

Red River Softball Association – 2026 League Rules – 8U

1. **FIELD DIMENSIONS:**
 - a. Bases – 60 feet
 - b. Coach Pitch Line – 30 feet
 - c. Pitcher Circle – 8-foot radius around 40' pitching plate
 - d. Half way hashes marked between bases
 - e. Marked Line 10 feet in front of 1st base and 3rd base for defensive player. (SEE RULE 6c)
2. **GAME:** 5 innings or 60-minute time limit (When the third out is recorded, each team has ONE minute to take the field of play and be ready to play ball. Violation of this rule by the Offensive team will result in a Strike called on the first batter of that inning for each 30 seconds that passes after the one minute. Violation of this rule by the defensive team will result in a BALL called on the batter for each 30 Seconds that passes after the one minute allowed.)
3. **INNING RUN RULE:** 5 runs.
4. **GAME ENDING RUN RULE:** 10 runs after the 4th.
5. **OFFENSIVE:**
 - a. Continuous batting order of all players.
 - b. The coach will throw five (5) pitches. A swing and miss constitutes a strike. The batter can strike out. **(Note: if the batter fouls the 5th pitch, she will continue to receive a pitch until she swings and misses or puts the ball in play.)** There will be no walks.
 - c. Players arriving after the umpire has started the game will be entered at the end of the batting order.
 - d. A substitute or “pinch” runner for an injured player will be the batter who made the last out.
 - e. There will be an out recorded for each player less than 9. (8 players= 1 out, 7 players= 2 outs) This out will be recorded when the 8th and or 9th player would be up to bat.
 - f. Safety Bag must be in place at first base.
6. **DEFENSIVE:**
 - a. Ten (10) players in the field (4 outfielders). Infield must be filled first, this includes catcher.
 - b. 7 (7) players minimum to field a team. NOTE: If 10th player is missing, and out will not be recorded. Outs will be recorded for the missing 8th and 9th players.
 - c. All players must play in normal defensive positions. Infielders will be no closer than five (10) feet in front of the baselines until the ball is hit. Outfielders will be no closer than (20) feet behind the baselines until the ball is hit.
 - d. Players must not “ROLL” or “BOWL” the ball in an effort to put out a base runner. This must be a “Softball” play. An underhand toss IS considered a softball play. Players must throw the ball. Failure to conform to this rule will result in the batter- runner/base runner being declared safe (this is all bases including home). NOTE: This is an umpire based judgement and is not debatable if the play is protested by the offensive team.
 - e. All infield players must wear face mask
7. **All infield players must wear face mask**
8. **ADVANCE ON AN OVERTHROW: Runners may** advance until the ball is in control inside the circle or until the lead runner is stopped.
9. **FREE SUBSTITUTION:** Allowed.
10. **MANDATORY PLAYING TIME:** See RRSA Rules (G).
11. **BUNTING:** Not allowed.
12. **INFIELD FLY RULE:** Not applicable.
13. **STOPPING OF PLAY:** Pitcher must have control of the ball within the eight (8) foot circle, or the defensive player with the ball must be in a position to stop advancement of the lead runner until time is called by the umpire. NOTE: Base runners that are at least half way to the next base when time is called shall advance to the next base. If the base runner is not to the half way mark, the base runner will return to their base of origin.
14. **PITCHING:** Coach will pitch 5 pitches to the batter. Strikes for a swing and miss will be called. The batter can strike out. There are no walks. NOTE: Once the ball is put into play, the coach pitcher must exit the field in a manner that will cause the least obstruction to the play. Interference by the coach will be an umpire-based judgment call and is not debatable.
15. **COACH PITCHER HIT BY BATTED BALL:** In the event that a coach is hit by a ball put into play by the batter, the ball is considered a dead ball/no pitch. The batter is not penalized in this case.
16. **BASE STEALING:** Not allowed.
17. **BASE RUNNER:** The base runner must maintain contact with the base until the ball is hit. Any violation will result in

Red River Softball Association – 2026 League Rules – 8U

the base runner being declared out.

18. **LEAGUE STANDINGS:** Town commissioners will be responsible for keeping win loss record for the purpose of All Stars. See General Rules for explanation.
19. **BALL SIZE:** 11-inch official ASA fast pitch softball.
20. **ABBREVIATED GAMES:** In the event of inclement weather or darkness, a game will be ruled official if the losing team has batted at least three (3) complete innings. The score will revert to the last complete inning to determine the winner. If three (3) full innings have not been completed, the game will be declared a suspended game. See RRSA Rules and Regulations (J).
21. **COACH ROLE:**
 - a. The coach pitcher is the only coach allowed on the field. The pitching coach may NOT overtly coach or encourage the batter to swing at a specific pitch or at a specific time. NOTE: Once the ball is put into play, the coach pitcher must exit the field in a manner that will cause the least obstruction to the game. Interference by any coach will be an umpire-based judgement call and is not debatable.
 - b. Only the **HEAD** coach may address the umpire during the game. If a play is to be asked about it **MUST** be done by only the head coach. The umpire will NOT address anyone other than the head coach. Violation of this rule **CAN** result in the assistant coach being ejected from the game.
 - c. Coaches may **ONLY** have two conferences (timeouts) per half inning.