



2024 COACHES MEETING

APRIL 21ST, 2024

U9 CATEGORY



# INTRODUCTIONS

President: Shelby Spencer

Vice President: Mike Wells

Treasurer: Colleen Allison

Commissioner: Greg Clark

Registrar: Julie Robicheau

Scheduler: Leeam Freadrich

Secretary: Katherine Sammer

# AGENDA



Objectives

The Basics

What to Expect on Game Day

May – June Pitching Rules

Base Running Rules

Score Sheet Cheat Sheet

Umpires

Weather/Standings

Finals

Other Information

Questions

# OBJECTIVES OF THE U9 PROGRAM

- Creating a fun environment for youth to learn softball
- Developing sportsmanship, teamwork and a sense of fair play
- Increasing skill and understanding of the game of softball
- To Focus on the core skill Development and fundamentals of Softball



# THE BASICS

- DIAMOND DIMENSIONS
  - Base path distance: 45 feet (63 feet from home to 2nd)
  - Pitching distance: 30 feet
- EQUIPMENT
  - 11" Softie ball
  - Glove and running shoes
  - Helmets with cage and chin strap
  - Catcher's equipment, bats, balls, bases
  - Infielder masks



# THE BASICS – PART 2

- GAME NIGHTS
  - May - Wednesday
  - June, 2 Mondays will be added, In addition to Wednesday
  - Game Start time 6:30 PM
- Teams Size
  - Maximum of 10 players
  - Minimum of 6
  - All Players are to bat in order
- Game Play
  - Maximum 5 innings
  - 5 Runs per inning



# WHAT TO EXPECT ON GAME DAY

- First Team to arrive has choice of dugout
- Check the field – Safety First
- Home team is responsible for diamond set up
  - Home team will be identified on the schedule.
- Line-up cards must be completed



# RULES DURING MAY - PITCHING

- Pitching coach will pitch a maximum of 5 balls per batter
  - Encourage players to swing at 'good' pitches and leave the bad ones
- If the batter has not put the ball in play after the 5th pitch, a tee will be set up by the coach for the player to hit from





# RULES DURING JUNE - PITCHING

- Player(s) will start to pitch this month, 'no walk' is the format of play:
- The batter receives 4 balls, based on the batters pitch count, the Batters Coach then pitches,
  - No strikes, coach gets up to 3 pitches
  - 1 strike, coach gets up to 2 pitches
  - 2 strikes, the coach will pitch 1 Pitch
- The batter must swing on the pitches the coach throws
  - The Player doesn't hit and the coach is out of pitches, they have struck out.



# RULES – BASE RUNNING

- No Bunting
- No Walks
- Base advancement is restricted to hitting. No Stealing allowed.
- A ball is brought back into the infield, runner advancement stops
- Advancement is not to occur on an overthrow.
  - Example - ball is hit thru to left field, batter runs past 1st and makes it to 2nd, left field overthrows 3rd base, batter/runner must stop at 2nd



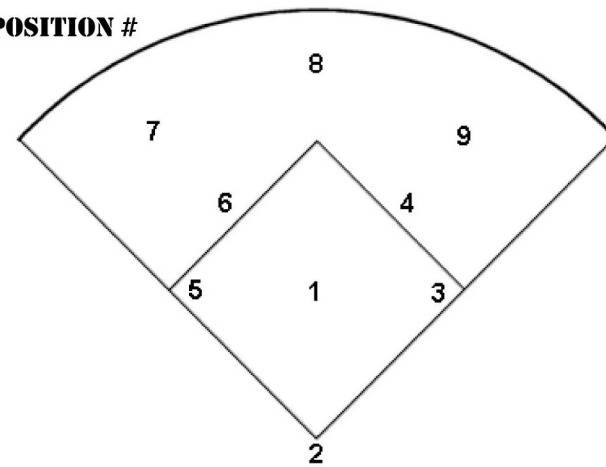
# SCORE SHEET CHEAT SHEET

## SCOREKEEPING CHEAT SHEET



### LIST OF POSITIONS AND POSITION #

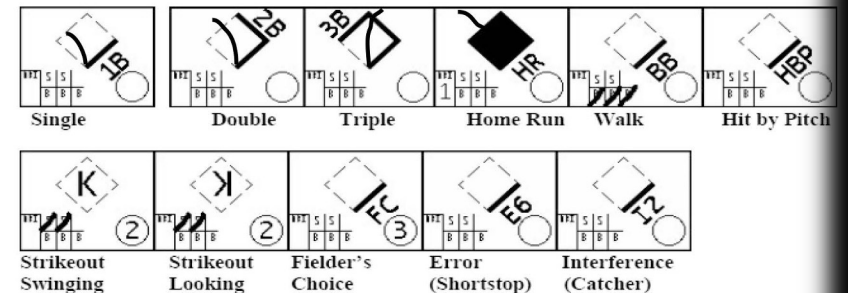
1	Pitcher (P)
2	Catcher (C)
3	First base (1B)
4	Second Base (2B)
5	Third Base (3B)
6	ShortStop (SS)
7	Left Field (LF)
8	Center Field (CF)
9	Right Field (RF)



#	Player	Pos	1
9	Smith, J.	8	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sub	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	Lawson, A.	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sub	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Henry, D.	2	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sub	<input type="checkbox"/>
33	Jones, T.	9	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sub	<input type="checkbox"/>

- |                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1B Single            | B Balk                    |
| 2B Double            | PB Passed Ball            |
| 3B Triple            | WP Wild Pitch             |
| HR Home Run          | GRD Ground Rule Double    |
| K Strikeout Swinging | DP Double Play            |
| X Strikeout Looking  | FC Fielder's Choice       |
| BB Base on Balls     | IFR Infield Fly Rule      |
| IBB Intentional Walk | I Interference            |
| HBP Hit By Pitch     | DI Defensive Indifference |
| SB Stolen Base       | ! Great Play              |
| CS Caught Stealing   | E Error                   |

The Basic plays that occur in Softball are scored as follows;



Often, on a base hit, a scorekeeper will also draw a line to show where the ball was hit

# UMPIRES

**Are NOT expected and will NOT be scheduled  
by GEMSA for any U9 game**

- Expectations
  - Teams will provide a parent umpire –
    - Home teams to Provide plate umpire/Away team Base umpire
    - IF Switching each half inning (Home team umpire when their team is in the field/Visiting team while at bat)
  - The umpire is to take into consideration the level of play and promote a positive experience for ALL players



# ARE WE PLAYING? WHAT ARE OUR STANDINGS?

- Diamonds
  - Games are on, unless diamonds are closed by city/county.
  - Be sure to check the appropriate city/community website.
- Scores are to be entered in RAMP – to track games played
- There are NO league Standings in the U9 Category



# 2024 FINALS

- Location – Leduc, Alberta
- Diamonds –
  - LEDE 1-7, ELKS 1-2, AILEEN FALHER 1-2,
  - We are working on additional diamonds
- Playoffs MAY start on Thursday June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.



# OTHER INFO

- Schedules
  - Will be posted on- line - Coaches will receive an email Notification
- RAMP
  - UPDATE Coach/Contact Information
- Respect in Sport
  - One coach from each GEMSA team is required to complete this online course.



Questions?

