

JUNIOR PLAYING RULES

Competition Ages

The Junior Grade 16 and Under shall consist of players who have not reached the age of seventeen years before the first of January of the playing season unless granted a permit by the Fixture and Grading Committee.

The Junior Grade 14 and Under shall consist of players who have not reached the age of fourteen years before the first of January of the playing season unless granted a permit by the Fixture and Grading Committee.

The Junior Grade 12 and Under shall consist of players have not reached the age of twelve years before the first of January of the playing season and shall, unless otherwise recommended by the Junior Council and sanctioned by the Fixtures and Grading committee upon receipt of signed letter from parents and club of player in question that they have not reached the age of eight years before the first of January of the playing season.

Players Movement

Players from the 12U are allowed to play two games on the one playing date in the 12U, 14U or 16U.

Players from the 14U and 16U are allowed to play two games on the one playing date in 14U ,16U or one senior game [if 13 years or older]

NB 12U, 14U and 16U players are allowed to play a MAXIMUM OF TWO GAMES ONLY IN ANY FIXTURED PLAYING DATE.

12U may for their club (if they have two teams in the age group)may interchange players to avoid a forfeit of a 12U game

12U players may be interchanged with another club for 12U game to avoid opposition forfeit

The junior team must have 9 registered players

All registered players for that team must take the field before a playing up player may enter the game.

Eligibility for finals

Players must play at least **five games** for their Club in the Junior Competition to be eligible to play in the finals. A player having played at least 50% of games in a higher Junior grade will not be eligible to play in finals in a lower Junior grade.

Pitching Distances

Pitching distances shall be as follows:-

12U - 40ft on 60ft diamond with a 11 inch ball

14U - 43ft on 60ft diamond with a 12inch ball

16U - 43ft on 60ft diamond with a 12 inch ball

12 and Under Mixed

(a) Qualified male players are restricted to the "mixed" competitions.

(b) No more than four males may be in the batting line up at any time in the "mixed" grade.

(c) If there are insufficient nominations grades maybe combined.

(d) Up to 12 players in a line-up will bat with the 6 Runs across the plate will apply.

(e) Only two male players at a time can play in the infield with NO PITCHER/ CATCHER combinations in the mixed grade.

(f) No infield fly rule will be applied until the Christmas break.

6 Run Rule

An Offensive inning is complete with a 3rd out or a 6th run. The offensive inning will end at the completion of the play where the 6th run was scored. More than the Maximum of 6 runs may have been scored during the final play, however only 6 runs will be recorded for the innings

Equipment

Helmets

Helmets are compulsory for all batters, base runners and catchers.
Persons under 16 years of age acting as bat person or base coach must wear a helmet at all times.

Catcher's equipment

Junior Grade Catchers are required to wear Protective Equipment as per Rule 3 Sec 6 [a] [d] & [e] of the Softball Australia Official Rule Book

[Note; this reads, All Catchers [adult & junior] MUST wear Mask,[a] Body Protector [d] & Shin Guards [e]]

Also

*[Note; sec 6a reads, Catchers [or member of the defensive team] **MUST** wear a mask, throat protector and Helmet while receiving warm up pitches from the pitch's plate or in the warm up area. If the person will not wear the mask, he must be replaced by a person who will do so.]*