

Welcome to the 2026 Rally in the Valley



June 5-7, 2026
Siltanen Park
Scotts Valley, CA

Divisions 8U - 10U - 12U

Friday/Saturday Pool Play
Sunday Championship Bracket

Tournament Director:
Matt Sklar (msklar@gmail.com)

Welcome the the 2026 Rally in the Valley!

We are proud to a fun, competitive tournament for local Northern California teams.

All games will be played under the 2026 USA Softball Rules unless otherwise noted below.

Remember, we're all here to create a positive environment for these young athletes to play the sport they love. Keep it positive, keep it fun!

Schedule:

All games will be played at Siltanen Park in Scotts Valley. (127 Vine Hill School Rd., Scotts Valley, CA 95066)

Each team is guaranteed at least 3 games during Pool Play and all teams will be guaranteed at least 1 game on Sunday. A team may be asked to play a 4th Pool game, in that event the Coach will select which game will not count towards tournament standings.

Sunday will be a Single Elimination Championship Bracket. Individual awards will be given to the 1st and 2nd place teams in each division.

Facilities:

Parking will be available at Siltanen park but is limited, we encourage carpooling as much as possible.

Overflow parking will be available at Scotts Valley High School (555 Glenwood Dr., Scotts Valley, CA 95066). We kindly ask **ALL 10U FAMILIES** plan to park at Scotts Valley High as it is the closest to your field.

Concessions will be available, please support our program!

Teams may bring coolers, but no outside alcohol or grilling equipment is permitted.

Speakers are permitted, but please be mindful of volume.

Alcohol may not be consumed outside of designed areas.

Dogs are welcome, please keep them on leash at all times, and clean up after them.

Bleacher Seating is available at all fields, however shade can be limited. We encourage teams to bring pop-up tents and seating for between games

Players and Coaches Eligibility Requirements and Conditions:

All teams must be meet USA Softball Eligibility requirements and be properly registered

12U Division - 12 years and under as of September 1, 2025

10U Division - 10 years and under as of September 1, 2025

8U Division - 8 years and under as of September 1, 2025

Proof of age is required. The burden of proof is with the manager if challenged by an official. Managers are required to carry proof of age of all players – birth certificate or ASA player card. As well as proof of insurance form.

Team rosters are limited to 15 players.

A team may not start with fewer than 8 players.

All games will be played under 2026 USA Softball rules except where modified by these rules.

All managers must check in 60 minutes prior to their team's first scheduled games

Refund Policy: There are NO REFUNDS if you cancel within 7 days prior to the Monday of the tournament week. There is a \$175 cancellation fee if we are unable to replace your team anytime prior to the tournament. All refunds will be issued the week after the end of the tournament.

Tournament Rules:

- All games will be played under 2025 USA Softball rules except where modified by these rules.
- In all disputes the manager/coach will be the only one allowed to talk to the umpire.
- No protests will be allowed. The umpire or Umpire-in-Chief decisions are final. The tournament director at any time has the authority to make the final decision in any dispute.
- Each team is responsible for knowing when and where their games are and to be on time according to the schedule. A 5 minute grace period will be given before a game is forfeited.
- Please help clear out the dugouts as quickly as possible between games and leave them as clean as you find them.
- There is no infield practice.
- The team listed first will occupy the third base dugout. Teams playing back-to-back games may stay in the dugout they are currently in.
- The home team will be determined by a coin toss during Friday/Saturday play. During elimination play on Sunday, the higher seed will be the home team.
- Home team is the official book, games must be scored using GameChanger.
- No new innings may begin after 70 minutes and teams will finish the Inning. This rule is in effect for all Pool and Bracket games.
- Teams in the 10C Division may play 4 outfielders for a total of 10 players on the field. All players in the field must bat.
- Mercy rule will be 12 run lead after 3 innings of play or 10 run lead after 4 innings of play.
- Sportsmanship is of the utmost importance. Any player, coach, or spectator who exhibits behavior deemed unsportsmanlike by either the umpires or tournament officials may be asked to leave the premises. Failure to comply with these decisions may result in immediate ejection of the team for the remainder of the tournament and the loss of eligibility for future Rally in the Valley tournaments.
- Tie games:
 - a) Saturday Pool Play - games may end in a tie.

- b) Sunday Championship Bracket – tie games after 70 minutes will proceed to International Tie Breaker. Each team will start the subsequent innings with the last scheduled batter for that inning on second base.
- After pool play, teams will be seeded and then placed in the championship bracket based on record. In the event of a Tie, tie breakers will be resolved in the following order:
 - a) Head-to-Head record (if applicable)
 - b) Fewest Runs Allowed
 - c) Most runs scored
 - d) Coin toss

8U Special Rules

Scoring:

- For the first 2 innings there will be a 4 runs per inning per team maximum.
- Starting with the 3rd inning you will be able to increase your lead by 4 runs per inning (if you are already tied or ahead) or go up by 4 if you are trailing.
- No new inning may begin after 70 minutes and teams will finish the inning.
- No Mercy Rule is in effect.

Base Running:

- Runners may steal only one base per pitch. No additional advancement on an errant throw.
- No stealing home.
- Lead off permitted on release except when coach pitch.

6. In the 8U division, Blast By The Bay will deviate from the ASA rule, and enforce the following,

“Play stops when the ball hit to the outfield gets in the control of the pitcher WITH AT LEAST ONE FOOT INSIDE THE PITCHING CIRCLE.”

Overthrows:

- Players may advance up to one base on an errant throw. Players advance at their own risk and may be called out if the ball remains in play.
- Balls thrown out of play will result in all runners being awarded one base.
- No bases will be awarded on errant throws when the ball stays in play.
- At the end of play the umpire will return all runners to the base they are entitled to if they have not been put out.

Fielding:

- 10 players may be allowed on defense in the field at any one time, four of which are
- outfielders.
- No infield fly rule.
- Play stops when the ball is in the control of the pitcher with at least one foot inside the pitching circle.

Batting:

- Everyone bats and Coaches may make free defensive substitutions.
- No dropped 3rd strike. Runners may not advance.
- Bunting is allowed off Player Pitching, no bunting off Coach Pitch.

Pitching:

- Players will pitch to the opposing team. 2 inning limit for pitchers, plus 1 additional if the game goes more than 4 innings (One pitch in an inning constitutes an inning)
- No walks.
- A coach/pitcher will enter the circle when 4 balls have been called by the umpire. Coach must pitch "legal" pitches with at least one foot on the pitching rubber.
- The coach/pitcher will inherit the player/pitcher strike count. If the player fouls out, they will receive another pitch.
- All Coach thrown pitches are considered Strikes.
- foul ball, pitching continues until the ball is hit and put in play or the batter is called out.
- Batters will NOT be awarded a base on a Hit by Pitch from the coach/pitcher, but will by a player/pitcher. The batter is automatically awarded first base and will not have the option to continue to hit. A repitch will be awarded to the batter if they are hit by a coach/pitched thrown ball
- The coach/pitcher must make every effort to avoid batted balls. If a batted ball hits the coach/pitcher the ball is dead and repitch will be rewarded. Any coach obstruction of the play will result in the batter being called out.
- Player/Pitcher must have one foot in the circle at the time of Coach/Pitcher is pitching.
- Coach/Pitcher must stay in the circle during play and MAY NOT provide Coaching assistance.

*** NOTE***

Rules not covered in this special section will revert back to the official tournament rules. There will only be one umpire per game including Sunday's bracket play. Please remember, the goal is to teach these girls the correct way to play ball at a higher level and it is up to the coaches to teach the girls "smart" play. Trophies only collect dust, but the love for the game lasts forever.