

THIS IS A NON-COMPETITIVE, INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION. NO STANDINGS WILL BE KEPT.

GENERAL RULES

1. Unless specifically changed by the following rules, USSSA SLOW PITCH 2011 rules will prevail.
2. The distance between the pitchers mound and home plate (THE "T") will be 30 feet. There will be a circle of 15 feet in diameter around the pitchers mound.
3. The distance between the bases shall be 45 feet.
4. The game ball shall be a 10 inch softball.
5. A tied game is a tied game. This is a non-competitive division.
6. An official game shall be two (2) complete innings.
7. Game starting times shall be 6:00 P.M. and 7:15 P.M. No new inning shall start 1 hour and 10 minutes after the start of the game. The TEAM MANAGER will use his judgement in calling the game due to darkness.
8. **WARM-UPS:** For the first game, the team listed first on the schedule will have warm-up time from 5:30 to 5:45, the opposing team from 5:45 to 6:00. Teams for the second game will warm up on the side lines and be ready to play promptly at game time. There will be no leeway time between the first and second game. If field time is available before the second game, it will be shared equally by both teams.
9. The entire roster will play on the field. There is to be a maximum of six infielders, including the pitcher. These infielders will play in standard infield positions. The outfielders play just inside the grass line. Every player who is present at the game will bat in order and will play all innings unless injured.
10. Players shall report to the field for scheduled games regardless of weather unless the game is postponed in advance.
11. Managers of the teams scheduled to play shall decide if games are to be played in adverse weather, **UNLESS THEY HAVE BEEN CANCELED IN ADVANCE BY THE LEAGUE DIRECTOR OR T-BALL COMMISSIONER.**
12. All players will wear team uniforms, which consist of team shirt, hat and socks. All players will provide their own white shorts or baseball pants. **NO SANDALS. ALL PLAYERS MUST WEAR TENNIS SHOES. SOFTBALL SHOES WITH PLASTIC CLEATS ARE LEGAL.**

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13. **LEAGUE SHIRTS:** No numbers or names shall be placed on any league shirts. No manager is allowed to change shirt colors, such as tie-dying etc.
14. **INFIELD FLY RULE IS NOT IN EFFECT.**
15. **THERE ARE NO CATCHERS IN T-BALL**
16. **SLIDING IS NOT PERMITTED.** The batter will be called out.
17. **HOME TEAM/VISITOR:** The HOME TEAM shall be the team listed first on the schedule sheet and shall occupy the first base side. The team listed second on the schedule sheet shall be the VISITOR and shall occupy the third base side. **ONLY PLAYERS OF THE TEAM PLAYING, MANAGERS, COACHES AND SCOREKEEPERS SHALL BE PERMITTED TO OCCUPY THESE BENCHES.**
18. **GAME BALLS:** The Home Team (team listed first on schedule) will supply the game ball. **ALL GAME BALLS WILL BE PLACED IN THE EQUIPMENT BOX AFTER THE GAME. THEY WILL BE USED FOR PRACTICE BALLS.**
19. **PRACTICE BALLS:** Practice balls will be kept in the equipment box. Make sure they are placed back into the equipment box for all teams to use.
20. **EQUIPMENT:** The HOME TEAM of the last game played has the responsibility of replacing all equipment into the equipment box. The first team to arrive at the field shall place the bases accordingly.
21. **SPORTS LINE REPORT:** The HOME TEAM Manager from each game played will call, fax, or e-mail the game scores of that game in to the NEWS-HERALD.
22. **All players must sit on the bench when not playing in the field. This is a safety rule. We must keep the players away from unauthorized swinging bats.**
23. **PLAYING FIELD:** Playing fields are Hopkins Elementary & MHS Fields 5, 6 & 9. Two (2) games will be played each week. Games will be played on Monday or Friday at the Hopkins Elementary Field and all teams will play on Wednesday at MHS Fields 5,6 or 9.
24. **THERE WILL BE NO PROTEST OF ANY KIND. THIS IS A NON-COMPETITIVE, INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION.**
25. **The team roster will be a maximum of 15 players per team.**
26. **There will be 12 teams playing an 11 game schedule. Each team plays every team one time.**

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PLAYING RULES

1. Any ball hit outside the 3 ft. circle in front of home plate will be a fair ball.
2. No fielder will be allowed to assume a position close to the home plate. Players may come in to the Hash Marks for a ball going into foul territory. Players' positions shall be rotated every inning.
2. One base is automatically awarded on the overthrow. The runner gets the base to which they are going to. The runner does not advance, if a player reaches the next base, they stay there.
4. There will be extra bases allowed on overthrows to first and third base. Any ball thrown past the first or third baseman into foul territory will be a live ball, unless the ball goes outside the field of play and out of play, as determined by the MANAGER. If the ball goes out of the playing field, the runner gets one base plus the base the runner is going to. Overthrows at second base are not dead ball situations and base runners should be encouraged to advance.
5. There will be a limit of seven (7) runs scored per team per inning.
6. There must be a minimum of eight (8) players by game time in order to begin the game. If less than eight players of one team are present at game time, **YOU MAY BORROW PLAYERS FROM THE OPPOSING TEAM SO THE TEAMS CAN PLAY.**
7. There is no deliberate rolling of the ball to any base to create an out. If done, the runner is awarded the base to which they are running.
8. The batter must take a full swing at the ball.
9. The pitcher must be placed in the middle of the circle.
10. No lead off shall be taken at any base until the ball is hit off the T. Any runner leaving the base before the ball is hit will be given a warning. If the instance occurs again, the runner will be called out.
11. Throwing the bat by a batter shall constitute a warning. The second time a player throws the bat, the player is automatically out. The ball is dead. **THIS RULE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.**
12. Batting helmets will be worn by all batters, base runners and on deck batters.
13. On deck batters are not allowed to practice swing while on deck
14. Coaches Box: Only one coach at a time in each coaching box during play.

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15. Parents are allowed on the field, however, they must be behind the baseline when in the infield and in the outfield. It is a dead ball if the parent touches the ball.
16. **NO SMOKING BY ANY MANAGER, COACH, SCORKEEPER OR ANY PARENT OR PERSON WORKING WITH THE TEAM DURING THE GAME.**

SCHEDULES

1. **ALL GAMES MUST BE PLAYED AS SCHEDULED UNLESS POSTPONED FOR RAIN OR WET GROUNDS. NO MANAGER HAS THE AUTHORITY TO CHANGE THE POSTED SCHEDULE.**
2. If a game is legally postponed, it will be re-scheduled according to the following regulations. The manager of the home team will call the Field Scheduler, Kim Guenther, @ 255-0034. She will reschedule all games according to the availability of playing fields. Contact Kim on the same day the game is cancelled.

EQUIPMENT BOX

1. **The equipment box is to be locked during the game and all unused equipment is to be secured in the box.**
2. No spectators are allowed in or on the equipment box.
3. Each league has a varying amount of equipment. In any case, this equipment is valuable and represents a considerable investment by the Mentor Girls Softball League. It is imperative that lost, misplaced, and damaged equipment be held to a minimum.
4. All managers are responsible for our equipment. Please make sure you place all equipment back in the box and **KEEP THE LID CLOSED AND LOCKED AT ALL TIMES.**

TROPHIES

Trophies will be provided by Mentor Girls Softball League to each player in the T-Ball Division.