



**GRAYSLAKE PARK DISTRICT**  
**Division 3 Softball Rules**  
**2025 Season**

1. A 12" regular softball will be used.
2. The pitching mound to home plate will be 40'; base paths will be 60'. **All equipment/players and coaches must be out of play at all times unless coaching bases.**
3. Uniform shirts, shorts and/or pants must be worn for all games, with shirts tucked in. If cool, players may wear additional clothes under the uniform (try to match color). **NO METAL CLEATS ALLOWED.**
4. The defensive team will consist of 10 players with short center. 7 players will be required to play a game; players may be borrowed from the other team to allow the game to be played, borrowed players must play in the outfield. Players must be registered player of the Grayslake Park District league and equal or lesser age. Defensive players shall position themselves in a traditional manner. The outfield players shall be on the grass. They can be just behind the infield. The "Short Center" fielder must be positioned on the outfield grass.
5. Players will pitch to the batters. Batters will walk/strike out as normal.
6. The batting order must remain the same throughout the entire game. **An inning shall consist of three outs or a maximum of 6 runs per inning.**
7. Base stealing is allowed after the ball crosses the plate. No lead offs are allowed. If a player leaves the base early, the play shall be ruled dead and all runners must return to their original base. If problems persist, base runner will be called "out". **(Double steals; stealing home and delayed steals will NOT be allowed).**
  - a. **If the ball is thrown to a base in an attempt to make a play, the ball is considered a live ball, and all runners can try to advance.**
  - b. **On a wild pitch, runners may attempt to advance. Runners are NOT allowed to take home plate on a wild pitch.**
8. Sliding must be feet first. Players must slide if there is a close play or be called "out". It will be the discretion of the umpire whether the base runner had to slide or not. Warnings may be given.
9. All players must have equal playing time. No player may stay in one position for more than 3 innings. No player may sit for more than 1 inning.
10. Base coaches can be parents or coaches (not players).
11. Players must wear batting helmets at all times – in "on deck" circle, batting and running the bases.
12. **The strike zone shall be expanded as follows – one ball width higher than armpits to one ball lower than knees and one ball width wider than the plate inside and out.**
13. **All games shall be seven innings or 2 hours in length. No inning should be started at 1-3/4 hours after the game start time.** They shall be played to the fullest extent possible unless the umpire rules that conditions do not permit completion or darkness becomes a factor.
14. The "infield fly" rule will be used. Umpire will clarify this before game start.
15. **Pitching form: Girls are to begin with both feet on the pitching rubber, facing the batter, with the ball showing. The pitcher may then step back with one foot, leaving the other foot in contact with the rubber throughout the pitch.**
16. **If a pitcher hits 3 consecutive or 3 total batters in the same inning, they must be pulled from the mound. Any batter hit by a pitched ball will be awarded 1<sup>st</sup> base, as long as she has made an attempt to get out of the way of the ball. It is the umpire's discretion as to whether a girl has tried to get out of the way.**
  - **If a pitcher is pulled due to hitting batters, they may reenter as pitcher as long as 3 innings pitched has not been done yet. If pitcher hits 2 more players then they must be removed from pitching for rest of game.**
17. Score will be kept for the individual games, but no standings will be kept.