2019 GIRLS INSTRUCTIONAL LEAGUE SOFTBALL RULES

Length of Game

a. Pre-game practice-The first 20-30 minutes of game will include a pre-game practice with opposing team. Players will field ground balls, hit off tees and learn the fundamentals of softball prior to every game throughout the season.

b. Regulation games are 3 innings or a maximum of one hour and 30 minutes including pre-game practice. In any event, a game must be played a minimum of one hour.

c. During the week, you may receive a call from an automated phone system to update and instruct you about field conditions. On weekends, you may receive an automated phone call only in the event of a complete rainout. If you receive no call, then proceed to the fields at the scheduled time.

Player Participation

a. Each team must field at least 6 players. In the event that this is not possible, then both teams should combine players and divide up equally so that the game can be played.

b. All players on the defensive team shall be on the field at the same time.

c. Defensive players shall be positioned in a manner that clearly identifies infielders and outfielders. Please remember to position infielders in their proper position and the remaining players should be positioned equally in the outfield grass.

d. Outfielders must be on the outfield grass.

e. The players are not allowed to wear any kind of jewelry. The coaches should enforce this. Also, all batters and base runners are required to wear approved protective helmets at all times.

f. In the event the infield is unplayable due to muddy conditions it is recommended to move the game to the all-purpose field for completion.

Time-Out

a. Time will be called when an outfielder fields the ball and makes the appropriate play to an infielder. Time will be called whether or not the infielder catches the ball.

b. An infielder fields the ball and makes the appropriate play to another infielder, and then time shall be called whether or not that infielder catches the ball.

c. Time will not be called until the ball is thrown or an appropriate play is made.

Overthrows

THERE ARE ABSOLUTELY NO OVERTHROWS. Play is automatically stopped when an attempt is made to make a play at the appropriate base, whether a player catches the ball or not.

Batting

a. Each batter will receive seven acceptable pitches (please use your judgment). If the batter cannot put a ball in play then the batter will hit the ball from a tee and play will proceed. This will help promote participation of all players at this level. Exception to this rule is in the beginning of the season. All Instructional players will hit off the tee for first 2 full games. This will give coaches the opportunity to teach the players proper stance, hand placement and swing trajectory.

b. There will be a continuous batting order in which all players bat. Please remember to reverse your batting order every inning so as to not let the same player bat up in the last position each inning.

c. An inning is over when the team at bat completes its entire batting order. If a batter makes an out, the out will be recorded and she will not proceed to first base.

Infield Fly Rule Has Been Waived.

Field Lay Out

Both teams are in charge of preparing the field. First and third base distances are 50 feet from the point of home plate to the back of each base. Second base distance will be 70 feet and 8 inches from the point of home plate to the middle of the base. This league uses sliding bases.

Pitching

a. Coaches will pitch to their own team from a distance of 30 feet from home plate and the defensive team must position a player beside the coach that is pitching.

b. Players will NOT be permitted to play the position of catcher.

General

a. All players must rotate defensive positions every two innings.

b. Stealing or leading off the base is not permitted.

c. No scoring will be kept for the game. There will be no win/loss records kept or team standings. Remember we are trying to teach the game along with making it enjoyable for the players.

Any suggestions or comments please contact your League Representative.

All Star Game – All of the previously mentioned rules apply, however:

Every player in first grade will be given an opportunity to play in an end of the season “All Star Game”. An award will be distributed to each and every player after the game. This game will usually coincide with our Softball Association picnic & Championship’s game day.