



Waterloo Minor Girls Softball Association

Houseleague Rules

General Rules for All Divisions

Softball Canada's Official Guide and Rule Book will apply for all divisions, except as follows:

1. All players present for a game will be listed in the line-up and will bat in rotation. Free substitution of players in the field will be allowed. A player not present at the start of the game cannot be listed until she arrives. She will be listed at the end of the batting order when she does arrive.
2. No inning will start after 8:00 p.m. The game continues until the inning has been completed. The score at the end of the last complete inning will stand, regardless of the number of innings played.
3. Any number of **registered houseleague players from a younger division** may be substituted to avoid a forfeit. If a game is forfeited, every attempt should be made to play the game as an exhibition game by "borrowing" members from the opposing team or other mutually agreeable conditions. A forfeited game will be registered as a loss. Mini-Mite games may proceed with a minimum of 6 players.
4. A player will be limited to playing a maximum of 1 inning per game in any given position. This rule will be tracked by the coaches and scorekeepers and umpires will be advised as soon as an infraction is noticed. There is no penalty for the first infraction, but once noticed, the player is to be immediately relieved and the coach warned not to repeat the infraction. After receiving a warning, if the infraction is repeated, the offending player will be removed from the game (i.e., will be removed from the lineup, but may remain with the team on the bench) and the offending coach will be ejected from the game (and must leave the park).

Additional Rules for Mini-Mite (Bases 40'; Pitching 30')

1. All coaches and players are expected to be at their diamonds, **ready to play** at 6:00. On Thursday evenings, all teams will participate in a skills clinic. On Tuesday evenings, coaches will replicate the skills clinic, working together to run stations. **Full participation is expected.** The actual game portion of both evenings will begin at 7:00 p.m. No inning shall start after 8:00 p.m. throughout the season. If an inning has already started, play may continue until 8:10, at which point the game ends and the score reverts to the last complete inning.
2. If both teams have an equal number of players, all players will bat each inning or until three outs, whichever comes first. If the teams have an unequal number of players, the team with the lesser number of players will have the same number of players bat as the greater number of players, or three outs, whichever comes first.
3. A coach from the team at bat will pitch (from the pitching rubber) while his/her team is batting. Each batter will receive **five** pitches. If a batter does not hit one of the **five** pitches she is out. If the **last** pitch is hit foul she receives another pitch. Bunting is not permitted. **Note:** The batter does not advance to first base if she is hit by a pitched ball.
4. If the coach who is pitching accidentally interferes with the batted ball or with a defensive player who is trying to field the ball, the ball is considered dead and the call is "no pitch".
5. If there are fewer than nine players in attendance, the pitcher's position will be eliminated first. IF used, the defensive pitcher stays on the field in the defensive position, no closer to home plate than the pitching rubber.
6. No stealing is allowed. Runners must stay on base until the ball is hit. The runner is out for leading-off if she leaves the base before the ball is hit.
7. When a ball is overthrown out of play **or overthrown at a base while attempting to make a play**, the ball will be declared dead (play stops) and runners will advance to the base to which they were headed **when the throw originated**. No extra base is awarded.
8. If there are two outs when the last batter is up, the 3rd out can be obtained by a caught fly ball, a force out (when the runner must advance a base) or a tag play. In all other instances, the ball must go to the catcher who must touch the plate to end the inning.
9. The infield fly rule does not apply.