Bluffton Youth Sports

Ponytails X-Play Local League Rules

1. All Dixie Ponytails X-Play Softball rules will apply with the following exceptions and notations.

2. The first scheduled game of each day will have a 15-minute grace period; otherwise game time is forfeit time. (Note: grace period DOES count towards time limit. The only exception will be at the fault of the umpire or field prep)

3. Each game shall have a 1 hr. and 45 minute time limit. No inning is started after this time limit has elapsed from the start of the game. No new inning will be started after 9:30 p.m. Monday – Thursday. Tie games and incomplete games will stop at end of next complete inning and will be made up at a later date if necessary.

4. The home team will be the official scorekeeper. Umpire names with signatures at end of game are highly recommended. Each team is to have pitching affidavit signed after game by opposing coach.

5. The batter will be warned once for slinging the bat. The second time it occurs will result in the batter being called out.

6. If a team does not have enough players (8) to play a scheduled game due to a school function or a school holiday, the coach of this team must give 7 days' notice in writing to
B.Y.S. Otherwise the game will result in a forfeit.

7. Minimum number of players for a regulation game is eight (8). Less than 8 will result in a forfeit. If a team has (8 or 9) players instead of the required (10) to play a scheduled game, the (8 or 9) player team may borrow a player(s) from the opposing team's non starting lineup to fill its required roster. If the (8 or 9) player teams 9th or 10th player arrives the borrowed player(s) will return to her team. The borrowed player(s) must still play her required 2 innings or the remainder of the game for her original team. If one team has 9 players and the other team has 12 players, the team with 12 may bat all 12 in one inning if they have not recorded 3 outs yet. The team with 9 players can only bat 9 in that inning where 3 outs were not recorded.

8. Games shortened by reason of curfew, or acts of God before they have become regulation games shall be resumed at the point of termination. If both teams have batted four times or in the case of home team leading after three and a half innings, the game shall be considered a regulation game and will not be resumed.

9. All players on every team must play at least two (2) complete innings (6 outs) on defense.

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All players shall meet the requirements of this rule by the end of the 5th inning. A coach may be suspended by not complying with the player participation rule. Exception: Does not apply if game does not go five complete innings.

10. Free substitution – the local league allows for defensive changes to the line-up only.
Players can be substituted into the defensive line-up at the beginning of each new inning.
Free substitution rule does not change or override any existing pitching rules.

11. Pitcher may only pitch a maximum of 3 innings per game and 8 innings per calendar week of Monday through the following Sunday night. All Pitchers are required to wear a face mask when pitching.

12. Runners may advance a maximum of 1 base on overthrows to first and third base.

13. No intentional walks. All teams will bat completely through the order regardless of how many players there are on each team. Maximum is 15 players per Dixie Softball. At the start of the game all players on each team roster will be listed in the starting offensive lineup and bat in this order the entire game. If a player arrives late they will be placed at the bottom of the offensive lineup.

14. Any player, coach, or spectator that is removed from the game by an umpire or B.Y.S. will be suspended for the teams next scheduled game. A second offense may result in the coach, player or spectator being suspended indefinitely. The umpire has complete jurisdiction of the field until he has left the parking lot. All code of conduct rules will apply.

15. Pitching affidavits must be maintained for each and all games indicating player's name, league age, innings pitched and date. After the completed game each Coach must verify and sign opposing coach's affidavit. The pitching affidavit will be made available to and from each coach before, during and after game. Dishonesty will not be tolerated in anyway. In the opinion of the BYS Board if an intentional violation occurs, such as but not limited to (1) a coach alters a pitching affidavit to gain a competitive advantage (2) a coach willfully signs an erroneous pitching affidavit to give a competitive advantage, one or both coaches will be suspended from participation of at least one but not more than three games for each offense. In the opinion of the BYS Board if an intentional violation has occurred, the coach may be ask to resign or may not be offered the privilege of coaching in later years.

16. Base runners may steal any base at any time it is legal to do so. Follow the Ponytails X-Play rules for when a runner can leave the base. If a coach is pitching in lieu of a player, all stealing of bases is put on hold until such time as another player/pitcher comes in to pitch. All base runners can advance on throw backs to the pitcher or any other player other than to a coach. If the base runner is caught off her base she has to try and get back to the last base she legally occupied or advance to the next base if it is unoccupied.

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17. NOTE: Other base runners can advance, except to home, when the catcher or any other fielder attempts to throw out a base runner who is attempting to steal second (2nd) base or third (3rd) base.

EXAMPLE:
With base runners on first (1st) and third (3rd) base, the base runner on first (1st) base tries to steal second (2nd) base and the catcher throws the ball to second (2nd) base trying to throw out the base runner coming from first (1st) base. **EFFECT: The base runner on third cannot advance under any reason. This is to encourage catchers to throw to second (2nd) base without fear of losing a game or making an error.**

NOTE: If a base runner was in the process of stealing a base when the batter was issued a base on balls, the base runner must return to the last base she legally occupied unless forced to advance.

18. If the catcher of record is on base with two (2) outs a coach has the option of putting in a courtesy runner for the catcher. The courtesy runner will be the player who made the second (2nd) out in the inning.

19. If the third (3rd) out is made on a base runner when the tenth (10th) batter or less is at bat, the player who was batting when the third (3rd) out was made will be the first (1st) batter the following inning.