

Liberty Learning Ministries

Softball Info Packet



Liberty Learning Ministries Softball

Liberty Learning Ministries is proud to offer girls softball through community partnership. This season Roseville Girls Softball is hosting our program. Please read the following information obtained directly from the RGS [Operating Policy](#) and [Playing Rules](#).

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

The mission of Roseville Girls Softball (RGS) shall be to foster, develop, promote and expand recreational softball for girls age 4-16 in the Roseville area. RGS shall promote friendly competition with the goal of educating players about the sport of softball, sportsmanship, teamwork, fellowship, courtesy, discipline and integrity.

AGE DIVISIONS/TEAMS:

Age divisions are set by USA Softball. The division a player will play in is determined by their age as of August 31 st prior to the calendar year for which they are signing up to play.

- 6u – Ages 4, 5, 6
- 8u – Ages 7-8
- 10u – Ages 9-10
- 12u – Ages 11-12
- 14u – Ages 13-14
- 16u – Ages 15-16

*14u and 16u may be combined if necessary due to low enrollment.

This season Liberty is proud to offer an exclusive 6u team. The 6u division is considered a non-scoring division and therefore the teams are formed through coach request and guided team placement.

The 8u division is considered a non-scoring division and therefore the teams are formed through a guided team placement.

The 10u, 12u, 14u, and 16u divisions are considered scoring divisions and therefore the teams are formed through a blind draw.

GENERAL RULES-ALL DIVISIONS

Part A: Uniforms & Gear

UNIFORM: Wearing of the complete uniform is required. These items include the League issued uniform shirt (worn tucked in) and required pants. If a hat/visor is to be worn, it shall be the one purchased from the League.

ADDITIONAL CLOTHING: Defensive players and base runners may wear sweatshirts or jackets in any color except for yellow. They must be zipped or buttoned if applicable. Batters are prohibited from wearing a sweatshirt or jacket unless it is a team issued sweatshirt that has their uniform number displayed. Undershirts may be worn at any time if the sleeves are not yellow, and it is tucked into their pants.

HELMETS: Batters, on-deck batters, and base runners must wear batting helmets. USA Softball requires batting helmets be fitted with an approved NOCSAE facemask. Helmets are to be worn properly which includes a snug fit. Chin straps are optional. **BATS:** All bats must have the USA Softball certification stamp to be approved for play.

EXCEPTION: 6u division will be allowed to use t-ball bats and/or bats that only have "Official Softball" on the bat. A certification stamp is not required.

JEWELRY: No jewelry will be allowed. Earrings must be removed and may not be taped down.

EXCEPTION: The ONLY exception is a medical alert bracelet or necklace which are allowed if wrapped or taped.

TEAM STAFF WEAR: All staff in the dugout or on the field, must wear closed-toe shoes. No flip-flops, sandals, or slides. All team staff must dress appropriately for youth sports.

Part B: Pre-Game

DUGOUT ASSIGNMENT: The home team shall occupy the 3rd base dugout. The visiting team shall occupy the 1st base dugout.

FIELD SET-UP: The home team shall be responsible for setting up the field.

WARM-UP AREA: Teams are allowed to warm-up on their side of the field using both grass and dirt. When games are back-to-back, teams should warm-up in the far part of the outfield or another open area making sure not to encroach upon either a game in progress or pedestrian traffic.

EXCEPTION: The umpire has the authority to reduce or eliminate warm-ups to start a game on-time.

LINE UP CARDS: The managers must present a lineup card to the opposing team scorekeeper 15 minutes prior to game time.

EXCEPTION: 6u and 8u.

TEAM EQUIPMENT CHECK: Teams must display their team gear outside the dugout for an inspection by the umpire 10 minutes prior to the scheduled game time or when instructed by the umpire.

PRE-GAME MEETING: The umpire will call a pre-game meeting at least 5 minutes prior to game time. The pre-game meeting shall include the umpires plus a team manager and coach from each team. If the manager is unavailable, another female staff member must be represented. The manager and coach will show their USA Softball badges and confirm all members of their staff participating in the game are badged members of the league. All adults must visually display their badge during the game. If a badge is not available, that person will not be allowed to participate with the team.

OFFICIAL SCOREKEEPER/TIMEKEEPER: The home team scorekeeper is the official scorekeeper of the game. The game time begins immediately after the plate meeting. Umpires will keep the official time.

Part C: During Game

INTERACTION WITH UMPIRES: One (1) female person will be designated as the “point” person, and this person will be the ONLY one that can interact with the umpire during the game. Shadowing a manager is not permitted. When the female manager or acting manager approaches the umpire, ALL other staff members must be in the dugout or in their appropriate coaches’ boxes. The manager will report the outcomes of the discussion to the remaining staff. **IMPORTANT:** Any attempt to argue with and/or intimidate an umpire will result in the offending adult being ejected from the game. Flagrant acts or repeated violations will be reported to the board for further action.

UMPIRING: It is the manager’s responsibility that if no umpire is present, that a badged individual who has completed the RGS playing rules review class, umpires the game.

PLAYING TIME: All eligible players attending a game will be included in the lineup and bat. A player cannot sit two consecutive defensive innings.

SUBSTITUTIONS: Unlimited defensive substitutions are allowed. No player shall be a starting substitute for two consecutive games. (A player who sits the bench for the first inning of one game **MUST** play defense in the first inning of the next game.)

INJURY/ILLNESS RULE: If a player is unable to complete her at bat due to an injury or illness, that player will be unable to reenter the game in any capacity. If a player becomes injured/ill while running the bases and cannot continue as a base runner, the last out may run for the injured/ill player. The injured/ill player will not be removed from the game unless she is unable to complete her next at bat.

- If the player who was removed from the game due to injury or illness leaves the playing field to go to a doctor or medical facility for immediate treatment, she will be scratched from the game. In this event, an out **WILL NOT** be recorded when it is her turn to bat.
- If the player who was removed from the game due to injury or illness remains at the playing field, either in the dugout, in the bleachers, or in the general game area, an out **WILL** be recorded when it is

her turn to bat. In addition, the manager must notify the Chief Player Agent and complete an injury form within 24 hours of the injury/incident. Injury forms are provided in the coaches/managers binder and can also be located in the download section on the RGS website. If the injury requires a visit to the doctor, a medical release must be obtained and delivered to the Chief Player Agent before the player may return to practice or play in a game. It is the responsibility of the home team to note the time and a brief description of the events and person involved in the official scorebook.

- If a player sustains an injury outside of softball which prohibits them from participating in league activities (practices and games included), then they must receive a doctor's note clearing them to return to play.

Part D: Post-Game

FIELD TEAR DOWN: The visitor team shall be responsible for tearing down the field and securing all equipment in boxes. If you are playing the last game of the day on the field, the visitor team is responsible for dragging the field.

TRASH CONTROL: The core four are responsible for ensuring that the dugout and bleacher area is properly cleaned up.

SUBMISSION OF SCORES: Each manager (10u, 12u, 14u, 16u) is responsible for entering the official game score into Team Sideline within 24 hours.

6U DIVISION SPECIFIC RULES

The rules outlined below are to be used in addition to the general league rules

TIME LIMIT: All games are played with 60 minutes, finish the line-up limit. All 6u games will be considered a regulation game.

NUMBER OF PLAYERS: For safety reasons, each team must have a minimum of five players for the game to be played. Everyone bats and everyone plays defense. Failure to meet the minimum player threshold will result in a forfeit.

PITCHING: All games will be coach pitch. The Coach pitcher must have one foot within the circle. At no time shall the coach pitcher obstruct play and cannot be a Base Coach during the play that he/she has pitched. Each batter will get three (3) coach pitches, however if the last pitch is a foul ball, the batter will receive one (1) extra pitch. If the batter is unable to put the ball into play, the tee must be used. No strikeouts will be called in this division.

OFFENSIVE RESTRICTIONS: Each team will have their entire lineup hit during their half inning regardless of how many outs are made.

BASERUNNING: Only one base per hitter/runner per batted ball. No extra bases on an overthrow. No sliding and no stealing. If a player is put out, they must leave the base and return to the dugout.

EXCEPTION: The last batter of the inning will be permitted to hit a homerun and run all four bases.

DEFENSIVE RESTRICTIONS: Up to six players are allowed in the infield. All other players must be at least 10 feet past the baseline. Up to four (4) badged adults may be on the field to help players with defensive positioning. If a coach is situated behind the catcher, the coach must stand behind the catcher and let the catcher throw the ball back to the pitcher. SPECIAL RULES: Drop strike 3 and Infield Fly are NOT in effect. Bunting is not allowed.

SCOREKEEPING: Scores and standings are not kept in 6u.

SEASON OPERATIONS:

The spring season of play will run February to May. The spring season is open to all interested players within our boundaries. No experience is necessary.

REGISTRATION DATES & FEES

- Early Bird Registration: Wednesday, November 1, 2023 - Thursday, November 30, 2023
- Regular Registration: Friday, December 1, 2023 - Friday, January 12, 2024
- Program Duration: Monday, February 12, 2024 - Saturday, May 18, 2024
- Early Registration Cost: \$205.00 - \$220.00
- Regular Registration Cost: \$255.00 - \$270.00
- Sibling Discount: \$10.00

PRACTICE AND GAME SCHEDULE

The league Scheduler will schedule all practices. Teams should practice up to twice weekly until games begin. Once games begin, most teams will practice once a week. Our goal is to hold practice Monday nights at 4:00 pm.

The spring season shall consist of scheduled games via the league Scheduler. Each team shall be scheduled for a minimum of eight games (6u) or twelve games (8u and above).

Spring game schedules will be available two weeks prior to the start of games. The League will put forth the best effort to schedule games for divisions on a set night, but it is not guaranteed. 6u will generally play Saturdays. 8u, 10u, 12u, 14u, and 16u will generally play Saturdays + 1 weeknight.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

The league will monitor AQI daily when conditions require it. Communication will be sent to the

coaches/managers for all teams at 3pm informing teams of RGS allocated field status, to include if fields are closed or scheduled for reinspect. The AirNow app will be used as the official monitoring system. The full City of Roseville number will be used, not individual neighborhood numbers.

Reinspect: If the AQI is over 100, the League will enter “reinspect” and teams are responsible for checking the AQI numbers before the start of practice and each half hour during practice. If the City of Roseville’s AQI reaches over 150, then the coach/manager should immediately end practice.

The Board may also send additional communication via the email and text feature of Team Sideline to cancel practices if the City of Roseville’s AQI is over 150 from the AirNow.gov app.

Fields Closed: If the AQI for the City of Roseville is over 150, RGS allocated fields are closed for all League activities for all divisions and levels of play. If a “reinspect” email or text is sent, and conditions worsen to over the 150 threshold, the Board will work to their best ability to inform the League that the RGS allocated field status has been updated to “Closed” and all League activities should end immediately.

If teams are playing on a non-RGS allocated field (i.e., a neighboring league game or tournament), the team will defer to the hosting league’s AQI policy. The team coaching staff is empowered to make decisions that best protect the safety of the athletes.

Weather and Field Conditions Board Members and umpires will have the final decision pertaining to weather and playable field conditions for RGS allocated fields.

Temperature Any RGS outdoor practices are to be canceled when temperatures reach 110 degrees Fahrenheit or higher at the time of practice.

AWARDS

Part 1: League Awards

Roseville Girls Softball gives special recognition to players and team staff who have shown excellent skills, sportsmanship, and leadership throughout the season. These recognition awards are presented at closing ceremonies or an alternate recognition space.

SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

The Sportsmanship Award is presented to one player from each team in all age divisions.

SELECTION: This award is selected by the players on each individual team.

CRITERIA:

- Teamwork
- Attitude
- Encouragement

- Mentor/Leadership

PROCESS: The manager of each team should have the players take a secret vote on what player from the team deserves this award. The player agent in each division will collect the award winners from each team manager and announce them during closing ceremonies.

MOST COACHABLE AWARD

The Most Coachable Award is presented to one player from each team in the 6u and 8u age divisions.

SELECTION: This award is selected by the manager and coach of each individual team.

CRITERIA: The award is designed to appropriately honor players who have demonstrated drastic improvement in the following categories during the season:

- Playing ability
- Confidence
- Social Skills
- Coachability

PROCESS: The player agent in each division will collect the award winners from each team manager and announce them during closing ceremonies.

KRISTY REED AWARD

Kristy Reed played with Roseville Girls Softball during the early 1980s. She died after playing only one season. She was an outstanding ballplayer. The Kristy Reed Award is presented to one player from each age division. Each girl receives a trophy, and her name is added to the perpetual League trophy with all former recipients of this award.

SELECTION: The nominations will be reviewed by a committee selected by the Board.

CRITERIA: The award is designed to appropriately honor players who have demonstrated the spirit, attitude and love of the game exemplified by Kristy in the following categories:

- Sportsmanship
- Teamwork
- Good Student
- Team Leader
- Positive Attitude
- Above Average Player

PROCESS: There will be one nominee from each team, chosen by the coach and manager. Nominations from each team are then voted on by a selection committee and announced at the ceremonies. Winners do not know in advance of their selection.

COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD

The coach should exemplify Roseville Girls Softball mission to foster, develop, promote, and expand recreational softball for girls in the Roseville area. He/she should promote friendly competition with the goal of educating players about the sport of softball, sportsmanship, teamwork, fellowship, courtesy, discipline, and integrity.

SELECTION: The nominations will be reviewed by the President and a designated panel.

CRITERIA: The award is designed to appropriately honor coaches who have demonstrated the following characteristics:

- Player development
- Sportsmanship
- Teamwork
- Fellowship
- Courtesy
- Discipline
- Integrity

PROCESS: Any member of the League can submit a coach nomination through the designated form.