10U SOFTBALL RULES

(Rev. 1/2017)

- 1. Both head coaches and the umpire will have a brief meeting before the game to discuss/review any rules and/or answer any questions.
- 2. Time Limit = 2 Hours. No new inning will start after the 2 hour time limit has expired. A new inning begins as soon as the 3rd out is recorded in the bottom half of the previous inning. Timing of game begins immediately after pre-game umpire/coaches' meeting.
- 3. A complete game will be 6 innings, or 2 hours, unless a team is behind by 6 runs after 5 innings, and then the mercy rule applies. There will be a run limit of 5 runs per inning for <u>every</u> inning.
- 4. The fielding team consists of 10 players, with the outfield having 4.
- 5. Teams must have 7 players to start the game.
- 6. Home team has official score book.
- 7. Each team will supply 1 new game ball for every game. Take your ball with you after the game.
- 8. An 11-inch ball will be used.
- 9. Full team roster batting order will be used.
- 10. Each player must play at least 6 defensive outs.
- 11. Pitching distance is 35 feet.
- 12. "Wind-Mill" Rule -- No "Sling Shot" pitching motion allowed.
- 13. Base paths are 60 feet.
- 14. All offensive players, including the on-deck batter, must wear helmets. Base runners removing helmets may be called out.
- 15. Players will wear face mask on helmet.
- 16. There will be free substitution at all positions. Re-entry will not apply.
- 17. A pitcher can only pitch 3 innings per game. One pitch constitutes an inning.
- 18. 3 warm-up pitches allowed per inning.
- 19. If a pitching change is made, 5 warm-up pitches are allowed.
- 20. Bunting is allowed.
- 21. Runners must slide into the base/plate they are going to if they are being played upon--except for first base. Any player not sliding into the base/plate will be called out at the umpire's discretion. A runner will not be automatically called out for not sliding, if it is judged by the umpire that it was not reasonable or necessary for the runner to attempt a slide (such as the defender being too far up the baseline to permit a slide). However, the runners must make every attempt to avoid a collision including plays at Home. Failure to do so will result in the runner being called out at the umpire's discretion.
- 22. Base runners cannot leave the base until the ball crosses the plate. One warning will be given per team to runners leaving early. After that, runners will be called out.
- 23. Runners are allowed as many bases as they can get on overthrows that stay in play.
- 24. Runners are allowed the base they are going to plus one on overthrows that goes out of play.
- 25. Stealing is allowed from 1st to 3rd.
- 26. Runners <u>may not</u> advance to Home on any throw back to the pitcher from the catcher position. The runner on 3B may advance to Home if a play is made on a runner elsewhere on the field—such as a play on a base runner attempting to steal 2B.
- 27. A runner may advance to Home on a passed ball or wild pitch.
- 28. No arguing of judgment calls.
- 29. Abuse of umpires by fans, coaches, or players will not be tolerated. Forfeiture could result.
- 30. Teams must clean up dugouts before leaving.
- 31. Infield Fly Rule will not be used.
- 32. Game time is 6:00 p.m.
- 33. For rain outs, please try to call before 4:30 if possible. Home team is responsible for making the rain call out.
- 34. We encourage a large strike zone.
- 35. 30 minutes lightning delay from last lightning-strike seen.
- 36. Pitcher only needs one foot in contact with the rubber.
- 37. All other ASA rules apply.