

# ROMEO GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE

## RULES - 2023 SEASON

MISSION: It is the purpose of the Romeo Girls Softball League to provide a safe and instructional league, which provides all players with the opportunity to learn and play softball as a team.

### A. ASA Softball Rules

ASA rules will apply unless superseded or amended by the Romeo Girls Softball League. See attachments for rule modification.

### B. Registration and Drafting of Players

1. All players must be registered and if requested, verification of age, be approved by the league director / committee before being eligible to play any game. If a non-eligible player participates in a game, that game will be forfeited.
2. All players will be randomly put on a team by a player draft. Every effort will be made to balance the teams according to the age and years of experience. All managers and one coach's daughter(s) will have the same option to be placed on their team first. Same applies to all age groupings.
3. Teams will consist of an even number of players if possible. Any child signing up after the teams have been formed shall be placed on a team in order of the draft.

### C. Spectators

1. Each manager will be responsible for the conduct of the spectators associated with their team.
2. Spectators will not be allowed to harass or belittle the judgment or ability of any of the players or umpires.
3. No spectator will be allowed on the field while the game is in progress.
4. State law prohibits alcoholic beverages on school premises.

### D. Umpires

**Please understand, for the most part, the umpires are prior students/players from Romeo High School.**

**Please support them in every way possible.**

1. The umpire shall be responsible for the conduct of the game in accordance with the official rules of the Romeo Girls Softball League and for maintaining discipline and order on the playing field during the game.
2. Each umpire is a representative of the league and is authorized and required to enforce all rules of the Romeo Girls Softball League. Each umpire has the authority to order a player, coach, manager or league official to do or refrain from doing anything that affects the administering of these rules and to enforce the prescribed penalties.
3. Each umpire has authority to rule on any point not specifically covered on these rules.
4. Each umpire has authority to disqualify any player, coach, manager or substitute for objecting to decisions or for unsportsmanlike conduct or language and to eject such disqualified person from the playing field. If an umpire disqualifies a player while a play is in progress, the disqualification shall not take effect until no further action is possible on that play.
5. Any umpire's decision which involves judgment, such as, but not limited to, whether a batted ball is fair or foul, whether a pitch is a strike or ball, or whether a runner is safe or out, is final. No player, manager, coach or substitute shall object to such judgment decisions.
6. Umpires decisions are final. There will be no protests allowed.

### E. Equipment

1. No metal cleats will be allowed for any age group.
2. A player throwing her bat while batting will be called out. Play will also stop and all runners (if any) will return to position before infraction.
3. A player may be removed from the game for throwing her equipment in anger.
4. A player will be called out for intentionally removing her helmet **WHILE ON THE FIELD OF PLAY**. A player will not be called out for touching or adjusting her helmet. All helmets must have a front cage on them for player's safety.
5. Any and all equipment will be turned in the day the season ends. This also includes broken items and is the responsibility of each manager.
6. All new and used softballs must be turned in at the end of the season. They are needed for practice balls next year.
7. Bats brought by a player must be inspected by the manager/coach and must be of metal. No wooden bats will be allowed.
8. No Hitting aides are to be used inside the field with players during games.
9. No jewelry allowed. A player will be called out for wearing it.

#### F. Managers and Coaches

1. All managers must be a minimum of 18 years of age.
2. A manager and/or coach may coach the bases.
3. All managers and coaches must wear appropriate clothes and closed toe shoes while on the field for practices and games.
4. Managers must have a duplicate copy of their starting batting order for the official scorekeeper before game time.
5. All Junior, Minor and Major division scores must be reported to the umpire at games end.
6. A manager or representative from each team, by game time, can mutually decide if for weather or field conditions would cancel a game. A board member will make the final decision if no mutual decision can be realized. Whenever an umpire is present, the umpire may call the game due to field conditions, lightning, thunder and/or any hazardous situations that may arise. Lightning or thunder will delay game by 30 minutes per occurrence. Tornado Warnings will automatically cancel a game.
7. Any manager or coach who is removed from a game by an umpire will be suspended for one game. They will not be allowed at the field during the suspension.
8. Base coaches are not allowed to do the following:
  - a. Shall in no way harass the defensive player by word, action or gesture
  - b. They may not direct criticism or insult the playing ability of a member of the opposing team.
  - c. They will not try to confuse or attempt to engage in distracting conversation with a defensive player in any way.
  - d. Try to influence or intimidate the umpire's decision(s) by gestures or words.
  - e. Smoke on the playing field.

Violations of the above rules can cause the ejection of the manager and/or coaches from the game.

9. Abusive or foul language and the belittling of the umpire is strictly prohibited. A warning will be issued per game. The second offense will mean removal from the game or the field. This will be left up to the umpire.
10. Players will remain on the bench and/or dugout are with the exception of the coaches, the batter and the player on deck. Leaving the bench area without permission will justify a warning, the second offense will mean removal from the remainder of the game, managers and coaches will strictly enforce this rule.
11. Each team will have one manager and two coaches.

12. The scheduling of the make-up games due to school functions will be the responsibility of the managers. If an agreement cannot be reached then the president will intervene for resolution.

G. General Rules

1. Tie games will result in each team being awarded one-half game won.
2. A game shall be forfeited to the opposing team when a team is unable to refuse to place at least eight (7) players on the field at game time, this is a ten minute rule. A team may finish a game with eight (7) players.
3. Base coaches cannot touch base runners in anyway until "time" has been called by the umpire or play is stopped.
4. Any batter stepping on any part of home plate while making contact with the ball will be called out.
5. Any batter stepping out of the batters box while making contact with the ball will be called out.
6. The infield fly rule will be used in the Minor and Major Divisions.