

# **SOFTBALL STUDY GUIDE**

## **General Info:**

1. The visiting team bats first in the top of the inning.
2. The home team starts in the field first and bats in the bottom of the inning.
3. Both teams are given 3 outs for an inning to be complete. (6 total)
4. Any ball that is hit OUTSIDE the 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> base line is called a foul ball.
5. A softball/baseball field is called a “diamond” because of its shape.
6. 9 players are on the field at one team during an inning.
7. An automatic out occurs when a player: throws the bat, slides, or bats out of order.
8. When two outs are made on the same play, it is called a “double-play”.

## **Hitting Info:**

1. A batter is given three strikes to hit the ball.
2. Any ball that is hit into the air (fair or foul) and caught on “the fly”, is considered out.
3. A batter that hits a ground ball, must be thrown out at first base.
4. There is NO bunting.

## **Base Running Info:**

1. Any runner that is not “forced” to a base, must be tagged out by the fielder.
2. On a force out, the fielder must tag the base before the runner gets there.
3. If a ball is hit into the air, any baserunners must stay on their base until the ball is caught (or dropped), before advancing to the next base. This is called “tagging up”.
4. First base is the ONLY base that a runner may overrun; for all the other bases, the runner must stop on the base.
5. Base runners may not lead off or steal a base. They must wait until the ball leaves the pitcher's hand before starting to advance.

# POSITIONS ON THE BALL FIELD

