



2018 12U Interleague Rules SHB, FV & HB



Conduct

Umpires will have zero tolerance towards abusive language, gestures, or actions of unsportsmanlike conduct by managers, coaches, players, relatives or other spectators. It is the manager's responsibility to correct these actions immediately. Any person or persons ejected from the game will not be permitted to return for the remainder of the game **AND** the following scheduled game.

Umpire Fees and Softballs

The home leagues are responsible for scheduling umpires at their facilities and paying all umpire fee's for games scheduled on their home fields.

Teams who do not show up for a scheduled game, or who do not give sufficient advance notice by **Thursday 6pm** prior to scheduled game, so umpires can be cancelled, will be responsible for all umpire fees.

Umpire fees are not to exceed **\$45.00** per umpire. Any league, whose umpires require a higher fee than approved, will be responsible for the extra fee.

Teams will pay umpires in full before the start of the game.

The scheduling of umpires for the various divisions will be as follows:

12U One Umpire

The following types of softball will be used during the fall ball season:

12U divisions 12" Dudley or Rawlings softballs

Home team is responsible for the providing a new game softball. Visiting team will provide a used softball, which is in good condition.

Teams who play double-headers will each be the designated home team once during the double-header

Cancelled Games

Each league is responsible for cancelling any no-show game that needs to be cancelled. Contact must be made by **Thursday @ 6pm** to inform a cancellation of the scheduled game on Saturday. Contact must be received and confirmed. Please do not leave a message. If a team does not call or show up to a game that league is responsible for both game fees.

General Rules

The official rules of play will be the current USA Softball rules with the modifications defined herein.

Base-paths/Pitching distances will be:

12U 60 feet, 40 feet

Prior to each game, the manager will submit to the official scorekeeper and the opposing manager a complete roster line-up for the girls that are present and eligible to play that day. Each girl on the roster will bat continuously in the order submitted.

Nine (9) players will constitute a team. However, a minimum of seven (7) players may start or continue a game in the 10U through 14U division.



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Nine (9) players will play defense a time unless only 7 or 8 players are available. **No** players will sit out two (2) consecutive defensive innings. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

If a team is short-handed they can pick up to three (3) rostered players from one of their own league rostered teams. An 8U team may pick up to four (4) rostered players.

- The pick-up player(s) **must:**
 - **Not be a pitcher or a catcher.**
 - **Be inserted in the batting line-up starting after the last rostered regular team player.**
 - **Play defensively in the outfield only.**

Round robin batting and free substitution will be used in all divisions, in all games, including tournaments.

Home team will be considered the official scorekeeper and is responsible to keep the official score in their team scorebook. **Remember:** Fall Ball is instructional, with the exception of the tournaments. There is no place to put the official scorebook to track the game as it is played and is to be used as an instructional tool for the games that have been played.

Regulation Game

If a game is called in less than (7) innings or time limit(s). There will be no officially scheduled make-up games during the season play.

Equipment

Players must wear their league-approved uniform. All players must wear rubber-cleated shoes. Batters must wear a batting helmet with a permanently mounted face guard. For their safety, players with long hair must keep it pulled back in a ponytail or braids.

Jewelry shall not be worn during a practice or game. This includes body piercing of any kind.

Bats must not be on the current USA Softball banned bat list. The current approved and non-approved list can be found at www.teamusa.org/USA-Softball.

Game Time and Limit

No new inning will start after one (1) hour and twenty (20) minutes of play, with a one (1) hour and thirty (30) minutes drop dead game. A new inning starts when the third out is recorded in the previous inning.

Forfeit time shall be **fifteen (15) minutes** after the scheduled game time.

Tie Game

In the event of a tie game (after 7 innings), the international tie breaker (ITB) rule will go into effect if there is time remaining in the game. If no time is remaining, the game will end in a tie.



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Mercy Rule

The game shall be considered a mercy game, and will be called and considered complete, if a team is ahead by the following:

**Fifteen (15) runs after three (3) complete innings, or
Twelve (12) runs after four (4) complete innings, or
Eight (8) runs after five (5) complete innings.**

Courtesy Runners

Courtesy runners will be allowed for pitchers and catchers at any time. The team member who was the "last out" before the pitcher or catcher's turn at bat will be the courtesy runner. If the last out is on base or at bat, or the last out is the pitcher or catcher, the next available player in the lineup will become the courtesy runner.

Pitching Outs

Physical pitching outs for the season will be limited to the following:

12U division: there are no pitching restrictions.

Run Limit

12U teams will be limited to five (5) runs scored for the first three (3) innings of a game. 4th inning, and every inning thereafter, until the conclusion of the game, runs scored is unlimited.