

Jessica Roberts
Memorial Tournament

Tournament Welcome Packet



Thank you for participating in the Summer 2024 West Valley Jessica Roberts Tournament. We are very happy that you have chosen to enter your team(s) in our tournament and are excited to host you at our facilities. Many of you have traveled a great distance to be here, so if there is anything we can do to make your time here more enjoyable, please let us know.

This welcome packet contains everything you will need for your time here; please read through everything carefully before coming out to our fields.

Our tournament schedule is posted under the “Schedule” tab on our league site: www.wvgs.org. Each team will have two “pool play” games on Saturday, which will be used to determine our single-elimination tournament on Sunday. Please check the schedules regularly for any last-minute updates.

One important thing to note is that we are not permitted to be on our facility grounds before 6:30am. For the teams who will be playing in the 7:30am time slot, please make sure you adhere to this rule by not arriving until 6:30am.

Thank you for entering our tournament and have a great time!

Jason Chlowitz

Tournament Coordinator West Valley Girls Softball

Facility Rules - **IMPORTANT**

Please remind all families of these rules.

1. No Alcohol or Tobacco products are allowed at our facility. Should these be found, your team will forfeit all games and be asked to leave the facility.
- 2. No dogs or pets allowed on LAUSD property. Failure to remove will result in game forfeiture.**
3. Portable grills or any other cooking devices are prohibited.
4. Noisemakers, whistles, boomboxes, etc. are not allowed here. Our fields are in the middle of a quiet neighborhood and we respect our neighbors.
5. No entry allowed to our facility prior to 6:30am. No music allowed until 7:30am or 8am game times.

Check-in Procedure

YOUR TEAM MUST CHECK IN AT LEAST ONE HOUR PRIOR TO YOUR FIRST GAME TIME (or, immediately upon arrival at 6:30am if your team is playing in the first time slot)

Please TURN IN the following at check-in:

1. Team Roster of players and coaches, which must include:
 - A. Names, numbers and birthdates of all players
 - B. Name and contact information (cell phone) for manager and coachesYou may also submit the USA Softball Tournament Roster as well.

(A blank copy of this form is included in this packet.)

Please SHOW the following at check in:

1. For each player on the roster if you did not submit the USA Softball Roster:
 - USA Softball photo ID card **or**
 - Copy of Birth Certificate **or**
 - USA Softball Spring Registration Card (non-photo card)
2. Copy of Proof of Insurance – one copy for tournament records (not required if using USA Softball photo ID cards)
3. Each coach needs to show a copy of the USA Softball ID in order to receive a coaching bracelet. All coaches must check in.

Spirit Awards

You will be given two “Spirit Awards.” Please award them to a deserving player on the opposing team after your two pool play games.

Our Facilities

Our facilities are located at 5607 Capistrano Ave in Woodland Hills, near the major cross-streets of Shoup Ave. and Burbank Blvd.

The only entrance to our facility is a single-lane gate off Capistrano Ave, so please beware of vehicles that are entering and exiting, as only one vehicle may pass through the gate at a time. Due to the limited space at our gate and in our parking lot, RVs are not permitted on the grounds, and must park on one of the streets surrounding the facility.

Here is a map of our facilities with key field numbers and other locations identified:



Warm-Up Areas

First game of the day can warm up in the outfield. We do have limited spaces for the following games warm-up, so please refer to the game schedule to determine your warm-up area before your game.

Warm-up areas will be limited to the two fields NOT being used for games (Fields 2, and 8) as well as the open area beyond the outfield fences of Fields 3, 4, 5, and 6 and the batting cages. Be prepared to SHARE fields 2 and 8 with other teams. **PLEASE BRING A BOWNET FOR WARM UPS AS SPACE IS LIMITED.**

If your team is playing in the first game of the day, you may warm up in the outfield grass of your field on the side of your dugout, but never on the infield dirt.

Please be very careful when warming up your teams, as there is a considerable amount of fan traffic throughout our grounds.

Also, please note that the restrooms are behind the parking lot in the main building and also extra ones batting cages.

Our parking lot will be busy, so please exercise caution and strongly consider accompanying your youngest fans to the restrooms and cages.

WEST VALLEY GIRLS SOFTBALL
Jessica Roberts Memorial Tournament Rules
June 7, 8, and 9 2024
(Final Rules)

SECTION I: GENERAL GUIDELINES

This section lists administrative guidelines that West Valley Girls Softball (WVGS) has adopted for the 2024 Jessica Roberts Memorial Tournament.

TEAMS:

1. Teams will consist of a maximum of fifteen (15) players. All players must be on the official team roster submitted at the time of check-in. Any player participating in a game that is not registered and/or not on the official team roster will cause immediate disqualification of the entire team for the remainder of the tournament. Age determined as of September 1, 2023.
2. In order to be eligible to play, all teams must check-in at least one hour before their first game. All teams must present the following documentation at check-in:
 - a. Completed Team Roster – up to a maximum of fifteen (15) players.
 - b. Copy of Proof of Insurance – 1 copy for tournament records (not required if using USA Softball photo ID cards)
 - c. USA Softball ID cards and/or Copy of Birth Certificate for each player on the Team Roster plus photo and USA Softball Spring Registration Card (Non Photo Card)

GAMES:

The following guidelines apply to ALL divisions unless noted.

Game Times:

1. **Pool Play** - For all divisions, one (1) hour and twenty (20) minutes **Drop Dead**. The game will stop immediately at the drop dead time; the current at-bat will not be completed.
 - a. If the visiting team is up to bat at the time game is called, the score shall revert back to the last completed inning.

- b. If the home team is up to bat at the time game is called and they are losing the game, the score shall revert to the last completed inning.
 - c. If the home team is up to bat and is leading, the score shall stand and will not revert back.
 - d. If the home team is up to bat at the time game is called and has tied the game in that half inning, and they had been losing after the last completed inning, the score shall stand and will not revert back.
 - i. Pool Play will be scored as follows:
 - 1. One (1) point is given for each win.
 - 2. One-Half (.5) point is given to each team for a tied game.
 - 3. If there is a tie in points, the following tie-breaker will be used.
 - 4. Head-to-head.
 - 5. Lowest number of runs scored against you – runs allowed.
 - 6. Highest number of runs scored by team – runs scored
 - 7. Flip of a coin.
2. **Elimination Games** – For all divisions, (7) innings or one (1) hour and twenty (20) minutes no new inning. Modified International tie-breaker if needed.**
- a. **Modified International Tie-breaker - Shall be in effect as follows:
 - i. 1st Extra Inning: International Tie-breaker – runner on second base with zero outs.
 - ii. 2nd Extra Inning: Modified International Tie-Breaker – runner on second base with one (1) out.
 - iii. 3rd Extra Inning and after: Modified International Tie-Breaker – runners on second and third bases with one (1) out.
3. **Championship Games** - For all divisions, except 6U & 8U, the Championship Game shall be seven (7) innings or one (1) hour and thirty (30) minutes no new inning. For all Championship Games, the International Tie-breaker rule shall be in effect if needed. 6U/8U Championship Games are 1:20 no new or at the end of the 6th innings, whichever comes first.
4. Time limit between innings is (1) one minute. The umpires have been told to strictly adhere to this rule.

5. During pool play games, the team listed as “Home” will occupy the third base dugout unless either team played the previous game on the same field. They shall then occupy the same dugout as the previous game. During bracket play, the higher seeded team will occupy the third base dugout unless either team has played the previous game on the same field. They shall then occupy the same dugout as mentioned above. Home team for all Pool Play games will be determined by a coin toss at the plate; the higher seeded team for Elimination and Championship Games will be the home team, unless the teams are seeded equally, in which case home team will be decided by a coin toss at the plate.
6. For All POOL PLAY GAMES (and ALL 6U/8U games including Elimination and Championship games), all teams MUST bat Round Robin. During Elimination games and the Championship game in 10U/12U/14U/16U, all teams will be required to declare at the beginning of the game their intention to either: (a) bat 9 (with or without DP/Flex/EP) or (b) bat round robin. This applies for all divisions except 6U/8U.
7. All teams are responsible for checking posted game times.
8. Game time is forfeit time. Fields may not be used for infield practice before games. **Hitting balls into the perimeter fences is not allowed – please use the soft-toss hitting nets provided.**
9. The Home Team will provide the official scorekeeper for the game.
10. Scorekeeper will make no comments, remain neutral, and must sit behind the backstop or as close to the umpire as possible. If the Home Team cannot provide a scorekeeper, then the opposing team may provide one and has the option of being Home Team. Both managers must sign the scorecard at the conclusion of the game.
11. All team personnel (Managers, Coaches, Players) must remain in the dugout during the game, with a maximum of four (4) team staff per dugout.
12. Rings will be awarded to the 1st and 2nd place teams in the Championship and Consolation Brackets.
13. No eating, drinking, gum chewing, etc., will be allowed on the fields during the game.
14. Umpires and/or tournament officials will have the responsibility of ejecting coaches, players or spectators for abusive language or other acts that are contrary to the objectives and purposes of USA SOFTBALL. A warning for the first offense MAY be issued at the discretion of the umpires/officials.

The second offense by coaches or players will result in ejection of the responsible individual(s) from the game. Any ejected individual (Manager, Coach, Player, Parent, etc.) is suspended from the current game and is suspended from the team's next game; an ejection occurring after the last out has been recorded in a game will result in suspension for the next two (2) games. If a second ejection occurs, the individual will be suspended for the remainder of the tournament. Ejected individuals must leave the playing fields and remain "out of sight and out of sound" at least 200 ft. from the playing field where their "TEAM" is playing, for the duration of the suspension. All Ejections need to be documented and turned into the Tournament Official for enforcement purposes.

15. **DISCLAIMER**: The Tournament Director will resolve any situation not covered by these rules or in the USA Softball Rule Book. All decisions will be final.

PROTESTS:

All decisions are final. There will be no provisions for protests.

SECTION 2: PLAYING RULES

The Rules are WVGS Tournament additions and adaptations to the 2024 USA SOFTBALL Rulebook. In conjunction with the USA SOFTBALL Rulebook, these Rules constitute the Official Rules and regulations for the 2024 Jessica Roberts Memorial Tournament. USA SOFTBALL Rules apply to ALL Divisions unless noted below.

1. Pitching distances are as follows
 - 6 years & Under - 30 ft
 - 8 years & Under - 30 ft
 - 10 years & Under - 35 ft
 - 12 years & Under - 40 ft
 - 14/16 years & Under - 43 ft
2. Base Paths are 60 ft for all age groups
3. **ROUND ROBIN FORMAT**: For teams electing to bat Round-Robin, if a player arrives late, she will be placed at the bottom of the line-up, and if she cannot come up to bat when it is her turn for any reason, she is considered

OUT for the first occurrence only. DP/Flex/EP lineups are permitted during Elimination Rounds and Championship play except for 6U/8U.

4. For teams batting round robin, there is open substitution for defensive players, and courtesy runners may be used for the pitcher and catcher. The courtesy runner shall be the last recorded out. For teams batting nine (with or without a DP/Flex/EP), USA SOFTBALL substitution rules apply.
5. USA Softball reentry rules apply with one exception. If an injury occurs and no one is left to reenter, a player may reenter to replace the injured player for defense only. Her turn at bat will be skipped without penalty.
6. Mercy Rule: when a team is ahead by Fifteen (15) runs after three (3) innings, or ten (10) runs after Four (4) innings or eight (8) runs after five (5) innings in any game, the umpire shall declare the game complete.

SPECIFIC AGE DIVISION RULES:

6 & Under Division:

1. Pool Play, Elimination, and Championship games: **4-Up Rule** - a team may score up to 4 runs per inning -or- as many runs as is needed to take the lead by 4 runs in that inning, whichever is greater.
2. Coach pitching distance is 30 feet from home plate. A chalk circle will be drawn around the center of the pitching area and will be called the "pitcher's circle." The pitching coach must have at least one foot on the mound when he/she pitches.
3. After a ball is put in play, the coach pitcher **MUST** get out of the way of defensive team players who are attempting to field the ball.
4. The coach pitcher cannot coach base runners from the pitcher circle, nor can he/she coach the batter after the ball is hit.
5. Violations of rule 5, 6, and/or 7 will result in a dead ball out and all runners will be returned to the last base occupied at the start of the play.
6. Home team will keep the official score.

Offensive Rules

7. Round robin batting order must be used in the 6U division. Every player must bat.
8. Each batter receives 3 pitches from a coach (batter will continue with coach pitch if they foul off their final pitch) and then: two swings (in pool play) or one swing (in elimination play) off the tee to put a ball in play. A foul ball off the tee will result in an out.
9. Tee hits - Batters and runners can only advance 1 base when hitting off the tee. No advancing on an overthrow.
10. Coach pitch hits - only 1 additional base on the first overthrow. If a second overthrow occurs, the batter/runner cannot advance (i.e. batter must stop at 2nd and runner at 1st must stop at 3rd).
11. There will be a 6-foot arc in front of home plate extending from the first base line to third base line. A batted ball coming to rest inside the arc line is considered a foul ball.
12. Base runners cannot leave their base until after the ball is hit and can only advance to home on a ball put in play.
13. For any ball hit in play, play will be stopped and dead ball called as soon as the ball crosses any part of the pitcher's circle. If the base runner(s) have already passed the halfway line at the time the ball enters the pitcher's circle they will advance to that base(s), otherwise they will return to their last base reached safely.
14. Once a ball is declared "dead", it cannot be made "alive" again.
15. The Umpire will determine if an overthrown ball has gone out of play at which point if a runner has already passed the halfway line to the next base, then they can advance to that base.

Defensive Rules

16. No more than 10 defensive position players will be allowed on the field at one time.
17. With 10 players on the field there will be 4 outfielders.
18. All outfielders must be standing in the outfield at least 10 feet behind the baseline at the beginning of each play.
19. Two coaches are allowed in the outfield when their team takes the field.

8 & Under Division:

1. All games will be played with a 10-inch Sof-Dot (Yellow) USA Softball approved softball provided by WVGS.
2. Home plate is closed/cold.
3. The runner cannot leave the base until the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. On overthrows by the catcher to the pitcher, runners may advance one (1) base, except from third base to home.
4. **Stealing**: Maximum of one (1) base stolen per pitch; runners may not advance on an overthrow, even if the ball goes out of play.
5. Dropped third strike rule does not apply.
6. Infield fly rule does not apply.
7. Ten (10) players will be allowed on defense. No more than six (6) players, including the pitcher and catcher, may play in the infield. Outfielders and the tenth (10) player must remain on the grass until the ball is hit or a play is made on a runner.
8. Round robin will be used for the 8-U during elimination and championship games.
9. Pool Play, Elimination, and Championship games: **4-Up Rule** - a team may score up to 4 runs per inning -or- as many runs as is needed to take the lead by 4 runs in that inning, whichever is greater.

10 & Under Division:

1. All games will be played with a 11-inch Dream Seam (Yellow) USA Softball approved softball provided by WVGS.
2. Home Plate is "hot."
3. Dropped Third Strike (DTS) will apply.
4. Infield fly rule will apply.
5. No per pitch stolen base maximum.
6. Pool Play, Elimination, and Championship games: **5-Up Rule** - a team may score up to 5 runs per inning -or- as many runs as is needed to take the lead by 5 runs in that inning, whichever is greater.
7. Nine (9) players will be allowed on defense, 3 of which must play in the outfield. Outfielders must remain on the grass until the ball is hit or a play is made on a runner.

12 & Under and 14U/16U Division:

1. All games will be played with a 12-inch Dream Seam (Yellow) USA Softball approved softball provided by WVGS.
2. Home Plate is "hot."
3. Dropped Third Strike (DTS) will apply.
4. Infield fly rule will apply.
5. No per pitch stolen base maximum.
6. Pool Play, Elimination, and Championship games: **5-Up Rule** - a team may score up to 5 runs per inning -or- as many runs as is needed to take the lead by 5 runs in that inning, whichever is greater.
7. Nine (9) players will be allowed on defense, 3 of which must play in the outfield. Outfielders must remain on the grass until the ball is hit or a play is made on a runner.

SECTION III: MISCELLANEOUS

1. No alcohol or tobacco products will be allowed at any of the facilities. Noisemakers, bullhorns, radios or music devices will not be allowed at the playing field. No barbecues or other cooking devices are allowed in the field or parking lot areas. THERE IS NO RV PARKING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.
2. **No dogs allowed on LAUSD property. Failure to remove the dog from LAUSD property will result in game forfeiture(s).**
3. No negative cheering and/or taunting of opposing players, coaches or managers will be tolerated.
4. Only the Manager/Coach who participated in the pre-game meeting with the umpire may approach or speak with the umpire to discuss a disputed call.
5. At the umpire's discretion, if it is deemed that a manager, coach or player is acting in a fashion so as to prolong or stall the progress of the game, the Umpire may eject the offending team's manager from the game and/or may declare a forfeit of the game by the offending team.



2024 West Valley Jessica Roberts Memorial Tournament Roster

Team: _____

Age/Division: 6U 8U 10U 12U 14U/16U

Manager _____ Contact Number _____

Email _____

Player Name	Birthdate	Number on Jersey
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.		

Coaches Name

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____