



PWYSA – Recreation Policies and Procedures
Updated March 2022

PHILOSOPHY

Our Recreational League stresses learning, fundamentals, equal playing time, trying all positions and fun. Recreational softball opportunities are offered for girls in grades ages 5-18. Teams are formed after registration based on friend requests and schools attended. Consideration is made at certain levels to keep school classmates together and in some circumstances playing requests can be accommodated. Teams will play in the PWYSA Recreational League.

INTRODUCTION

This document outlines policies and procedures used by PWYSA for recreational level fastpitch softball. PWYSA reserves the right to deviate from the policies and procedures in this document if the PWYSA Board of Directors (Board) determines it is in the best interest of the program to do so. These policies are subject to annual review and may be changed if the Board deems appropriate.

Mailing address: PWYSA
P.O. Box 46152 Plymouth,
MN 55446

GENERAL INFORMATION

MISSION

Plymouth Wayzata Youth Softball Association (PWYSA) promotes the game of fastpitch softball as a means to teach girls the value of teamwork and sportsmanship, to enhance self-esteem and to develop softball skills - all in a positive environment.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A Board of Directors governs PWYSA. There are open positions that can be filled throughout the year and are done so at any monthly Board meeting. Any interested parties are encouraged to contact the Association. Board positions and descriptions can be found on the website at www.pwysa.com.

COST

The cost for playing in the Recreational League covers the following expenses: General administration fees (website, storage shed fees, umpires, post office box, field maintenance, etc.)

Equipment expenses

Team insurance

Team uniform (shirt, shorts/pants and socks may be kept by each player at the end of the season)

REFUNDS

All refund requests must be submitted to the recreation league Director - contact information and names are listed in the Board of Directors section.

- Refunds requested before registration closes will be refunded a 100% of the registration fee.
- Refund after registration closes but before teams are formed is 50%.
- No refunds will be granted after teams have been formed.
- In cases of extenuating circumstances, refund requests will be granted solely at the discretion of the PWYSA. Requests must be made in writing to the appropriate director.

PARENT MEETINGS AND SURVEYS

Annual informational meetings will be held for all players and parents prior to the start of each season. Usually for the recreation league, it will be in April. As deemed appropriate, the Board will distribute surveys and hold additional meetings intended to gather feedback and to listen to concerns.

SCHOLARSHIP

Each year PWYSA designates funds in hopes that every girl who wants to play softball will be able to play regardless of her family's financial status. Applicants for a partial or full scholarship may contact the registration coordinator listed on the PWYSA website for further information. The Scholarship Committee will review each application.

FUNDRAISING

Fees charged for each season's program are expected to cover normal expenses of the program so that proceeds raised from fundraising may go into the general fund to be put to use at the discretion of the Board. However, PWYSA also relies on private fund raising to meet its financial objectives. In order to be strategic and ensure that fund raising efforts are executed in a manner consistent with the PWYSA vision,

RECREATIONAL (IN-HOUSE) SOFTBALL

AGE DIVISIONS for the 2022 season: (based on birth year)

6U: 2015 & 2016

8U: 2013 & 2014

10U: 2011 & 2012

12U: 2009 & 2010

14U-18U: 2003-2008

SEASON

All levels will generally practice/play two nights per week, late April through mid-July.

PRACTICES

Some practices are scheduled and additional practices are at the coach's discretion. Field times for additional practices must be arranged through the scheduling coordinator.

6U (Birth year 2015 & 2016)

The purpose of 6U is to introduce the athletes to the game of fastpitch softball. Girls learn to hit a pitched ball (coach pitch), how to field, run bases and a little bit of strategy mixed in with the fun. Teams are generally formed by elementary school and the athletes can sign up to be on the same team as a friend. Everyone plays in the field and everyone bats - we try and keep the teams relatively small so no one is sitting on the bench. Games and practices are held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from late April through mid July. In addition to playing PWYSA teams, we play teams from the Hopkins, Westonka, Orono and St. Louis Park organizations.

8U (Birth year 2013 & 2014)

Teams are generally formed by elementary school and girls can sign up to be on the same team as a friend. The 8U in-house league will play two week nights. Athletes in this league use a pitching machine. This division continues to emphasize the balance between skill development and fun - everyone plays equally and gets to try all the positions. Scores are kept and we begin to introduce fastpitch game concepts. Games are held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from early May through mid-July. In addition to playing PWYSA teams, we play teams from the Hopkins, Westonka, Orono and St. Louis Park organizations. There is an 8U tournament to end the season. After athletes have experienced 8U, they may choose to move to our travel program at the 10U level (more competitive) - see the travel page, or can advance to the rec 10U (more recreational with modified rules). Although players may elect to attempt to move to the travel program anytime after one year of playing 8U, we find it is easiest for player to elect to move at this time rather than wait until later years.

10U (Birth year 2011 & 2012)

At the 10U level, the athletes pitch and we add age/skill appropriate elements of fastpitch softball - stealing, sliding, etc. There are modified pitching rules which allow for greater player development. We recommend sliding pads for athletes in this Division and older to protect those knobby knees. Although the Division of play in this league is higher, the focus is still recreational - everyone plays equally, tries different positions, etc.



Practices and games are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from early May through mid-July. In addition to playing PWYSA teams, we play teams from the Maple Grove and St. Louis Park organizations. We have a year-end tournament scheduled for a weekend in mid-July.

12U (Birth year 2009 & 2010)

At 12U, all fastpitch softball rules apply, however a round robin batting order is still used. Player may begin to specialize in position play, but coaches are asked to continue to rotate players through a variety of positions. We recommend sliding pads for athletes in this Division and older to protect the athletes from injury. Practices and games are held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from early May through mid-July. D4 plays games with the Osseo Maple Grove Athletic Association. There is a year end tournament in mid July.

14U-18U (Birth years 2003-2008)

At 14U-18U, all fastpitch softball rules apply, however a round robin batting order is still used. Player may begin to specialize in position play, but coaches are asked to continue to rotate players through a variety of positions. We recommend sliding pads for athletes to protect the athletes from injury. Practices and games are held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from early May through mid-July. D4 plays games with the Osseo Maple Grove Athletic Association. There is a year end tournament in mid July.

PLAYING TIME AND PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

Equal playing time is emphasized, but is not guaranteed for all playing positions. A player's safety must be considered when player rotations are developed. Each coach is responsible for ensuring this happens. The coach has the authority to limit playing time



due to unexcused absences from practices or games or for other disciplinary reasons.
Playing time can also be limited due to one or more of the following:
Disciplinary action is being taken.
The player has been suspended.
The player is injured or sick.
The player has unexcused absences.
Games have been shortened due to a time limit or inclement weather.

LEAGUE RULES

Recreational League Rules for each division are reviewed each year prior to the season in a meeting of all participating associations. The rules are posted on www.PWYSA.com