

BASIC RULES AND GUIDELINES

Updated 05/2025

1. Games will be (6) innings with a mercy rule in effect. A (15) run rule ends a game if the visiting team is leading and batting in the top of the fourth inning. If the score is less than (15) runs, the home team will bat, and a 10-run rule will be in effect for the remainder of the game. The championship game will be (6) innings with no run limits.
2. Only a maximum of (8) runs can be scored by a team in any inning. (With the exception of the championship game)
3. There is a limit of (6) homeruns per game. Any over the fence homeruns after 6 will be considered an out.
4. Home plate will consist of a 2'x3' mat covering the inside of the batter's boxes. Any ball touching the mat (with acceptable height limit) will be considered a strike, any foul ball on the third strike constitutes a strikeout.
5. The pitcher's mound will be 45' out. Pitching height is 6'-12'. Any ball pitched out of 6'-12' area will be deemed illegal by the home plate ump and will be considered a ball. If a batter swings at the pitch, it is a live ball/pitch. 3rd strike is unlimited (pitch as high or low as you want, if it hits the plate, it is a strike)
6. There is a commitment line between 3rd base and home, once you cross the commitment line you are to continue to home plate and cannot turn back to 3rd base.
7. All plays at home will be force plays, catcher must have control of the ball and touch home plate. Avoid contact at home plate. Runners will cross the line at home plate to designate scored run.
8. All games will start at their scheduled time. If no or past scheduled time, games will start 15 minutes after the previous game unless work on the field is necessary. There is no infield between games. Your team is required to be on the field and ready to play immediately. No team will be an exception to this rule.
9. A team **MUST BAT ALL PLAYERS that are on the bench**. Defensive positions may be rotated at any time. The batting order will be **GUY/GIRL OR 2 GUYS THEN A GIRL ALL THE WAY THROUGH THE LINE UP** per game basis. (Injuries are the only exception to changing batting order) An automatic out will be the penalty for failing to adhere to your lineup. 3 girls MINIMUM ON THE FIELD AT ALL TIMES.
10. If a guy is walked (intentionally or not) and if a GIRL FOLLOWS, they may choose to walk as well. (Does not apply if the next batter is a guy)
11. When a girl is up to bat, all outfielders must be positioned BEHIND THE OUTFIELD LINE. When a guy is up, teams may pull one outfielder up to play anywhere on the field.
12. The average **age of the team (on the bench for any given game) must be 30 years old** or more and consist of at least 5 girls. Team members must be a friend or family member of Laker alumni or a current Laker staff member. Teams must include a minimum of 3 alumni, alumni significant other, or current Laker staff members.
13. Courtesy runners are permitted. The runner must be the player that recorded the last out. There can only be (1) courtesy runner/inning. ****Exception: Any players over the age of 50 can have a courtesy runner at any time, must still be last recorded out.**) Guy runs for guy; girl run for girl.
14. No metal spikes.
15. All times are subject to change because of unfavorable weather conditions or quick/long games. It is your team's responsibility to be on the field ready to play when announced. No time will be allotted for being late.
16. Equipment (bats, balls, & mats) will be provided for you. We will be using limited flight balls and wooden bats (girls will have the option to use ASA certified bats, provided by the committee) you will not be allowed to bring your own bat.
17. Teams are required to always use good sportsmanship. Any foul language or excessive arguing will cause your disqualification for the game and tournament. This tournament is not intended for someone to get hurt by rough play or ridiculed by poor sportsmanship. Always use common sense.
18. **Discrepancies will arise and home plate ump will make the final judgment per situation, per game basis. No protests.**
19. All players under the age of 50 must play in the field at least 2 innings per game if in the batting order.