

MODIFIED SOFTBALL TEAM PLAY "COACH PITCH"

**** All rules concerning equipment, bats, balls, helmets, etc. can be found under the "Traditional Softball Rules and Regulations". Listed below are the modifications to those rules. ****

2012 – The 2nd Home Plate and 20' Commit Line Rules will be used in Modified Team Play.

COACH PITCH is for teams comprised of lower level athletes just coming up from Softball Skills and learning the team play concept and rules.

If a team comes to games entering the "Modified Softball Team" division and does not meet the specified criteria, the team will be moved to another division and will not be allowed Coach Pitch modifications.

Coach Pitch teams will be comprised of 12 Special Olympics athletes only (NO unified partners). If you start the game with 9 players an out will be taken when the 10th position in the lineup comes up for bat. A team of 8 players will not be eligible to compete.

Each player will be allowed 5 pitches only.

- No walks will be granted.
- Hit or out will be the only two options.
- 3 swings constitute an out.
- Third strike foul tip is an out.

In the **Modified Division**, the Coach will pitch to his / her own team when they come to bat.) **Modified Teams will use a 12" Synthetic Cover, Soft Training Softball for competition.**

The maximum number of pitches to a single batter will be 5 pitches. The coach will pitch from the **50'** pitching rubber but must then move out of the way to allow the defensive player in the pitching position the chance to field the ball. If the batted ball hits the coach who is pitching, the batter will be out. Balls will not be called and walks will not be allowed. If the batter swings 3 times and misses, he / she is out. The coach must remember that his / her role on the mound is pitching, not coaching.

The coach pitching the ball will not be allowed to make intentional interference on the play of the ball. If the coach makes an intentional interference on the play of the ball, it will result in an out for the batter. (The only exception is personal protection from the ball such as a line drive **directly** back to the coach pitcher).

Only 2 Coach Pitchers will be allowed for each team. These 2 names must be submitted on the original games paperwork and will be the only 2 pitchers allowed during the tournament. **Coach pitchers must pitch from the 50' pitching rubber.** The coach pitcher is not allowed to coach the batter in any way. The job of the coach pitcher is strictly pitching.

****See attached Softball Rules and Regulations for specified equipment (including specific modified softballs) and other rules.**

****Special Olympics Georgia reserves the right to move a Modified Team into a Traditional Team bracket if the rules committee deems the team is inappropriate for Modified Team Play.**