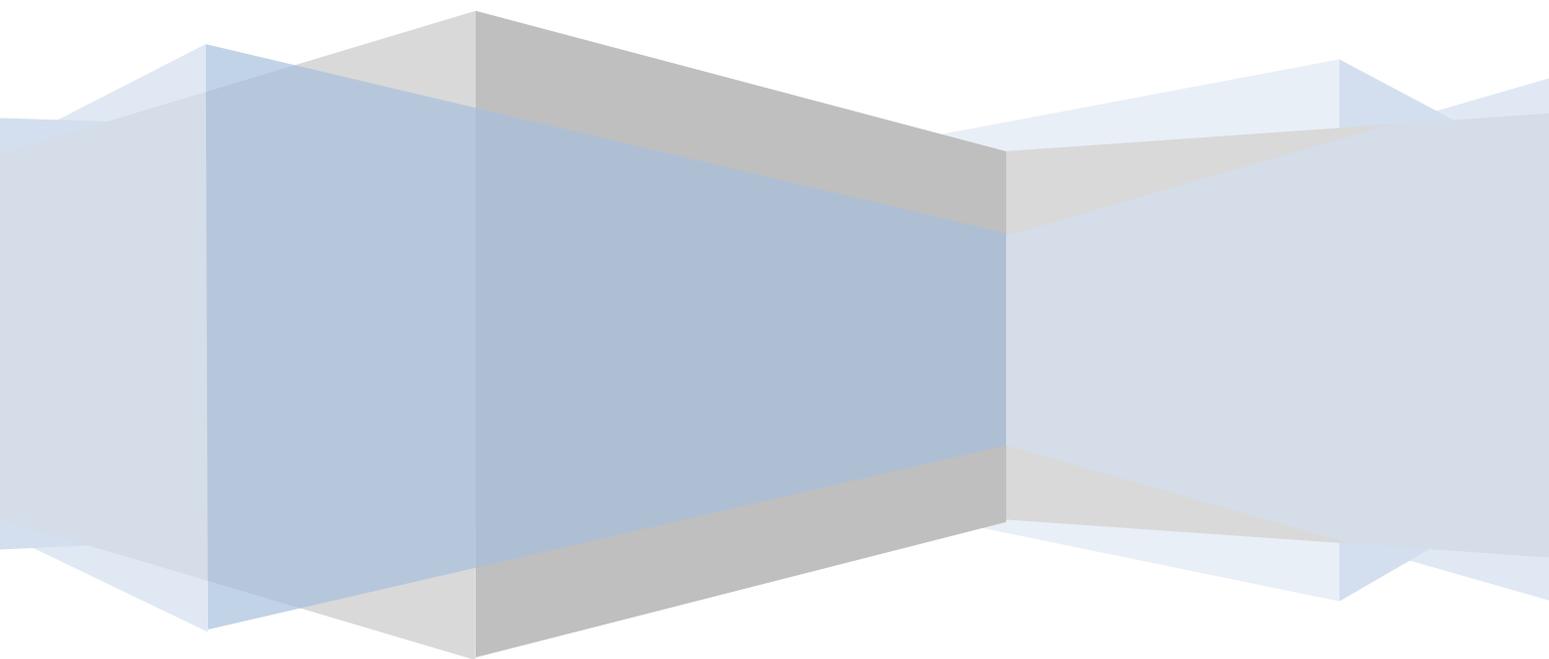


South Dayton Community Fast Pitch Softball League

12U Minor League Rules

2017



GIRLS 12U MINOR LEAGUE RULES (Exceptions to Official ASA Softball Rules)

Legal Team

1. Nine (9) players shall constitute a team (three (3) outfielders), but teams shall be permitted to play with seven (7) players (see Section VII.42 Player Pick-Up Rule for utilizing players from other teams or a lower league).

Pitching

2. Pitchers are permitted to pitch no more than three (3) innings per game. If a pitcher throws one (1) pitch in an inning, it shall constitute one (1) inning pitched under this rule. The only exception to this rule is if a game goes into extra innings. Pitchers are allowed one re-entry. Pitchers must be removed after hitting three (3) batters in one inning and may re-enter the game at the pitching position subject to the one re-entry rule.
3. For games that extend into extra innings, a pitcher is allowed one additional re-entry to the pitching position and may pitch an additional two (2) innings.
4. ASA Softball Rules require pitchers do the following:
 - A. Start with both feet in contact with the rubber and hands apart when starting the pitching rotation.
 - B. The pitchers must begin with both feet in contact with the rubber and come forward (i.e. not step back) to the plate as part of the pitcher's motion.
 - C. Drag the back foot as the Pitcher's motion takes her toward home plate (i.e. cannot hop in an effort to gain more velocity on the pitch).

Managers and Coaches are to teach the girls the proper technique for pitching. However, in the spirit of focusing the girls' efforts on throwing strikes, the umpires have been asked to relax their interpretation of the above rules for all games in the Minor League. If, in the umpire's judgment, the pitcher is gaining an unfair

advantage by not enforcing the above rules, the umpire shall enforce the above rules accordingly.

5. ASA rules shall govern in the event a pitch is declared “illegal” by the umpire. An illegal pitch shall be declared immediately by the umpire (delayed dead-ball signal). The batter is awarded a ball and base runners are awarded one base. Exceptions:
 1. If the batter reaches first base safely and each other runner advances at least one base, the illegal pitch is nullified.
 2. If the batter does not reach first base safely or if any base runner fails to advance at least one base, the coach of the team at bat shall have the option of the result of the play or the penalty of the illegal pitch.
 3. If the batter is hit by an illegal pitch out of the strike zone, the batter is awarded first base and each base runner is awarded one base.
 4. If ball four is an illegal pitch, the batter is awarded first base and each base runner is awarded one base.
6. Intentional walks are permitted but the pitcher must throw four (4) balls.
7. Strike Zone: An optional strike zone may be adopted by the plate umpire. This optional zone is defined as follows – The strike zone shall be vertically from the batters shoulder to the knee, and horizontally to 3” from either side of the plate. This is a recommended zone that the plate umpire may enforce. NOTE: THIS MUST BE DISCUSSED AT THE PRE-GAME MEETING OF THE UMPIRES AND COACHES. At mid-season, the strike zone will be called according to ASA rules.
8. A circle, eight (8) feet in radius and sixteen (16) feet in diameter, shall be lined around the pitching rubber.
9. Distance from the front edge of the pitching rubber to the base edge of home plate is forty (40) feet.

Stealing

10. Stealing/Lead offs can occur only after the ball crosses home plate.
11. “Courtesy” runners are allowed for Pitchers and Catchers after two outs have been recorded in an inning. The player who made the last batted out shall be the “courtesy” runner.

Bunting

12. Bunting is allowed in this league.

Maximum Runs

13. The batting team may score a maximum of six (6) runs per inning. If more than six runs are scored within the completion of the batters at bat in which the sixth (6th) run scores, the play shall be completed but only six (6) runs count. For example, if the offense has five (5) runs scored already in an inning and there are runners at 1st, 2nd, and 3rd bases and the batter hits a triple scoring three (3) runs, only one (1) run is recorded in the scorebook. When the play ceases, all play is stopped and the fielding team becomes the batting team. Play ceases and the half inning is complete when the runners have stopped running and the umpire calls time.

This rule shall apply to all innings in each game, except the 6th inning in leagues that play six (6) innings and the 7th inning in leagues that play seven (7) innings (see Section VII.28 Legal Game rules). In the 6th and 7th innings (or any inning thereafter), the maximum six (6) runs per inning rule shall not apply and both the visiting and home teams shall be allowed to score an unlimited number of runs. This unlimited run rule exception shall not apply if the game does not reach the 6th or 7th inning because of the Time Limit rule (see Section VII.20 Time Limits rule).

14. Pursuant to ASA rules, a complete game will be declared if after three and half (3 ½) innings the home team is ahead by 12 runs or more and if after four (4) innings the visiting team is ahead by 12 runs or more.

Look-Back Rule

15. The Look-Back Rule pertaining to base runners' actions while the pitcher has the ball in the pitching circle will apply. There will be one warning per team per game. Subsequent occurrences will result in the runner being declared out.

Dropped Third Strike

16. The dropped third strike rule will be enforced in this league.

Outfielder Positions

17. This league shall field three (3) outfielders as long as the team has nine (9) or more players present.
18. All outfielders must be positioned in the outfield grass until the pitch crosses home plate. If playing on a field with a large infield (i.e. a baseball field), outfielders must be positioned twenty (20) feet behind the bases until the ball crosses home plate.

Infield Fly Rule

19. The infield fly rule will be enforced in this league.