



14U Interleague Rules Central District- Spring 2022



Conduct

Umpires will have zero tolerance towards abusive language, gestures, or actions of unsportsmanlike conduct by managers, coaches, players, relatives, or other spectators. It is the manager's responsibility to correct these actions immediately. Any person or persons ejected from the game will not be permitted to return for the remainder of the game **AND** the following scheduled game **regardless of field location.**

General Policies

- Must submit Roster with the following information: full name, number and president's signature on it five days before first scheduled game.
- Teams must be USA Yellowbook compliant.

Umpire Fees and Softballs

The home leagues are responsible for scheduling umpires at their facilities.

Each team is responsible for paying one-half (1/2) of the umpire fees. One Umpire per game, please refer to umpire fee form for current umpire fee's per league.

Teams who do not show up for a scheduled game, or who do not give notice prior to scheduled game(s), so umpires can be cancelled, will be responsible for all umpire fees. See Cancelled Games section.

Teams will pay umpires in full before the start of the game at the plate.

The following types of softball will be used during the season:

14U: 12" Dudley or Rawlings softballs

Teams who play double-headers will each be the designated home team once during the double-header.

Cancelled Games

Each hosting league is responsible for cancelling umpires for games that need to be cancelled. For non-weather-related cancellations, contact must be made **2 days prior** to inform of a cancellation of the scheduled game. Contact must be received and confirmed by the hosting league. **Leaving a message without confirmation is considered a forfeit.** If a team does not call or show up to a game (forfeit), that league is responsible for the game(s) fees for both leagues. A score of 0-7 will be recorded for forfeit games.

For any weather-related game cancellations, notice of field closures must be made by hosting team prior to two (2) hours before scheduled game start. Contact by the hosting league must be made and confirmed with the visiting league representative(s).

Rescheduling of any cancelled or rain-out games will be at the discretion of the leagues involved.

Regulation Game

Any game that is called in less than (7) innings or time limit will be considered a regulation game. Effort will be made to schedule make up games, but they are not guaranteed.

Equipment

- Players must wear their league-approved uniform by the second week of games.
- Batters must wear a batting helmet with a permanently mounted face guard.
- For their safety, players with long hair must keep it pulled back in a ponytail or braids.
- Jewelry shall not be worn during a practice or game. This includes body piercing of any kind.
- Bats must not be on the current USA Softball banned bat list. The current approved and non-approved list can be found at www.teamusa.org/USA-Softball.

Tie Game

In the event of a tie game (after 7 innings), the international tie breaker (ITB) rule will go into effect if there is time remaining in the game. If no time is remaining, the game will end in a tie.

Mercy Rule

The game shall be considered a mercy game, and will be called and considered complete, if a team is ahead by the following:

- Fifteen (15) runs after three (3) complete innings, or
- Twelve (12) runs after four (4) complete innings, or
- Eight (8) runs after five (5) complete innings.

Game rules

USA rules for J.O. Softball with some modifications listed below:

1. Games are 1 hour 20 minute no new inning and 1 hour 30-minute drop dead.
 - i. Drop Dead play is required at many parks for field use- we will use same at all Parks. Start time is time of first pitch- up to each league to make sure their umpires understand start time and are willing to go along with this rule request.
2. Forfeit time is 10 minutes after scheduled start time- team can start and play with 8 players- each time 9th position comes up in batting order team will be charged 1 out unless 9th player shows up. No pool players.
3. All players must bat- round robin batting- - no one player can sit out more than two inning consecutively on defense.
4. RUN LIMIT RULE: Teams will be limited to five (5) runs scored for the first three (3) innings of a game. 4th inning, and every inning thereafter, until the conclusion of the game, runs scored is unlimited.
5. "HOME" team, not necessarily "LOCATION" team, to supply NEW game ball and a good backup ball- umpire to return both balls to home team coach upon completion of game.
6. LOCATION team responsible for prepping field and scheduling umpires.
7. NO pitching out limitations for pitcher. Two re-entry per game for pitchers in pitching position. PITCHING DISTANCE WILL BE 43'.

8. Courtesy runners allowed for both pitcher and catcher (runner would be last out or furthest batter in line up from person to be run for,) cannot use same runner to run for different players in same inning.
9. 1 minute or 5 pitch rule to be enforced between innings.
10. In case of rain - before start of game LOCATION team with umpire suggestion, is responsible to say whether game can be played. After first pitch- stopping game due to weather or darkness is up to umpire decision.
11. Official games - a game that goes 5 full innings or 4 1/2 with home team ahead and then is suspended because of rain or darkness (fields without lights) is a completed official game.
12. GAMES CAN END IN TIES
13. Continuation games- games that do not go 5 innings or 4 1/2 with home team a head, and are stopped by rain or darkness- with time remaining- will be continued from point of suspension at earliest date possible that is agreed upon by both teams/leagues. Please make sure time remaining, score and batter and count are written in both scorebooks to continue.
14. HOME team is official scorebook- score should be checked and verified by umpire after each inning and verified by both scorekeepers.
15. For a player to be eligible to participate in end of season tournament she must be present and play 75% of games for her team during season- this includes players that may have been injured.
16. MOST IMPORTANT- Scores reverting back. Scores of games that go over the drop dead time will revert back to the last completed full inning. If home team ties or goes ahead in bottom of last inning that is played, the 3rd out does not have to be recorded. If home team was leading after previous inning and then has to come back and tie game in last inning and does not go ahead and inning is stopped because of time, that too will revert back. Scores that are called in are scores of completed innings - not of completed innings plus any additional runs that are scored in an inning that is not completed.
17. Tie Breakers for position in playoffs-
 - a. Head to Head
 - b. Divisional Record
 - c. Coin Flip
18. PLEASE arrange to make up postponed games as soon as possible.
19. Have fun!!!