

Bluffton Youth Sports



Ponytails Local League Rules

1. All Dixie Softball rules will apply with the following exceptions and notations.
2. The first scheduled game of each day will have a 15 min. 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 min. time limit. No inning is started after this time limit has elapsed from the start of the game. No new inning in the first game will start after 7:30. No new inning will be started after 9:30 p.m. Tie games or incomplete games stop at the end of a complete inning and will be made up at a later date if necessary.
4. The batter will be warned once for slinging the bat. The second time it occurs will result in the batter being called out.
5. The home team will be the official scorekeeper. Umpire names with signatures at end of game is highly recommended. Each team is to have pitching affidavit signed by opposing coach after game.
6. If a team does not have enough players (7) 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 BYS. Otherwise the game will result in a forfeit.
7. Minimum number of players for a regulation game is seven (7). Less than 7 will result in a forfeit. If a team has (7 or 8) players instead of the required (9) to play a scheduled game, the (7 or 8) player team may borrow a player(s) from the opposing team's non starting lineup to fill its required roster. If the (7 or 8) player teams 8th or 9th 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.
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 complete innings (6 outs) on defense. All players shall meet the requirements of this rule by the end of the 4th inning. A coach may be suspended by not complying with the player participation rule and or forfeit game as described in Dixie Softball. Exception: Does not apply if game does not go four complete innings.
10. No intentional walks. All teams will bat completely through the order regardless of how many players there are on each team. Maximum 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. A player arriving late will be added to the end of the offensive lineup.
11. 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.
12. Any player, coach, or spectator that is removed from the game by an umpire or BYS 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. All Code of Conduct Rules will apply.

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13. In an effort to promote diversity in the pitching position: A player may pitch no more than three (3) innings in a game. A player shall not pitch more than six (5) innings between Monday through the following Sunday night. A minimum of 3 outs must be recorded by any combination of league age 11 year old pitchers during each calendar week. A pitcher may start with only one foot on rubber only if she is starting in the traditional "K" position with throwing hand foot on rubber and opposite foot extended toward home plate in starting position.
14. If a team has three games in one week a player shall not pitch more than three innings in one game and eight innings in a week.
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 a 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. 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. Once a pitcher has walked (4) four batters in an inning, no more batters in that half inning will be permitted to advance to 1st base on a base on balls or walk. The batter will remain at bat after the 4th ball in her at bat. The batting count will remain with 3 balls with the pitcher continuing to pitch. The ball count shall remain at 3 but the strike count shall continue. The batter shall either strike the ball to put the ball in play or the batter shall be called out on the 3rd strike. If a pitcher is replaced during the inning the 4 walk count shall start over with the new pitcher. The maximum of 4 walks shall restart each inning and also shall restart with a new pitcher. This rule shall be in effect until May 1st and at that time this rule shall be continued to the end of the season, abolished or modified.