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| **Softball Rules Simplified** | http://westlake.k12.oh.us/hilliard/whspe/softball/images/softball_pitch.gif |
| **THE GAME**   * There are 9 players on a softball team. * The playing field is divided into the infield and outfield * The lines between the bases are 60’ apart and when joined they form a “diamond”, inside the baseline is known as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. * Outside the baseline but inside the playing field is called the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. * Any ball going outside the 1st or 3rd base line is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ball ( runners cannot advance and the batter gets another try unless the ball was caught in the air, which translates to an out) * An official game is 7 innings (an inning is when both teams have had their turn to bat)   **PITCHING**   * The pitcher must have both feet on the pitcher’s rubber and can only take one step forward while pitching. * The ball must be thrown \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. * Both hands must be on the ball at the start of the pitch.   **BATTING**   * Batters must follow the same order throughout the whole game * The batter is out if and when:   a) three strikes have been called  b) a fly ball is caught  c) the batter does not stand in the batter’s box  **BASE RUNNING**   * Runners must touch each \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in order * Runners may overrun 1st base only, all other bases the runner may be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and called out if they are off the base. * Runners cannot lead off a base, they must be on base until the ball as left the pitcher’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. * One base runner cannot \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ another base runner that is ahead of them. * Stealing a base is permitted * A runner is out if:   a. they are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the ball before reaching a base  b. the ball gets to 1st base before the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  c. they run more than 3 feet out of the base line to avoid being tagged  **TERMS**:Force out, Ball, Strike, Grounder, Strike zone.   * \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:- a legally pitched ball that does not enter the strike zone (four balls equals a walk) * \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:- A ball that is hit on the ground * \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:- when the runner has to advance to the next base to make room for the following base runner. * \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:- term used when a ball is swung at and missed or is called when the ball enters the strike zone and is not swung at all. * \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:- the ball passes the batter over the plate between their chest and knees | |