



## Valley Bible Church

### **Our Softball rules are similar to baseball with the following exceptions:**

1. The runner may overrun every base, unless an attempt is made to advance to the next base.
2. The runner may be forced out at any base.
3. The runner may only change directions twice between bases and if the runner goes beyond halfway to the next base he cannot return to the previous base.
4. There is no base stealing.
5. Once a runner has gone beyond halfway toward the next base he is committed to that base and cannot turn around.
6. The runner may lead off a base only after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.
7. If the runner slides he will be called out.
8. If the runner collides with the fielder he will be called out.
9. If the runner is attempting to avoid contact with the fielder, he does not have to touch the base.
10. If a pinch runner is necessary, the runner must be the person of the same sex who made the last out.
11. The pitching arch must be above the batter's head and below twelve feet.
12. If the pitcher walks a male batter on four straight balls, the batter is awarded second base.
13. There are no intentional walks. If an umpire concludes that a player is being walked intentionally, the player will be awarded a home run.
14. Home plate also includes the mat behind the plate.
15. The batting line-up must alternate between women and men. People not playing the field will be allowed to bat.
16. Only one foul ball is allowed after the second strike, the second foul ball after the second strike is an out.
17. There is no bunting allowed.

18. Under our Valley Bible infield fly rule, play stops, the batter is out and all runners must return to their base and not advance.  
(The infield fly rule is in effect when a routine fly ball is hit to an infielder with less than two outs and a runner on first and second, or first, second and third).
19. The outfielders must play in the outfield until after the ball is hit. No more than three men can play in the infield at one time.
20. There must be at least three women playing in the infield at all times.
21. The rover must be a woman.
22. A team may play with less than five women and/or less than five men. However, no team can play with more than five men and more than five women on the field.
23. A player may bat and not play the field or may play the field and not bat if they wish.
24. Games will be seven innings or one hour and ten minutes long.
25. The umpire has the authority to interpret these rules. There is no arguing with the umpires.