct play once the ball has been hit.
15. If the ball hits the Coach pitcher, the play is immediately dead and all runners return to the prior position. The batter will pick up the pitch count from the last tally as if the dead pitch did not take place.
16. A coach or parent should be behind home plate when their team is in the defensive position. This coach or parent should retrieve passed balls and return them to the pitcher in order to expedite the game. A coach behind home plate may retrieve passed balls only and **may not coach from that position**.
17. There is a 7 pitch limit to all batters in all innings. An extra pitch shall be given if the 7th pitch is fouled off (or if rule 15 applies). There is no walking. If the 7th pitch is not hit, the girl is out.
18. If the player pitcher reaches 4 balls, the coach will pitch starting at the pitch count the player pitcher reached, i.e. The player pitcher threw 4 balls and 2 strikes, the coach pitches 1 time.
19. There is no bunting allowed.
20. There is no advancing on an overthrow to any base or a passed ball. An overthrow is considered any throw that goes past the player covering that base. The ball is still in play if dropped by the baseman while still in the field of play.
21. Batters and base runners may advance as many bases as possible on any hit, at risk.
22. Hash marks will be placed halfway between 1-2, 2-3, 3-H. If a runner is advancing on a hit, the fielder may either play the ball to the advancing base for the out, or back to the pitcher's circle to stop the advance and stop game play. If the runner is not past the hash mark prior to the ball reaching the circle, she will have to return to the prior base. The pitcher should try to play the ball thrown to the circle, but the play will be considered over when the ball crosses the circle regardless.
23. **There is no stealing at the 8U level**, however coaches are encouraged to teach the girls to lead on the pitch, at risk.
24. There is no arguing, questioning or commenting on the calls of the youth umpires. Any concerns should be brought to a board member after the game.
25. **MAKE SURE THE GIRLS HAVE FUN!!!!!!**