

NEYSA

GIRLS SOFTBALL

LEAGUE PLAYING

RULES

2018

New rules and/or revised rules appear in

Boldface and italics.

NEYSA Directory

NEYSA Officials

President	Jim Acciardo	(413) 537-3053
Vice President	Steve Straw	(413) 636-9744
Secretary		
Treasurer	Kim Acciardo	(413) 537-3053

Division Heads

10-under	Steve Straw	10uordinator@neysainc.org	(413) 636-9744
12-under	Sara Santucci	12uordinator@neysainc.org	(413) 519-1983
14-under	Mike Mazzucca	duke514@yahoo.com	(413) 218 0715
17-under	Jason Tsitso	17uordinator@neysainc.org	(413) 531-8163

Mailing Address:

N.E.Y.S.A.
P.O. Box 924
East Longmeadow, MA 01028

NEYSA GIRLS SOFTBALL

All meetings and picture dates will be held at:

Greenleaf Community Center
1187 1/2 Parker Street
Springfield, MA 01129:

Reference the NEYSA website at www.neysainc.org for updated meeting information.

Rosters:

Each team will submit three (3) identical copies of their team's roster along with valid player passes at the scheduled roster meeting (see chart above). Rosters will not be approved and schedules will not be issued for any team that does not submit player passes and rosters at this meeting and all games will be forfeited until valid player passes are checked for each player rostered. During the season we will be checking passes prior to games.

REMINDER - NO ROSTER - NO SCHEDULE - NO EXCEPTIONS

PLAYER PASSES:

All passes issued this year will be two (2) year passes and will cost \$8.00 each.

Passes issued in 2017 are still valid but all other passes must be updated for the 2018 season. Any player requiring a new pass must furnish a birth certificate, baptism certificate or her expired NEYSA player pass. A player needs to be present to obtain a new player's pass.

**** Player Pass must be obtained prior to playing in *any* games ****

REGISTRATION FEES

The registration fee for each team consists of NEYSA League fees and a premium for accident insurance. There is a \$50.00 forfeit fee per team. Please issue a separate check for this: the check will be held and returned at the end of the season if it has not been used. The registration and forfeit fees shall be paid in full at the scheduled 2016 Rules meeting for your age group. Any team not paid in full by the Roster meeting will not receive their schedule and will forfeit all games until paid in full. See below table for fees for each age group.

Age Group	Team Fee	Forfeit Fee
10 & under	\$275.00	\$50.00
12 & under	\$300.00	\$50.00
14 & under	\$330.00	\$50.00
17 & under	\$450.00	\$100.00

UMPIRE FEES

Age	Fee
10 & under	\$20.00
12 & under	\$25.00
14 & under	\$25.00
17 & under	2 Umps - \$50 1 Ump - \$38

All umpires shall be paid in full prior to the start of each game. The fees listed above are per team, per game, in cash only.

NOTE: In the case of a forfeit, the forfeiting team is responsible for the entire payment to the umpire(s). Forfeit fee payment or payment arrangements must be made to the Softball Administrator prior to the next scheduled game. If payment is not received the Forfeit Fee will be used.

The Regular Season will begin on or about Monday May 1, 2017.
The 17 & Under Season will begin on or about Sunday June 18, 2017.

1. GENERAL RULES

- 1.1. -The league is open to any and all non-tournament/travel girls softball teams from the City of Springfield and surrounding cities and towns. Teams must have at least 51 % of their players from the city or town the team is from. The board of Directors may approve exceptions to the 51% requirement.
- 1.2. -There will be four age groups: 17 and under, 14 and under, 12 and under and 10 and under.
- 1.3. -A player's age on January 1, 2018 determines the age classification in which the player is eligible to participate.
 - 1.3.1. Example 1: A player's 14th birthday falls on January 1, 2018. The player's age for determining eligibility is 14 for the 2018 season.
 - 1.3.2. Example 2: A player's 14th birthday falls on January 2, 2018 through December 31, 2018. The player was 13 on January 1st, so the player's age for determining eligibility is 13 for the 2017 season.
- 1.4. Each team in the 10U and 12U age groups shall have a minimum of twelve (12) players rostered, each team in the 14U and 17U age groups shall have a minimum of eleven (11) players rostered with a maximum of twenty (20) players.
- 1.5. A player belongs to the team for which she plays her first league game.
 - 1.5.1. Teams in the 12u and 14U Age Groups are allowed to have two (2) reserve players from another NEYSA Team. The names of these two (2) players must be submitted with the Team Roster and are only eligible if they are on a NEYSA Roster in a lower Division or Age Group.
 - 1.5.1.1. Example 1: 14U A Team may name a 14U B player or a player from a 12U A or B team.
 - 1.5.1.2. Example 2: 14U B Team may name a player from a 12U A or B team but not a 14U A team.
 - 1.5.2. A reserve player may only be used in a situation where a team cannot field a full team and would otherwise forfeit a game.
 - 1.5.3. A reserve player cannot be used if their team of registration has a game scheduled for that same day & time.
 - 1.5.4. Reserve players may not be used in any playoff game.
 - 1.5.5. Reserve players are allowed to wear the uniform of their team of registration.
 - 1.5.6. Any violation of the "reserve" rule will result in a forfeit by the offending team.
- 1.6. Any team using an ineligible player shall forfeit all games in which the said ineligible player participated. An ineligible player is:
 - 1.6.1. one who is over the age limit for that division;
 - 1.6.2. one who plays under an assumed name;
 - 1.6.3. one whose name does not appear on an official league signed roster;
 - 1.6.4. one who plays on more than one team (*see Rule 1.5.1 for exceptions*); or
 - 1.6.5. one who violates any eligibility rules under the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association.
- 1.7. Coaches may add players to their rosters through May 28, 2018 (10-u, 12-u and 14-u). A player pass must be obtained for all new added players (10-u, 12-u and 14-u), The player pass must be obtained prior to playing in any games. See section 6 for 17U roster rules.
- 1.8. Both coaches shall report all scores online by 11:00 pm that evening. Failure to do so will result in omission from standings.
- 1.9. A player ejected from a game is automatically suspended from the next played league game. A second ejection shall result in an indefinite suspension of that player pending an appearance at a hearing before the Board of Directors. Any coach or manager ejected from a game must leave the field immediately or forfeit that game. The coach or manager will not be allowed at the next played game. A second ejection shall result in an indefinite suspension of that coach or manager

pending an appearance at a hearing before the Board of Directors. Any person on suspension from last year is still on suspension until reinstated by the Board of Directors.

- 1.10.** Any player, coach, manager, or parent causing a flagrant violation is automatically suspended for the remainder of the year. The violator may then apply to the Board of Directors for reinstatement.
 - 1.10.1.** A flagrant violation is the physical or verbal abuse of an umpire, coach, league official, parent or player.
 - 1.10.1.1. NEYSA executive board members as well as age group coordinators may consult with the umpire to recommend the ejection on an individual committing a flagrant violation. NEYSA officials coaching in the same division are excluded from consulting the umpire.
 - 1.10.1.2. If a flagrant violation is reported an investigation will be completed by the division coordinator and the findings will be shared with the executive board. The executive board will determine appropriate discipline.
 - 1.10.2.** Any suspension may be appealed to the Board of Directors. A fee of fifty dollars is required to start an appeal. If the suspension is overturned the \$50 will be refunded.
 - 1.10.3.** All protests must be in writing and accompanied by a fee of fifty dollars. A protest must be filed with the Protest Committee within forty-eight hours after the completion of the game. **Protests must be made and entered into the score book by the umpire at the time of the protest. Please keep in mind that no protest of an umpire's judgement call will be accepted.** Should a protest be upheld, the fifty dollars will be returned to the team submitting the protest. Should the protest be disallowed, the fifty dollars will be turned over to the League.
 - 1.10.4.** Should a dispute arise and a protest filed, it will be judged by the Protest Committee whose decision shall be final. You will be notified within 24 hours of the hearing. Three persons appointed by the President, will act as the Protest Committee.
- 1.11. Cell phone use is not allowed on the softball field.**
 - 1.11.1. Umpire will issue an initial warning followed by an ejection if the conduct continues for any coach or player who is using a cell phone on the field.**
- 1.12.** Concerning cancellation of games, the following rules shall apply:
 - 1.12.1.** Unless you hear from a league official, assume that your game will be played.
 - 1.12.2.** If a team forfeits two games, the Board of Directors may ask the team to withdraw from the League.
 - 1.12.3.** The forfeiting team will be responsible for the entire payment to the umpire(s).
 - 1.12.4.** No changes to the final schedule will be allowed.
 - 1.12.5.** The Springfield Parks and Recreation Department will cancel games in case of inclement weather or playing conditions, you may call the Springfield Parks Dept @ 787-6434. ***In the event that fields are unplayable in other towns, the NEYSA President must be notified by the town rec dept. or program coordinator of that town (not coaches) at least 3 hours before the scheduled start of the game.***
 - 1.12.6.** In case of a rainout or unplayable field conditions the teams will reschedule the game within 48 hours. If not the Division Coordinator will schedule the game for the following Saturday.
- 1.13.** Only the manager or designated coach may go out to talk to the umpire if any questions should arise. The designated coach/manager must present himself/herself to the umpire prior to the game. Only one coach shall be on the field at a time during a discussion with the umpire. This coach shall be the manager or designated coach only. There shall be a maximum of one manager and two coaches per team per game. Coaches and managers must have a NEYSA coaches pass.
- 1.14.** Teams shall exchange lineups before the game and notify the opposing team of lineup

changes. Each team's lineup card shall have the player's full name and uniform number.

- 1.15.** Time permitted between innings is defined by NFHS Rule 6-2 Atr.5. "At the beginning of each half-inning or when a pitcher relieves another, no more than one minute may be used to deliver no more than 5 balls to the catcher or other teammate. The one-minute time limit begins from the third out of the previous half-inning. Play shall be suspended during this time."

1.15.1. NOTES:

1.15.1.1. A pitcher returning in the same half-inning will not be granted any warm-up pitches.

1.15.1.2. Umpire is authorized to allow more pitches when weather is inclement or if pitcher was removed due to an injury.

1.15.1.3. A pitcher appearing for the first time in the game shall be allowed not more than seven (7) warm-up pitches.

- 1.16.** Failure to field a team within fifteen (15) minutes after a scheduled game time results in a forfeit. If eight (8) players are available, the game must start on time or the game will be forfeited.

- 1.17.** Player passes shall be used in this league for 10-u, 12-u and 14-u. Player passes must be available at every game for inspection by league officials, coaches or umpires. Failure to provide player passes by the end of the game will result in a forfeiture of that game.

1.17.1. Any ID with the players picture and birthdate will be used for 17-u in this league. This includes but is not limited to Drivers License, NEYSA IDs & Passports.

1.18. Equipment

1.18.1. Fielding equipment rules are defined in NFHS Rules 1-4 and 1-5

1.18.2. Bat rules are defined in NFHS Rules 1-4 and 1-5

1.18.3. Official game balls will be designated by the Board of Directors. A yellow optic cover, red-stitch, 11-inch ball (10U) and 12-inch ball (12U, 14U and 17U) with a COR of .47 shall be used. The home team must supply a new game ball. Both playoff teams must supply a new game ballgame. **Note: Requirement for NFHS Stamp is removed.**

1.18.4. The home team is to supply the bases which include the "double first base" and insure they are properly secured prior to the start of the game. Failure to do so will result in a forfeiture of home team status. If neither team has bases the game becomes a forfeit for both teams.

1.18.5. Sneakers, shoes with rubber soles, or shoes with rubber cleats are permissible. No metal cleats or spikes are allowed.

1.18.6. Catchers equipment rules are defined in NFHS rule 1-7.

1.18.7. Batting helmets are defined in NFHS rule 1-6. In addition to these rules NEYSA requires all helmets to have chin straps. Helmets will also fit the player properly on the head! All teams must have a minimum of five (5) full batting helmets equipped with straps. Wearing the helmet improperly or removing the helmet during a live ball play and judged by the umpire to be a deliberate act shall cause the violator to be declared out immediately. The ball will still remain live. The removal of the helmet does not remove force play situations.

1.18.8. All teams will have a first aid kit and ice packs available at each game.

1.18.9. It is mandatory for all teams to carry a portable pitching rubber.

1.19. UNIFORMS:

1.19.1. Uniform rules are defined in NFHS Rules 3-2 with the following exception.

1.19.2. A player shall wear baseball/softball pants, sweat pants or softball/athletic shorts. Teams may not have a mixture of pants and shorts. All players on a team will wear the same uniform. Teams wearing shorts MUST also wear baseball/softball socks (knee high). This is a safety rule. It is suggested they wear a slider on the leg they slide on.

1.19.3. Jewelry is permitted as long as it can be contained. No dangling earrings or necklaces.

- 1.20.** A game will last no longer than 2 hours (including the International Tie-Breaker Rule).

No new inning will start after 2 hours. The game can end in a tie. This applies to all regular season games and playoff games except the championship series.

- 1.21. The pitcher must be replaced if she hits three (3) batters in an inning. That same pitcher will be allowed to pitch in the following inning(s). Any pitcher that hits a total of five (5) batters in one (1) game must be replaced immediately and cannot pitch again in that game.
- 1.22. The pitcher must start with both feet on the pitcher's rubber. Pitcher may not step back from pitching rubber during delivery. *See MIAA Rule 79.3.*
- 1.23. The home team shall take the first base bench.
- 1.24. The home team shall relinquish the playing field at least fifteen (15) minutes before the scheduled game time to allow the visiting team time for infield practice.
- 1.25. All teams shall carry the NFHS, MIAA Softball Rule 79 and NEYSA rule books as well as any amended rules.
- 1.26. Courtesy Runner Rule:
 - 1.26.1. The team at bat may use courtesy runners for the pitcher and/or catcher at any time. Neither the pitcher nor the catcher will be required to leave the game under such circumstances. The pitcher and catcher are identified as the last players who physically played that position on defense.
 - 1.26.2. The courtesy runner will be the player that made the last out.
 - 1.26.3. A courtesy runner must be reported to the umpire and the opposing coach.
- 1.27. A player **MUST** play in at least one-third of the regular season games in order to play in the playoff game(s).
- 1.28. A half-inning shall consist of three (3) outs or eight (6) runs, whichever comes first. As soon as the eighth run scores all play shall stop for that half-inning. No more than six (6) runs shall be counted per half-inning.
 - 1.28.1. This rule shall not be in effect when only two (2) teams remain in the championship playoffs except 10-u.
 - 1.28.2. *See* 10-u rule 3.09.
- 1.29. Points will be awarded as follows for all games in order to determine the division standings: Win = 2 points Tie = 1 point Loss = 0 points
 - 1.29.1. A maximum of seven (7) total runs will be counted for any win for the purpose of playoff seeding.
 - 1.29.1.1. Example A: Team A defeats Team B by a score of 20 to 7. Only 7 runs will be calculated when determining the runs differential.
 - 1.29.1.2. Example B: Team A defeats Team B by a score of 12 to 10. 2 runs will be calculated when determining the runs differential.
- 1.30. An official game called for any reason other than a forfeit or a game called because of the mercy rule (Rule 2.04), not having played five (5) complete or four and one-half (4 1/2) innings with the Home Team ahead shall be a suspended game to be resumed at the point of suspension at a time and place chosen by the Division Head.
- 1.31. ***Every player on each team shall play defensively for a minimum of two (2) innings on defense. Teams with fifteen (15) players or less shall make the necessary substitutions within the first four (4) innings to satisfy this requirement. Teams with more than (15) players shall substitute the remaining players in the fifth inning to satisfy this requirement. This substitution rule shall not affect the batting order in any way whatsoever. Any player inserted into the lineup, must be inserted before the beginning of the third inning. (see 2.08)***
 - 1.31.1. PENALTY: Failure to adhere to this rule shall result in an automatic forfeiture of the game.
- 1.32. Players are allowed to play in the 14U division and 17U division. Players that are younger than 13 years old at the start of the season are not allowed to play in the 17U division.

2. AMENDED NFHS REGULATIONS

- 2.1. **All games shall be governed by the current edition of the NFHS Softball Rules Book the MIAA Amended Rules and these NEYSA Amended Rules.**
- 2.2. All Divisions shall have their own pitch modifications. This is a fast pitch league.
- 2.3. The first team member who throws a bat that causes a dangerous situation (in the judgement of the umpire) shall be given a team warning. Thereafter, any batter on that team who throws a bat causing a dangerous situation, shall be called out. The ball shall be called dead and all runners shall return to the bases that they last had at the time of the pitch.
- 2.4. For all Divisions there shall be a Mercy Rule in effect. The game ends and is official under either of these situations:
 - 2.4.1. Visitors lead by twelve (12) or more runs after five (5) or more completed innings.
 - 2.4.2. Home team leads by twelve (12) or more runs after four and one half (4 ½) or increases to such a lead in the 5th or 6th inning.
 - 2.4.3. APPROVED RULING 1: A completed inning in regards to the above rule means six complete outs unless section (b) above applies when the game is over.
- 2.5. Each team in the 10U and 12U age groups shall have a minimum of twelve (12) players rostered, each team in the 14U and 17U age groups shall have a minimum of eleven (11) players rostered with a maximum of twenty (20) players.
- 2.6. If an injured player must be removed from the game, the player shall be replaced by the player whose place in the lineup is the one which precedes the injured player, if that player is on the bench. If that player is not on the bench (due to being on the bases, for example), then the next preceding player on the bench will substitute. This procedure shall be repeated, if necessary, until an appropriate substitute is found. In case of a dispute, the umpire shall have the final authority to rule on the substitution.
 - 2.6.1. If a player leaves the game for any reason other than an injury, what would have been that player's next turn at bat will be counted as an automatic out.
 - 2.6.2. A player that leaves the game for a non-injury related issue is prohibited from returning to that game.
- 2.7. Players, managers, coaches, and parents shall not address any derogatory or unsportsmanlike remarks toward opposing players, managers, coaches, umpires, league officials or spectators. Players should be encouraged to cheer for their own team.
 - 2.7.1. APPROVED RULING-Any remark, such as "can't hit", "can't pitch", "whiffer", "rubber arm", etc. shall not be permitted.
 - 2.7.2. Use of devices that produce excessive noise such as air horns are prohibited.
 - 2.7.3. See NFHS Rule 3-6 for full rule.
- 2.8. Each player on each team shall bat and all players names shall be listed in the batting order. A player arriving after the start of the game whose name is not in the batting order may be added only if at least one player in the batting order has not batted and if it is prior to the *third* inning. In that case, the player may be inserted in the last position in the batting order. If a coach puts a player in the batting order who is not present at the beginning of the game and if that player is not present when it is her first turn to bat, an automatic out will be recorded. Should that player not be available at her second turn to bat, then that position will be eliminated from the lineup, no out will be recorded, and that player will be ineligible to participate.
- 2.9. Charged conferences rules are stated in NFHS 3-7 and MIAA 79.7. Below are some points of emphasis, please see the rules listed above for full details.
 - 2.9.1. Defensive Conferences
 - 2.9.1.1. Allowed no more than total of 3 charged during 7 inning game
 - 2.9.1.2. Allowed no more than 1 charged during an inning
 - 2.9.1.3. Extra innings allow 1 more per inning
 - 2.9.1.4. Request for time out may be made by coach, player, substitute or bench personnel

- 2.9.1.5.** Time granted for injured player does not count
- 2.9.1.6.** Conferences do not accumulate for use in extra innings
- 2.9.1.7.** Pitcher must be removed as Pitcher for remainder of game when:
 - 2.9.1.7.1. After 3 Charged Conferences in 7 innings
 - 2.9.1.7.2. After 2 charged conferences in an inning
 - 2.9.1.7.3. After 1 Charged Conference in any extra inning
- 2.9.2.** Offensive Conferences
 - 2.9.2.1.** No more than 1 Charged Conference per inning
 - 2.9.2.2.** Considered a Conference whenever a Coach confers with any player on offense
 - 2.9.2.3.** Confers with any other offensive Coach or Dugout Personnel
 - 2.9.2.4.** Can be charged if it delays game in any way even if no time-out was requested
 - 2.9.2.5.** Umpire shall deny another request in inning
 - 2.9.2.6.** Other team may have Conference at same time
 - 2.9.2.6.1.** Not Charged if it concludes when other team's concludes
- 2.10.** Players benches and all areas within the designated playing area (fair and foul) are for authorized personnel as defined by the League. Authorized personnel consist of the following persons: Head Coach, two assistant coaches, score keeper, uniformed players on the official signed roster and umpires. Team bench areas are not for family or friends. There are no exceptions. Non-compliance with this rule will be dealt with by the Board of Directors.
- 2.11.** NO SMOKING is allowed at any field. Team benches and the general vicinity of the field shall be considered a "NO SMOKING" area. No tobacco products of any kind are allowed. *NFHS 3.6 Art 12 addresses the ban on all tobacco products.*
- 2.12.** No fielder shall make any fake tags on a runner. The umpire shall be the judge as to whether a tag is fake or genuine tag. This rule applies to all divisions.
 - 2.12.1.** PENALTY -Obstruction shall be called; the runner awarded one additional base and a warning shall be given by the umpire to the player committing the infraction. On thesecond infraction by the same player, she shall be ejected from the game.
 - 2.12.2.** APPROVED RULING: A fake tag is the tagging, attempting to tag, or placing a tag on the runner without the possession of the ball. The following shall not be considered a fake tag:
 - 2.12.2.1.** A fielder who has received a throw and drops the ball while making the tag;
 - 2.12.2.2.** A fielder who is receiving a throw in position to make a tag but does not catch the ball or drops the ball as she is making a tag;
 - 2.12.2.3.** A fielder who makes a tag or attempted tag while thinking she has possession ofthe ball but does not. The intent of this rule is to prevent a fielder from forcing a runner to slide or slowing a runner down to prevent the runner from trying to reach the bag or from advancing to the next base. This is unsportsmanlike conduct.

3. 10 AND UNDER AMENDED RULES

- 3.1. The strike zone is that space over any part of home plate between the batter's front armpit and the top of her knees when she assumes a natural batting stance.
- 3.2. Base paths will be forty five (45) feet. The pitcher's rubber shall be (35) feet from the back point of home plate to the front of the pitching rubber.
- 3.3. No bunting shall be allowed. The offending player shall be called out; runners may not advance.
- 3.4. There shall be no stealing. The offending player shall be called out; runners may not advance.
- 3.5. There shall be no advance on a passed ball, wild pitch or wild throw from the catcher to the pitcher. The offending player shall return to the base she last had legal possession of.
- 3.6. There shall be no leading off bases. The runner shall not leave the base until after the ball is hit. The offending player shall return to the base she last had legal possession of.
- 3.7. There shall be no advance by the batter on a dropped third strike.
- 3.8. The infield fly rule shall not be used in this division.
- 3.9. The windmill is allowed but NOT required in this division. The pitcher may deliver the ball to the plate in any manner so long as it constitutes a legal underhand fast pitch delivery.
 - 3.9.1. ***A starting pitcher can throw no more than three (3) consecutive innings. A pitcher can pitch no more than four (4) total innings in a game.***
 - 3.9.1.1. If the pitcher takes the mound and delivers at least one pitch, she will be considered as to having pitched in that inning whether she completes the inning or not. This rule is based upon appearance in an inning, not number of outs.
 - 3.9.1.2. ***If a game goes into extra innings the innings limit for pitchers is removed.***
- 3.10. The eleven (11) inch softball shall be used in this division.
- 3.11. **SPECIAL RULES:**
 - 3.11.1. A half-inning shall consist of three (3) outs or **five** runs, whichever comes first.
 - 3.11.2. ***All batters will start with a 1 ball, 1 strike count.***
 - 3.11.3. When a batted ball is returned to the pitcher who is standing within the eight-foot circle and the ball is touched by the hand or glove of the pitcher, all play shall cease. A runner who has advanced more than halfway to the next base shall be allowed to continue to that base.
 - 3.11.4. In order to speed up the game it is suggested a parent (preferably) or coach stand behind the catcher (in front of the backstop) to retrieve softballs that get by the catcher. **This person cannot have any contact (physical or verbal) with any player.**
 - 3.11.5. On any thrown ball that crosses from fair territory into foul, the runner may advance only one base. It does not matter where the ball comes to rest.
- 3.12. There shall be a Mercy Rule in effect for this division. The game ends and is official under either of these situations:
 - 3.12.1. Visitors lead by twelve (12) or more runs after four (4) or more completed innings.
 - 3.12.2. Home team leads by twelve (12) or more runs after three and one half innings.

4. 12 AND UNDER AMENDED RULES

4.1. NFHS 2-56 Art3 defines the strike zone. The strike zone is that space over any part of home plate between the batter's forward armpit and the top of her knees when she assumes a natural batting stance.

4.2. The pitcher's rubber shall be (40) feet from the back point of home plate.

4.3. TIE-BREAKER RULE If, after the completion of seven (7) innings of play, the score is tied, the following tiebreaker rule will be played to determine a winning team. Starting with the top of the eighth inning, and each half inning thereafter, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that respective half inning being placed on second base (e.g., if the number five batter is the lead off batter, the number four batter in the batting order will be placed on second base. A substitute may be inserted for the runner.) NOTE: If a team is in the tie-breaker and the absent player is the one who should begin at second base, do not declare an out. Instead, place on second base the player whose name precedes the absent player's name in the line-up

5. 14 AND UNDER AMENDED RULES

5.1. NFHS 2-56 Art3 defines the strike zone. The strike zone is that space over any part of home plate between the batter's forward armpit and the top of her knees when she assumes a natural batting stance.

5.2. TIE-BREAKER RULE If, after the completion of seven (7) innings of play, the score is tied, the following tiebreaker rule will be played to determine a winning team. Starting with the top of the eighth inning, and each half inning thereafter, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that respective half inning being placed on second base (e.g., if the number five batter is the lead off batter, the number four batter in the batting order will be placed on second base. A substitute may be inserted for the runner.) NOTE: If a team is in the tie-breaker and the absent player is the one who should begin at second base, do not declare an out. Instead, place on second base the player whose name precedes the absent player's name in the line-up

5.3. A team shall consist of nine (9) players in the field.

6. 17 AND UNDER AMENDED RULES

6.1. A player must be at least fourteen (14) years-old by the official start date of this division with the following exception:

6.1.1. Any player who has been on a roster of her High School Softball Team (Varsity, JV or Freshman) is eligible as long as she does not reach 19 years old during the season.

6.1.2. Official start date of this division will be around mid-June. This date will be finalized at this division's Rules and Registration Meeting on May 8th.

6.2. A team's game roster shall consist of all eligible players present at the start of the game and listed on the lineup card presented to the Head Umpire.

6.2.1. A player may be added to the lineup card if she is present on the bench prior to the start of the 3rd inning. The team's Scorekeeper must inform the Head Umpire and the opposing Coach of any roster additions prior to the start of the 3rd inning.

6.3. *All players are not required to be in the batting order.*

6.3.1. *Coaches may still choose to have all players in the lineup. If so there are unlimited defensive substitutions for that team.*

6.4. *Every player on each team shall play defensively for a minimum of two (2) innings. See rule 1.30 for full details.*

6.5. This division uses an open roster format. Players can be added to a roster at any point during the current season. Can play for only one (1) 17U division team during each season (see rule 6.5 for exception). A player must play in at least three (3) regular season games and play at least 2 innings in each game to be eligible for the tournament.

6.5.1. All new players must be added to the team's roster prior to playing in a game.

6.6. If a team ceases operations during the current season and has played less than fifty percent (50%) of their scheduled games, a player from that team may request to be added to another team's roster using the following procedure:

6.6.1. Player obtains approval from new team's head coach

6.6.2. The head coach will notify the division coordinator via email of the intent to add the player

6.6.3. Coordinator will make the request to the three (3) member NEYSA appointed committee by the Board of Directors for review.

Note: Any NEYSA Official who is also a member of a team participating in this division is ineligible for membership on this committee.

6.6.4. The committee will notify the head coach of its vote via email.

Note: The player may not be added to the roster until the head coach has been given an email with approval. If the player participates in any games prior to this approval any wins will be declared forfeits and changed to losses.

6.7. If a rostered player in this division is also rostered on a 14U team, she must play in the 14U game if both teams of her teams are scheduled on the same day/time.

6.8. Schedule

6.8.1. The Season start date will be _____ and end not later than _____
(need to discuss)

6.8.2. Twelve (12) regular season games will be played.

6.8.2.1. Possible game days will be Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday (need to discuss)

6.8.2.2. Weekday games will begin at 6PM. Sunday games will start at 5PM.

6.8.2.3. Doubleheaders may be scheduled for any game dates. The second game will begin within 10 minutes of the conclusion of the first game.

6.8.3. An All Teams Tournament will be scheduled on the last weekend of the season (format will depend upon number of teams in Division)

6.8.4. In case of a rainout or unplayable field conditions the teams will reschedule the game within 48 hours. *If not the Division Coordinator will schedule the game at their discretion.*

- 6.8.5.** *Any game cancellation or forfeit must have 24hours notice or the forfeit fee(\$100) will apply. The forfeit fee must be replenished prior to the teams next game. More than 24hours notice will result in a forfeit in the standings with no fee.*
- 6.9.** Metal cleats are allowed in this division.

7.00 -INSURANCE PROCEDURES

Each player, coach, umpire, scorekeeper and batter is covered under an accident policy provided by the New England Youth Sports Association. This policy covers any injury incurred at scheduled practices and league games including playoffs and tournaments previously approved by the NEYSA Girls Softball League.

Coverage: Accident Insurance including dental -maximum of \$1 0,000 only on an excess basis over and above any benefits or services provided by any other health insurance plan under which the participant is insured. Benefits under this policy shall be reduced to the extent necessary so that the sum of the reduced benefits and all other benefits provided for by any other plan shall not exceed the total expenses incurred by the insured person.

Procedure: I. If the injury requires medical attention, the insured should be taken to their own physician or the emergency room of the hospital.

- 1 The coach/manager should obtain the address and telephone number of the parent/guardian.
- 2 The coach/manager should contact the League immediately. All injuries must be reported within ten (10) days. The insurance company is not legally liable for any injury not reported within ten days and for which there is no subsequent claim.

To insure proper handling of the claim and to expedite payment, all questions should be directed to the League.

NEYSA CORI POLICY

This policy is applicable to the criminal history screening of prospective and current employees, subcontractors, volunteers and interns.

Where Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) and other criminal history checks may be part of a general background check for employment, volunteer work, the following practices and procedures will be followed.

I. CONDUCTING CORI SCREENING

CORI checks will only be conducted as authorized by the DCJIS and MGL c. 6, §. 172, and only after a CORI Acknowledgement Form has been completed.

If a new CORI check is to be made on a subject within a year of his/her signing of the CORI Acknowledgement Form, the subject shall be given seventy two (72) hours notice that a new CORI check will be conducted.

II. ACCESS TO CORI

All CORI obtained from the DCJIS is confidential, and access to the information must be limited to those individuals who have a “need to know”. This may include, but not be limited to, hiring managers, staff submitting the CORI requests, and staff charged with processing job applications. NEYSA must maintain and keep a current list of each individual authorized to have access to, or view, CORI. This list must be updated every six(6) months and is subject to inspection upon request by the DCJIS at any time.

III. CORI TRAINING

An informed review of a criminal record requires training. Accordingly, all personnel authorized to review or access CORI at NEYSA will review, and will be thoroughly familiar with, the educational and relevant training materials regarding CORI laws and regulations made available by the DCJIS.

Additionally, if NEYSA is an agency required by MGL c. 6, s. 171A, to maintain a CORI Policy, all personnel authorized to conduct criminal history background checks and/or to review CORI information will review, and will be thoroughly familiar with, the educational and relevant training materials regarding CORI laws and regulations made available by the DCJIS.

IV. USE OF CRIMINAL HISTORY IN BACKGROUND SCREENING

CORI used for employment purposes shall only be accessed for applicants who are otherwise qualified for the position for which they have applied.

Unless otherwise provided by law, a criminal record will not automatically disqualify an applicant. Rather, determinations of suitability based on background checks will be made consistent with this policy and any applicable law or regulations.

V. VERIFYING A SUBJECT’S IDENTITY

If a criminal record is received from the DCJIS, the information is to be closely compared with the information on the CORI Acknowledgement Form and any other identifying information provided by the applicant to ensure the record belongs to the applicant.

If the information in the CORI record provided does not exactly match the identification information provided by the applicant, a determination is to be made by an individual authorized to make such determinations based on a comparison of the CORI record and documents provided by the applicant.

VI. INQUIRING ABOUT CRIMINAL HISTORY

In connection with any decision regarding employment, volunteer opportunities, housing, or professional licensing, the subject shall be provided with a copy of the criminal history record, whether obtained from the DCJIS or from any other source, prior to questioning the subject about his or her criminal history. The source(s) of the criminal history record is also to be disclosed to the subject.

VII. DETERMINING SUITABILITY

If a determination is made, based on the information as provided in section V of this policy, that the criminal record belongs to the subject, and the subject does not dispute the record's accuracy, then the determination of suitability for the position or license will be made. Unless otherwise provided by law, factors considered in determining suitability may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (a) Relevance of the record to the position sought;
- (b) The nature of the work to be performed;
- (c) Time since the conviction;
- (d) Age of the candidate at the time of the offense;
- (e) Seriousness and specific circumstances of the offense;
- (f) The number of offenses;
- (g) Whether the applicant has pending charges;
- (h) Any relevant evidence of rehabilitation or lack thereof; and
- (i) Any other relevant information, including information submitted by the candidate or requested by the organization.

The applicant is to be notified of the decision and the basis for it in a timely manner.

VIII. ADVERSE DECISIONS BASED ON CORI

If an authorized official is inclined to make an adverse decision based on the results of a criminal history background check, the applicant will be notified immediately. The subject shall be provided with a copy of the organization's CORI policy and a copy of the criminal history. The source(s) of the criminal history will also be revealed. The subject will then be provided with an opportunity to dispute the accuracy of the CORI record. Subjects shall also be provided a copy of DCJIS' *Information Concerning the Process for Correcting a Criminal Record*.

IX. SECONDARY DISSEMINATION LOGS

All CORI obtained from the DCJIS is confidential and can only be disseminated as authorized by law and regulation. A central secondary dissemination log shall be used to record any dissemination of CORI outside this organization, including dissemination at the request of the subject.

X. NEYSA NEED TO KNOW LIST

The following NEYSA board members have a need to know access to CORI information.

- Jim Acciaro – Primary CORI Coordinator
- Stephen Straw - Primary CORI Coordinator
- Dino Tessicini – Secondary CORI Coordinator

All determinations of suitability of volunteer candidates will be made by the two primary CORI coordinators. If a candidate wishes to appeal a decision of the Primary Coordinators the appeal shall be heard by the three members listed above.