

**Thousand Oaks Girls Softball Association  
2024 Memorial Weekend Tournament  
Playing Rules**

USA Softball rules apply except where amended.

1. Rosters must be submitted at check-in (at location of first game) 1 hour prior to first game, with birth certificates (copies are okay) or USA ID cards. No roster changes are allowed after check-in.
2. Only four adults allowed in the dugout during the game.
3. During Pool play the 2<sup>nd</sup> team listed on game schedule will occupy the 3<sup>rd</sup> base dugout unless occupied from previous game. Home team is determined by a coin toss at the pre-game meeting with umpires and managers. During single elimination the home team will be the higher seeded team. Ties will be broken by rule 15 below. Home team will provide official scorekeeper.
4. All pool games will have a time limit of one hour and twenty minutes (no new inning can start after 1 hour 20 minutes) or seven innings whichever comes first. For pool games: if after the completion of seven innings or the completion of an inning after the one hour twenty minute no new inning time limit, the score is tied, then the game ends in a tie. Single elimination games, however, cannot end in a tie and will continue until a winner is decided. Single elimination games and semi-final games will have a 1 hour and 30-minute no new inning time limit. Championship games for 10U Gold, 12U Gold and 14U Gold will have a two-hour no new inning time limit. 10U Silver, 10 Bronze, 12U Silver, 12U Bronze will have a 1 hour 30 minute no new inning time limit.
5. Per USA Softball Rule 5, Section 9, the Mercy Rule will be 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 after 4 innings or 8 runs after 5 innings. Once a team is mathematically eliminated the game will end. Example, top of 7<sup>th</sup> inning, visitor team goes up by 7 runs the game will end as home team can only score a maximum of 6 runs in the bottom of the 7<sup>th</sup> inning.
6. Also, the 6 Run Rule will be in effect: after the 6<sup>th</sup> run is scored, the ½ inning will be over.
7. Pitching and base distances:

	<u>Pitching</u>	<u>Base</u>
6 U Under	30 feet	60 feet
8 & under	30 feet	60 feet

10 & under	35 feet	60 feet
12 & under	40 feet	60 feet
14 & under	43 feet	60 feet

8. The Southern California USA Softball Code of Conduct will be strictly enforced.
9. A copy of the league insurance must be presented at the time of check-in if team does not have USA ID cards.
10. During POOL PLAY all divisions will bat round robin. Prior to the start of the game a lineup card must list all players present at the time the lineup is presented to the umpire, no substitutions can be listed. Players arriving late may not be added to the lineup. 8U Gold, 8U Silver, 8 Bronze and 10U Bronze will use 10 defensive players. While batting round robin the courtesy runner for the pitcher and catcher will be the last recorded out in the current inning. If no outs have been recorded, the last out from the previous inning shall be used.
11. During CHAMPIONSHIP play (single elimination) teams will use 9 players. The DP/FLEX may be used per USA Softball Rule 4 section 3. EP may be used per USA Softball Rule 4, Section 1C (1). 8U Gold, 8U Silver, 8U Bronze and 10U Bronze will continue to bat round robin and use 10 defensive players.
12. During championship play the ASA re-entry rules apply with the following exception: If an injury occurs and there is no player left to re-enter, a player may re-enter to replace the injured player for defense only. The injured player's turn at bat will be skipped without penalty.
13. All protests shall be settled immediately at the time of protest. Play shall be stopped and the Umpire-in-Chief or the Tournament Director will rule on the protest. The decision is final in all cases.
14. Copies of lineups must be given to the umpire, the opposing team, and the scorekeeper. Lineups will list the starting players in the order in which they bat and all available substitutes (single elimination bracket).
15. Ties will be broken as follows:
  1. head-to-head play
  2. fewest total runs allowed
  3. most shutouts
  4. fewest runs allowed in next best defensive game
  5. coin toss
16. Both winning team and losing team must sign official score sheet. If not signed the score sheet provided to tournament director by the umpire will be used as official score sheet as tiebreaker for single-elimination placement.

17. On Friday games will start at the conclusion of the previous games.
18. 6U refer to the 6U tournament play rules.
19. 8U refer to additional modified rules
20. In the 8U Gold, 8U Silver, 8U Bronze, 10U Gold, 10U Silver, 10U Bronze, 12U Gold, 12U Silver, and 12U bronze and 14U Gold each team will have 2 pool games. All teams will move into the single elimination bracket. In the 12U Silver division the top 6 teams will play in the Silver Elimination bracket and the bottom 6 teams will play in the Bronze Elimination bracket. The results of the pool games will determine seeding for the single elimination bracket.
21. Rings will be awarded to the first and second place teams in each division.
22. Both the 12 & under and 14 & under divisions will use the Worth Dream Seam. The 10U division will use the 11" Worth Dream Seam.
23. After each pool game each manager will present to an opposing team player, a spirit award to the girl who was the outstanding player for that game. This is the manager's choice and can be for an outstanding pitching performance, a key hit that won the game etc. The awards for pool play games will be given out at check-in. Empty dugouts and present spirit award off the field so fields can be prepared for next game.