

*Region 11 Girls Softball Rules ("A" & "B" Leagues) - (Revised 2007)*

**GENERAL RULES:**

- There will be an "A" league and a "B" league. A parish with only one team will participate in the "A" league unless approved at the regional softball meeting.
- Players and spectators should cheer in a positive way, encouraging their own team. There should be no negative cheering against the opposing team.
- Players must sit in the area of the bench or on the bench itself. They may not stand around the backstop or anywhere else.
- Forfeit time: 20 minutes after the scheduled starting time. A team may start the game with 9 players.
- Rain-Outs: The home field coach, after talking with the visiting coach, makes the decision to postpone the game due to poor weather and/or unsafe playing conditions. When the decision is made, that same home field coach will immediately contact head umpire Joe McCarthy (215-396-9776). The decision should be made no later than 2 hours before the scheduled start of the game.
- If a coach requests a postponement of a game for reasons other than the weather less than 48 hours before the game, then the team making the request must pick up the entire fee for the umpire.
- If one team is ahead by 15 runs after 3 innings or 10 runs after 5 innings, the game shall be stopped with the team leading declared the winner.
- Teams will be awarded 2 points for a victory. A game shall be considered a tie when the teams are tied and the time allotment has expired. Each team will be awarded one point.
- There is a 10-batter limit per half-inning for all "B" league games. The 10<sup>th</sup> batter may not draw a bases on balls or be hit by a pitch. Play ends with the ball being possessed by a defensive player at home plate.
- The pitching distance is 40-feet in the "A" league and 38-feet in the "B" league. Bases are 60-feet apart in both leagues. Coaches are responsible for making sure their home field(s) are maintained to ensure the safety of all participants.
- 7-innings is a complete game. The time limits for games are 2-hours in the "A" league and 1-hour 45-minutes in the "B" league.
- 10 players are used defensively. Teams may use a designated hitter (DH) and a designated fielder (DF).
- Both leagues will employ the infield fly rule.
- Runners may tag and advance on any caught fly ball.
- No bunting is permitted in the "B" league and only limited stealing is permitted in the "B" league only. No stealing of home is permitted in the "B" league only.
- In the "B" league, base runners may leave the base once the ball is released by the pitcher. However, only 3 steps may be taken. In the "A" league, base runners may only leave the base when the ball is at home plate.
- The base runners may be picked off by the catcher, but may not advance on an errant throw in the "B" league only.
- Courtesy runner may be used for the pitcher and/or catcher at any time to speed up the game.
- One base plus one on an overthrow that leaves the field of play.

*-When the pitcher receives the ball in the pitcher's circle, play is dead and base runners must stop in the "B" league only. Runners less than half-way to the next base will be returned to the previous base in the "B" league only.*

*-When the ball is possessed by the pitcher in the pitcher's circle and she does not attempt to make a play with the ball, base runners must commit to a base immediately or be declared out by the umpire.*

*-Intentional walks simply have to be declared. No pitches need to be thrown.*

*-Substitutions: All players may be substituted for once, including pitchers. They must return to the same place in the batting order upon reentering the game. Pitchers may leave the game and pitch upon reentering.*

*-3 warm-up pitches between innings.*

*-Automatic out for throwing the bat.*

*-Fast pitch rules apply for pitchers. Pitchers are only permitted to pitch 4 innings per day. (Throwing one pitch in an inning is considered a complete inning.)*

*NOTE: Region 11 uses ASA modified rules.*

#### EQUIPMENT:

*-Home team must supply one new ball and one other high-quality used ball. White or yellow balls that are ASA approved are legal (#12 size)*

*-Batters and base runners will wear batting helmets at all times. No helmet should be removed until play is dead. Teams should have 6 helmets to speed up the game.*

*-Catchers must wear a facemask equipped with a throat guard, helmet (preferably a hockey-type combination), girls' chest protector, and shin guards. Hair must be tied back.*

*-Batting helmet facemasks are mandatory.*

*-Caps and visors are optional although all players should be uniformly dressed. Shirrtails MUST be tucked in.*

*-No player may wear jewelry. (This includes barrettes, small earrings, etc.)*

#### UMPIRES:

*-There shall be one umpire in every league game with the exception of region final games where two umpires will be used.*

*-Fees are \$40 per umpire (\$20 paid by each coach) and in the case of a forfeit, the losing team pays the entire umpiring fee.*

#### VARIA:

*-ROSTERS ARE DUE TO COMMISSIONERS BY THE ASSIGNED DUE DATE. COMMISSIONERS ARE INSTRUCTED BY CYO TO DECLARE FORFEITS FOR TEAMS THAT HAVE NOT SUBMITTED OFFICIAL ROSTERS.*

*-Coaches must be accredited and Virtis approved by the CYO.*

*-The playoffs in the "A" division are: 4 @ 1 and 3 @ 2 in the semifinals and lower seed @ upper seed in the final. The "B" division is 2 @ 1.*

*-Winning coaches must notify commissioner, preferably the day of the game. (No phone calls after 9:30 PM. Please use email. Results will be posted periodically.)*

*-All-Stars and Ginny Grey winners should be given to the commissioner/assistant commissioner on or prior to the deadline date.*