

North Tonawanda

2018 Girl Fall Developmental Softball League Rules

Ages 9-13

League Organization

This fall league is designed to place an emphasis on the development of the athletes softball knowledge and skills. Games will be played Saturday mornings at 9:30 am, with make-up games on Wednesdays at 4:45pm. Games will run 2 hours long, with unlimited innings. Practices will be held on Wednesdays at 5pm. These practices will consist of ALL players practicing, learning, and further developing their hitting, fielding, and pitching skills. This league will run from Wednesday August 22nd , 2018 through Saturday October 6th, 2018.

General Rules

- 1) ASA softball rules will apply with modifications described below.
- 2) Once a player plays on one team, she may not quit to play on another team. Any request of change must have the approval of the Supervisor. NO requests of team placement will be allowed unless it is to be with a family member.
- 3) Only designated players and coaches are allowed on the bench or field.
- 4) All games will start at the designated times. There is a two-hour time limit on all games. The start time is taken at the time of the first pitch. Any inning in progress should be completed unless weather or day-light warrants otherwise. The final inning must begin before the two-hour limit, and the game will finish at the end of the full inning.
- 5) Each half-inning will consist of 3 outs, and standard at-bat practices (4 balls for a walk; 3 strikes for an out) will be followed. After the 3rd out, teams will switch between batting and fielding.
- 6) Score will not be kept during games.
- 7) Players must play at least one inning in the infield and one inning in the outfield. A player cannot play the same position for more than 2 consecutive innings. Unlimited defensive substitutions are allowed. All players should play an equal amount of innings.
- 8) Ten (10) players play on the field. You may start the game with no less than 8 players. If a team is lacking players, a coach may borrow a player from the opposing team for the field ONLY. The borrowed players must be rotated throughout the game, and MAY NOT be used as a pitcher.
- 9) Players must make an attempt to avoid a collision.

- 10) All players must be listed in the batting order. Umpires and opposing coaches must be notified immediately if any player is removed from the game due to illness or injury, or if she will not continue to play in the game. If the player is unable to make an at-bat, the at-bat will be skipped, and the player cannot bat again until her place in the order comes up again.
- 11) The pitcher must start with both feet on the pitching rubber. (Bases will be 60 feet a-part and the pitcher mound will be set at 43 feet.)
- 12) ALL girls will be given an opportunity to pitch during the season if they desire to do so. If a pitcher walks 5 batters and/or hits 3 batters in an inning, the pitcher will be pulled from pitching the rest of the inning. The batting team's coach will then pitch for the remainder of the inning.
- 13) A pitcher may pitch up to 4 innings a game, and cannot pitch more than 2 consecutive innings. (Umpires will track all innings pitched for each game.)
- 14) The batter is automatically out on a dropped 3rd strike.
- 15) Infield Fly rule will not apply.
- 18) Stealing may occur once the ball is released from the pitcher's hand. Any player who leaves the base early will automatically be out. Players may steal 2nd and 3rd base. Players MAY NOT steal home plate.
- 19) Bunting is allowed.
- 20) Windmill pitching and sling pitching is allowed.
- 21) One base will be awarded on a throw out of play.
- 22) There will be a warning given to any player who throws a bat during their time up to bat. This warning will apply to both teams that are playing. The second infraction of any player on either team will result in an out.
- 23) All players warming up the pitcher MUST HAVE A CATCHERS MASK ON.
- 24) At Taber Field, any ball hit into the street will be a homerun. **Girls cannot go past the sidewalk.**

Sportsmanship

- 1) Good sportsmanship applies to all players, coaches, umpires and spectators. Adults should assume the responsibility of demonstrating good sportsmanship to the players.
- 2) No smoking, drinking, or use of illegal drugs in the vicinity of the fields. Immediate suspension is a result of this behavior. This includes the player's bench or the vicinity of the playing field.
- 3) The use of abusive language will NOT be tolerated from the players, coaches or spectators. Immediate ejection from the playing area will result from such actions. The Recreation Department may take further action against the offender if warranted.
- 4) Coaches utilizing strategies that are not in the best interest of the development of the league participants may be released from the coaching position by the Recreation Department.

Equipment

- 1) Sneakers, rubber spikes or proper footwear is mandatory. No metal cleats, sandals, or boots.
- 2) Proper catcher's equipment includes a mask, shin guards, a helmet and a chest protector.
- 3) Equipment will be issued to all teams. Equipment must be returned to the Recreation Department at the end of the season and may not be altered in any way.
- 4) All batting helmets must have a facemask and a chinstrap attached. No jewelry may be worn by any player however medical bracelets are allowed.
- 5) Mouth guards are encouraged.

Important Numbers

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