

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 bases shall be 55 feet.
3. The distance between the pitchers mound and home plate will be 35 feet. There will be a circle of fifteen (15) feet in diameter around the pitchers plate. The Coach may pitch from anywhere within the circle to give the batter the best chance of hitting the ball.
4. The game ball shall be an official USSSA 11 inch blue-stitched softball.
5. There shall be 12 teams in the Pixie Division.
6. The team roster will be a maximum of 15 players per team.
7. Games will be played at the Mentor High School Fields 5, 6, & 9. Games will be played on Monday & Thursday nights with a possibility of a Friday night.
8. There will be a 13 game schedule played in the Pixie Division.
9. Four (4) innings shall constitute a game.
10. An official game shall be three (3) innings.
11. Game starting times shall be 6:00 P.M. and 7:15 P.M. No new innings shall start 1 hour and 10 minutes after the start of the game.
12. **WARM-UPS:** For the first game, the team listed first (Home Team) on the schedule sheet will have warm-up time from 5:30 to 5:45 P.M. The second team listed (Visitor) will have warm-up time from 5:45 to 6:00 P.M. 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 called for the second game. If field time is available before the second game, it will be shared equally by both teams.
13. There will be a minimum of 10 players by game time in order to play. If less than 10 players, the managers will agree to borrow players so the teams can play. This is a non-competitive division.
14. Players shall report to the field for scheduled games regardless of weather, unless the game is postponed by the League Director or Commissioner in advance.

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15. Managers of the teams scheduled to play and the plate umpire shall decide if games are to be played in adverse weather. The plate umpire shall decide if the game is to continue once play has commenced.
16. All players will wear team uniforms, which consists of team shirt, visor and socks. All players will provide their own white shorts or white baseball pants.
17. **LEAGUE SHIRTS:** No numbers or names shall be placed on any league shirts. No manager is allowed to change shirt or sock colors, such as tie-dying etc,
18. **SLIDING IS NOT PERMITTED.** The runner will be called out.
19. **INFIELD FLY RULE IS NOT IN EFFECT.**
20. **UNLIMITED FOULS ON 3RD STRIKE.**
21. **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 & SCOREKEEPERS SHALL BE PERMITTED TO OCCUPY THESE BENCHES.**
22. **GAME BALLS:** The team listed first on the schedule will supply the game ball. All game balls are to be placed back in the equipment box after each game. These game balls will be used for practice balls.
23. **The HOME TEAM** of the last game played on the field has the responsibility of replacing all equipment into the equipment box. The first team to arrive at the field shall place the bases accordingly.
24. **UMPIRE FEE:** The Umpire fee is \$20 and shall be paid by the home team. Umpire and game balls will be picked up on Opening Day by the manager when you check in at the Information Center.
25. **SPORTS LINE REPORT:** The HOME TEAM Manager of each game played will call, fax or e-mail the game scores of that game in to the News Herald.
26. **PROTEST:** There will be no protest of any kind. This is a NON-COMPETITIVE, INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION.
27. **CALL-UPS:** (SEE ATTACHED RULE SHEET FOR CALL-UPS)
29. **CATCHERS:** Must wear face masks, catchers helmet and chest protector.
30. **BATTING HELMETS:** Batting helmets will be worn by all batters, base runners and all player coaches. Any player who deliberately throws the batting helmets will be warned, second time, that player is out of the game.

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31. **SMOKING: NO SMOKING BY ANY MANAGER, ASSISTANT MANAGER, COACH, SCOREKEEPER, OR ANY PARENT WORKING WITH THE TEAM.**

GAME RULES

1. **COACH PITCH DIVISION. A COACH WILL PITCH FOR THE ENTIRE GAME.** The batter gets six (6) pitches to hit the ball fairly. Not hitting the ball fairly within six (6) pitches constitutes an out. The last pitch of an at bat cannot be a foul ball.
2. Once the coach of the team which is at bat has taken his place on the pitchers mound, the manager of the team which is in the field will position his pitcher next to the coach, so she can still field the ball.
3. If the coach of the team at bat is hit by a batted ball while pitching, the ball is dead. Runners return to their original base.
4. While the coach is pitching the batter cannot walk.
5. The entire roster will play in the field. There is to be a maximum of eight infielders. The infield positions will consist of a catcher, pitcher, first base, second base (positioned next to the base), third base, short stop, rover (between first and second base) and short center (behind second base midway between the base and edge of grass). All other players will be positioned on the outfield grass. Every player who is present at the game will bat in order and will play all innings unless injured.
6. Each player must play two innings in the infield and two innings in the outfield during each game. It is strongly recommended that each player be given the opportunity to play each fielding position at least once during the season.
7. If the pitcher fields the ball within the pitcher's circle, she must throw the ball to make an out. She can not try to outrun the base runner, especially in regards to a force out at home plate. If the pitcher fields the ball within the circle and runs it home, the runner will be called safe.
8. The ball is dead after a batted ball has been returned to the pitcher and the pitcher has control of the ball and is within the pitchers circle. The ball is not dead if it has been thrown over, or through the pitchers circle and not controlled by the pitcher.
9. There will be **NO EXTRA BASES AWARDED ON OVERTHROWS.**
10. There will be a limit of five (5) runs scored per team per inning. This rule applies to all innings.
11. 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 she is running, plus the next base.

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12. **NO BUNTING IS ALLOWED.**
13. **The batter must take a full swing.**
14. **No lead-offs shall be taken at any base until the ball is hit. 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.**
15. **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.)**
16. **On deck batters are not allowed to practice swing while on deck. (Please enforce this rule.) This is a safety rule and must be followed.**
17. **COACHES BOX: Only one coach at a time in each coaching box during play. Coaches are not allowed to touch players unless time is called. The Umpire will give one warning per game.**
18. **MANAGERS: All managers and coaches will dress properly for all league games. NO SANDALS, NO CUT-OFF SHIRTS OR SLEEVELES SHIRTS WILL BE PERMITTED. All managers are expected to wear the league shirts provided by the league.**
19. **PLAYER SURRENDER RULE: The runner must surrender a play if it is apparent she will be out as she approaches the next base. Any player that is ejected from the game by the home plate umpire for bodily contact or deliberately pushing/knocking over another player, the team manager and player will be suspended from the next two games they are scheduled to participate in. This is a RECREATIONAL NON-COMPETITIVE INSTRUCTIONAL LEAGUE AND AGGRESSIVE UNSPORTSMANSLIKE CONDUCT ON THE BALL FIELD WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.**
20. **NEW RULE: If a batter hits a ball into the outfield, they may attempt to reach second base. The batter cannot advance beyond second base and, in advancing from first, the batter is still in play and the defending team may attempt to get the batter out. Base runners in this instance, may also attempt to advance two bases, but are also still in play and may not advance more than two bases.**

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TROPHIES:

Trophies are not provided by Mentor Girls Softball League for the Pixie Division. Each manager is welcome to do whatever is wished for the end of the Season. Serena's Trophy World has trophies for approximately \$5.00/each. (Please check with your choice of store for price and production time.) Some managers will collect \$5.00 from parents at the beginning of the Season. Some teams have picnics and some meet at Dairy Queen or McDonald's. These are only suggestions, not requirements.

SCHEDULE

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. **MAKE-UP GAMES:** If a game is legally postponed, (due to wet grounds or rain) it will be re-scheduled according to the following regulations. The manager of the HOME TEAM will call the Field Scheduler, Kim Guenther (440-255-0034). She will re-schedule the games according to the availability of the playing fields. She will notify the managers and will also re-schedule the umpire. All make up games will be made up at her discretion according to the weather and field availability. Home Team Manager is to 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. 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.
3. 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.**