

2019 16U Girls Fast Pitch Softball League By-Laws

LEAGUE AFFILIATION

York, Clover, and Tega Cay Parks and Recreation youth softball is an unsanctioned league that abides by NFHS softball rules.

TIME LIMITS

- Games are 7 innings long but restricted to a **90**-minute time limit (1 hour & 30 minutes).
- **No new inning may start with 5 minutes or less left in the game.**
- **The time limit begins with the first pitch of the game.**
- The International Tie-Breaker rule will be used if game is tied after completing 6 innings or 90 minutes.
- **International Tie-Breaker:** *If the game is tied when the time limit expires, the international tie breaker rule shall apply. Starting with the top of the “extra” inning, and each half thereafter, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who made the last out being placed on second base with **no** outs.*
- There will be a 12-run mercy rule after 4 innings (3 ½ if home team is ahead), 10-run mercy rule after 5 innings (4 ½ if home team is ahead), or 8-run mercy rule after 6 innings (5 ½ if home team is ahead).

GAME BALLS

The home team will provide one (1) new ball and the visiting team will provide one (1) playable ball for all regular season games.

OFFICIAL SCORE BOOK

The home team will occupy the third base dugout and the Scorekeeper of the home team shall keep the Official Scorebook.

REQUIRED NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- Teams will play nine (9) defensive positions. Teams may play with 8 players but an out will be recorded when that position in the batting order is scheduled to bat.
- A continuous batting order can be used but is not required. Free defensive substitution is allowed if a continuous batting order is used.
- Children must play a minimum of six (6) defensive outs and one (1) at-bat.

PITCHING

Players will pitch from 43ft within an 8ft. circle.

- When the catcher fails to catch and maintain the third strike the batter will have an opportunity to advance to first base if:
 - There are less than 2 (two) outs and 1st base is not occupied.
 - There are 2 (two) outs regardless of baserunners.

There is no limit on the number of innings players are allowed to pitch. However, it is encouraged that coaches use more than one pitcher during games.

HITTING

- An Extra Hitter (EH) can be used. Teams may “double switch” with the EH becoming a position player and the sub becoming the EH.
- Players must have face masks on their batting helmets.

BASE RUNNING

- Runners are not required to slide when approaching a base. However, the runner must make every attempt to avoid contact on close plays.
- Players cannot slide head-first unless it is a base they have already gained possession of.
- Runners are entitled to advance with liability to be put out when the ball leaves the pitcher’s hand on delivery. This includes all bases, including home.