

## *Catholic Girls Softball League*

### *Softball Rules at a **GLANCE***

Weather Cancellation/Update Phone Line - 456-9563

GRACEAC Web Site – [www.graceac.com](http://www.graceac.com)

<b><i>Rule</i></b>	<b><i>5/6th Grade</i></b>	<b><i>7/8th Grade</i></b>
<b>Innings Played</b>	6	7
<b>Time Limit</b>	75 Minutes	80 Minutes
	A new inning may not begin after 75 or 80 minutes -ties will not be played out in regular season	
<b>Ball Size</b>	11 inch	12 inch
<b>Ball Color</b>	<b>Each league will only use optic yellow, red stitched colored softball balls; must be COR of .47.</b>	
<b>Jewelry</b>	No rings, ear rings, metal or plastic hair pieces or wrist wear may be worn during the game	
<b>Undershirts</b>	<b>Must be all same or similar color, no multi-colored undershirts</b>	
<b>Run Rule</b>	5 runs per inning	None
<b>Mercy Rule</b>	No	Yes-15 runs after 5 innings
<b>Substitution Rule</b>	Free substitution	Free substitution
<b>Pitching Distance</b>	<b>40 feet</b>	40 feet
<b>Base Path Distance</b>	60 feet	60 feet
<b>Batter Count</b>	1 and 1 until 5/1	1 and 1 until 5/1
<b>Dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> Strike Rule</b>	No	Yes-the batter becomes a runner when the third strike called by the umpire is not caught, providing (1) first base is unoccupied or (2) first base occupied with two outs. Note: Batter forfeits her opportunity to advance to first base when she enters dugout or other dead ball area.
<b>Batting Rule</b>	Rocket Rule	Rocket Rule
<b>Pitching Rule</b>	<b>Fast Pitch</b>	<b>Fast Pitch</b>
<b>Coach's Visit to <b>Pitching Plate</b></b>	4 per game	4 per game

<b>Position Rotation</b>	Everyone every 3 innings, Max. 3 innings per player at one position	Only pitcher--limit pitcher to 4 innings per game- <b>Includes Tournament.</b> One pitch is One inning
<b>Shoes</b>	No Metal spikes	No Metal Spikes
<b>Bunting</b>	<b>Yes</b>	Yes
<b>Thrown Bat</b>	1 warning per team, then automatic out thereafter-Both divisions	
<b>Stealing</b>	Yes--runner must maintain contact with base until ball leaves pitchers hand. One base--no advance on overthrow when ball is thrown to base being stolen	
	<b>5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade--Steal 2<sup>nd</sup> only</b>	<b>7/8<sup>th</sup> Grade--Steal all bases</b>
<b>Infield Fly</b>	No	Yes--less than 2 outs with runners on 1st and 2nd or 1st, 2nd and 3rd

**Fake Tag**--Fielder who attempts a fake tag on a runner, by pounding their mitt, acting and faking they are catching the ball to make a tag will be automatically ejected from the game. Each Team will be given one warning before ejection.

**Sliding**--All runners in a close play at a **base must avoid contact. Runners not sliding or avoiding contact** on a close play will be declared an out. Each team will be given one warning before an out is declared.

**Ejected players** will be removed from the line up, including the rocket batting rule. Their place in the order will not be an out. Instead, that ejected batter will be skipped over. Ejected players may not play the next scheduled game.

**Courtesy Runner**--Yes-- for catchers and pitchers--replaced by player who made last out--This rule is encouraged to move game along quicker.

**Batter Hit by Pitch** --only if umpire determines that batter made valid attempt to avoid being hit.

**Over Throw Rule**--At the time of the release of the throw, runner is awarded the base they were running to plus one. This applies to infield and outfield throws. If ball remains in the playing field, the runner may advance on their own peril. The play will be called "Time" by the umpire when ball is returned in control of any defensive player in the infield and runners are not seeking the next base.

**GRACEAC HOTLINE** --Call 456-9563 for reporting scores and for weather related cancellations. Umpires have decision to cancel games at the field if weather is not fit for play. Severe, threatening weather is present, If lighting and/or thunder is visible during game, game will be cancelled and all players are to leave field immediately. Play shall not begin until a full 15 minutes has passed since lighting or thunder is present. If the deal last for more than 30 minutes the coaches, players and officials shall leave the area and the game shall be rescheduled according to league rules.

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Home Team must supply one new ball and 3 bases. Visiting team will supply one good used ball. Game shall proceed and finish with the same color ball as first pitched.

