

Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation
10 & Under (9/10 YR) GIRLS COMBO PITCH
Regulation Rules

Age Control Date: Age Prior on or before September 1st of Current Year

Girls Combo Pitch Softball leagues are for instruction and teaching the fundamentals of softball skills. It emphasizes the development of teamwork, good sportsmanship, and fun. Players are exposed to active pitching by the means of a player and coach pitching the ball.

SECTION I - GOVERNING RULES

- a. The governing body of the 10U Softball Combo Pitch Program will be composed of the Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation. Any rules not covered by the Recreation Department will be covered first by the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association, then by Georgia High School Association rules.

SECTION II - FIELD SPECIFICATIONS

BASES 60 FT COACHES AT 35 FT

SECTION III - PLAYER EQUIPMENT & UNIFORMS

- a. Shoes are mandatory. Steel spikes are not allowed.
- b. Check www.usasoftball.com for a complete and up-to-date list of legal bats.
- c. Catchers must wear full protective equipment including mask with throat protector, protective cap, chest protector, shin guards. All players must be in proper uniform to play.
- d. No jewelry may be worn.

SECTION IV – RULES

A. COMBO PITCH:

- a. Players in the pitching position will be allowed to pitch until they reach a count of 3 balls with no strikes or 3 balls and 1 strike. A pitcher that reaches a count of 3 balls and 2 strikes will complete the count with that batter.
- b. The coach of the batting team will then be obligated to pitch. He/she will then finish the strike count.
- c. If the pitching coach throws a ball it will count as a strike. If the fifth pitch is fouled, the coach will continue to pitch until the ball is put into play or the batter strikes out.
- d. Any batted ball that hits the pitching coach will be a dead ball and called a no pitch.
- e. Coach must pitch from the pitching rubber.
- f. Coach must pitch underhand.
- g. Coach cannot come onto the field until time is called and signaled by the plate umpire.
- h. Pitcher must have one foot in the circle while the coach is pitching. Coach may have one foot on or outside the pitching circle.
- i. No bunting
- j. Slap hits are legal
- k. Stealing base and home is legal. However, stealing home is not allowed when the coach is pitching.
- l. Pitcher must wear a face mask.

B. Base runners can leave on release.

C. Head first sliding is only permitted when returning to a base. Head first sliding is not permitted in any other circumstance.

D. Nine defensive players shall be used in accordance with the following positions: catcher, pitcher, 1st, 2nd and 3rd baseman, short stop and three outfielders.

- a. Shorthanded Rule: Teams may begin with 8 players. Players arriving late to a game will be placed last in the batting line-up. An out will NOT be called if the 9th spot on the roster- if vacant.

E. Teams must bat full roster.

- F. A courtesy runner may be used for catcher or pitcher. When there are 2 outs, the catcher, if on base may be replaced by the player who was the last out to get prepared for her position at catcher in order to shorten the delay between innings.
- G. The ball remains live until the lead runner has been stopped from advancing or in the judgment of the umpire, all play has ceased.

SECTION VI - SPECIAL RULES & PROVISIONS

- A. Each team will be allowed (5) adults in the dugout; one head coach and 4 assistant coaches. Only registered players and volunteers will be allowed in the dugout during games. Any coach or volunteer without a RFPRD issued ID badge will be asked to leave the dugout area.
 - a. Once the game begins, coaches are required to be in designated coaching areas on the field or in the dugout. Coaches cannot leave the dugout once game begins. Once a coach leaves the dugout during game they may not return to coach that game.
- B. Playing Requirements
 - a. All players in attendance will be listed on the batting order and will bat accordingly.
 - b. There is a maximum of five (5) runs per inning, per team.
 - c. Players may not be substituted in the batting order. Players that arrive late will be placed at the end of the lineup for the duration of the game.
- C. Game Length
 - a. First night of the evening will have a ten-minute (10) grace period for teams under the required number of player to begin.
 - b. Games will last 6 innings or 1 hour/5 minutes (65 minutes); whichever comes first.
 - c. Games will conclude if the clock reaches "o" and the home team is winning in the bottom of the inning.
 - i. If the home team is at bat when the clock expires, the batter will finish his/her at bat.
 - d. No new inning will start once the game clock reaches "o" unless the score is tied.
 - i. Extra Innings - 1 extra inning player utilizing the International Tie Breaker rule: last scheduled batter is placed on 2nd base.
 - e. If a team is mathematically eliminated, the game should continue under the following scenarios:
 - i. Time is remaining on the clock
 - ii. All players have not received an at bat
- D. Game/Site Officials
 - a. There will be one umpire and one scorekeeper.
 - b. Umpires and/or supervisor will eject any coach, player or fan from the game or vicinity of the game for misconduct. Failure to leave results in forfeiture of the game. Any coach that is ejected from one game will be suspended from one game. Suspended coaches are not allowed in the park. If a coach is ejected from two games he/she will be suspended for the remainder of the season.
 - c. Game/Site Supervisor is present at every playing site.
- E. League Awards
 - i. No Tournament
 - ii. Awards will be given to the team with the best record and runner up at the end of the season.

SECTION VII - PLAYERS & SPECTATORS CONDUCT

- A. Any player, coach, or spectator acting in an un-sportsmanlike manner or in any way that could prove detrimental to the league will be subject to disciplinary action by the Recreation Department.
- B. There will be no hollering or harassing at the players on the opposing teams by parents, managers, players, or coaches. If a manager cannot control this situation; the game will be awarded to the opposing team. The person or persons violating this rule shall be suspended for the following game. (This is a decision made by the umpires or the Recreation Staff present).

- C. It is the parent's responsibility to make sure their son or daughter attends all practices and games. **Any child who misses 2 (or 50% of scheduled practices) consecutive practices or games can be benched by the coach for one game with the approval of the league coordinator. Any child who continuously misses practices or games will be dismissed from the team by the league coordinator.** It is the coach's responsibility to notify the Recreation Department of any child's missed games or practices.
- D. No alcoholic or tobacco products will be allowed at any of the Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation facilities.
- ***Any adult who feels he or she cannot enjoy coaching under these rules and regulations should in all fairness to him and the players withdraw from the program.**

The Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Department wishes to thank all of our volunteer coaches for their time and effort this season.

For schedules, rules and any other updates please visit
www.rfpra.com/sports