

12 & U DIVISION OF CENTRAL OHIO GIRLS FAST-PITCH  
OHIO HIGH SCHOOL RULES WITH THESE ADDITIONS (REVISED 3-12-17)

1. Home team supplies umpires & game balls.
2. No player shall participate who will be 13 years old before January 1<sup>st</sup> of that year.
3. Any player who is listed on the roster turned into the league secretary for this age division may not play at a lower age division.
4. Rosters must be turned in to league secretary at scheduling meeting in paper format. Any games played prior to turning in roster will be forfeited.
5. League fees must be paid to treasurer by first game.
6. Birth certificates and copy of roster must be available at each game. If not available, team not having birth certificates will be forced to forfeit.
7. Both teams will report game results to the league secretary within 48 hours.
8. Cancellation and rescheduling games. Games must be canceled more than 7 days before game date, except for weather related reasons, coach's emergency, school functions or no show of an umpire. A game will be forfeited if not canceled more than 7 days prior to game day. Games must be rescheduled to be played before tournament draw.
9. There will be a formal pre-game conference between head coaches and umpires prior to the game to discuss the strike zone, ground rules and set the official start time.
10. All bats used must be official fast pitch softball bats or approved for use by the opposing coach prior to the game. Penalty- batter automatically out.
11. 12" optic leather yellow balls must be used.
12. Any game in which a team roster consisting of less than 9 players will be forfeited.
13. If a team has only 9 players, the missing position in the batting order will not be counted as an out. If a player arrives after the game has started, they will be placed at the end of the batting order.
14. Any player who is injured or must leave due to an emergency will not be counted as an out. The injured player may re-enter the game in their original position in the batting order once they are determined to be OK. If hurt in play they can be allotted a courtesy runner (the last out).
15. It is recommended that 10 year olds be brought up to fill vacancies on a team (a call-up player must wear her team uniform). These players must be on a C.O.G.F.P. roster from a team in your community. Teams using ineligible players shall forfeit all games in which that player participated.
16. Games will be 7 innings in length, with a 2 hour time limit: An inning may not be started anytime after two hours from the official start time. As soon as the 3<sup>rd</sup> out is made the inning is over and the next inning begins. An inning may be started as late as one hour fifty-nine minutes from the official start time unless both coaches agree to end the contest.

17. International tie-breaker:

- a) When the teams are tied and going into the 8<sup>th</sup> inning or at the start of an inning after the 2 hour time limit, each team starts each inning with a runner on second base. That base runner is the batter-runner (player at bat) when the last out was made in the previous inning, and no substitute or courtesy runner may replace her until she has reached third base.

18. Ending an inning will be accomplished by 3 defensive outs or 7 run limit. Teams can score a maximum of 7 runs per inning.

19. Mercy rule:

- a) 15 runs after 5 completed innings
- b) 8 runs after 6 complete innings.

20. All players must play a minimum of 2 full innings per game which must be completed before the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> inning of the game unless a player is being disciplined by the coach. This action must be reported prior to the start of the game. Penalty: Game will be forfeited for violation of this rule.

21. A game will be considered official after 4 full innings. If less than 4 full innings have been played at the two hour time limit, the game will not be considered an official game.

22. If an umpire calls a game due to darkness, that game will be completed at a later date.

23. Games that are canceled due to weather or inclement circumstances prior to the 2 hour time limit, it will be resolved as follows:

- a) If 4 full innings or more have been completed, the game is official. With the scores reverting back to the last completed full inning.
- b) If less than 4 full innings have been completed, the game will be replayed at a later date in its entirety. Makeup date and time is to be determined and agreed upon by both head coaches.
- c) All Tournament games will be played to the full time limit. If the game is stopped due to weather the game will be played in full at a later time.

24. The batting order will include the full team roster for the entire game.

25. Free substitutions. Players may re-enter the game.

26. Pitching will be from 40 feet.

27. Pitchers circle

- a) Circle diameter is 16 feet.
- b) Once the pitcher has possession of the ball in the circle, runners must advance or return to the base immediately. Failure to do so will result in an umpires 1<sup>st</sup> warning to the team and coach. The 2<sup>nd</sup> infraction of the rule the umpire will stop play and call the runner out.

28. The batter cannot show bunt pull bat back and swing away. Penalty: Dead ball, batter automatically out.

29. The slide rule will be in effect. If there is a play at 2<sup>nd</sup> base, 3<sup>rd</sup> base or home plate and the runner does not attempt to slide, the umpire will use judgment as to calling the runner out for not sliding. The umpires and players must abide by the rule even if the player is wearing shorts.

30. No coaches at this age division or sisters and brothers of players will be allowed to umpire games at this age division.

31. An unintentional thrown bat: 1<sup>st</sup> time is a team warning; all subsequent batters that throw the bat on that team are out.

32. No metal cleats allowed.

33. 10 players allowed on the field, however, the coach has the discretion to only play 9 in the field. If a team starts a game with more than 9 players, but only places 9 players on the field, they must play the entire game with only 9 fielders.