

Valley Mesa Summer 2026
18U Division Game Rules
(Ages 14-18)

BALL: 12" USSA approved softball

PITCHING DISTANCE: 43'

BASE DISTANCE: 60'

1. **GAME TIMES** are 5:45 PM, 7:30 PM and 7:45 PM during the week and various times on Saturdays. Games are 1 hour 30 minutes (drop dead) or seven (7) innings.
2. Teams play with nine (9) players on field.
3. Teams may start with eight (8) players if only eight players are present at game time. The ninth (9th) batter spot may be an out. Late arriving players may be added up to the third (3rd) inning.
4. Teams short of players may add up to three (3) pick-up players for a total of 9 players from the same division or lower division who do not have a game.
5. Pick-up players may NOT pitch, and they must be added to the bottom of the batting line-up.
6. Teams may choose to "bat the bench" to utilize free substitution and runners for pitcher and catcher.
7. All players must play at least 2 innings and must have at least one (1) at bat. No player may sit two (2) or more consecutive innings.
8. There is no run limit per inning unless both coaches agree to a 5-run limit.
9. All batters and any players acting as a base coach MUST wear a helmet with face guard.
10. Jewelry, including earrings and face piercings are NOT allowed. Medical bracelets are the exception. Only caps, visors or sweatbands may be worn on the field. Plain colored bandanas may only be worn under a catcher's helmet.