



GIRLS SOFTBALL RULES

PLATINUM DIVISION 6TH-8TH GRADE

It is the intent of these rules to teach the youth participants the game of softball. Any action or technique that is contrary to playing the game as it is intended will be considered unsportsmanlike and will not be tolerated.

1. The philosophy of this division is to provide players with little or no experience in a structured league environment that they can learn the basic skills and concepts of the game.
2. Senior division is meant to be instructional in nature.
3. The intent is to ensure all players have the same opportunity to play a number of positions, and approximately the same amount of playing time. Coaches are required to allow players to play different positions.
4. Stealing is allowed, and the player can leave the base when the ball crosses the plate. Players are only allowed to steal one base at a time and are not allowed to steal home.
5. Intentional bunts will be ruled out & runners may not advance.
6. The infield fly rule will not be used.
7. The dropped third strike will not be used.
8. All infielders must wear a protective face mask while on the field.
9. Overthrows: Balls going completely out of play will be ruled a dead ball, **base runners may advance to the next base**. (If the runner is between bases they get to advance to the next base). All balls that stay within the foul lines are considered live (runners may advance at their own risk). The umpire may call time at his or her own judgment.
10. Every player that attends the game will bat. Those players who arrive late will be added to the bottom of the batting order.
11. A half inning will conclude with the end of the batting order or the third out.
12. In an inning a max of (6) players may play the infield and (4) in the outfield.
13. Coaches are not permitted on the playing field during an inning.

14. Infielders playing first, and third base will be allowed to be no more 5 feet inside of the baseline. All other infielders excluding the pitcher must be positioned behind the base line and at least 5 feet from the nearest base.
15. Catchers must wear all of the supplied catcher's equipment.
16. An 12-inch softball will be used for the entire season.
17. Once the ball leaves the pitcher's hand, the play is considered live and runners may advance off of the base (including the relaxed step) at their own risk.
18. Foot first sliding is allowed, absolutely no headfirst sliding.
19. All players must wear pants. All infielders must wear a defensive face mask. All batting helmets must have a cage.
20. No protests will be allowed.
21. Base distance is 60 feet and pitching distance is 40 feet.
22. Seven (7) players must be present in order to start a game. Players are asked to arrive 20 minutes prior to game time.
23. The umpire will have the official time for the start and completion of the game. Coaches must communicate with the umpire regarding any and or all-game time situations.
24. Senior division time limit is 75 minutes, or seven innings. For the 7:15pm games, no new inning shall start after 8:30pm. The games are ending in darkness and this becomes a safety issue. Check with the umpire who has the official game time.
25. Helmets, with face masks, must be worn by all batters and base runners. Any player who removes her helmet intentionally during the game without the umpire's approval will be called out as a base runner or warned as a defensive player.
26. Only league approved softball bats will be permitted.
27. The Parks & Recreation Department will provide each child a uniform consisting of a hat, shirt, and pants. Steel cleats & jewelry will not be allowed.
28. Every player that attends a game must play at least two (2) innings defensively. If they are in the infield for the first 2 innings, they must go to the outfield if at all possible for the next two. Continue this process throughout the entire game. If a player has not been attending practices or games on a regular scheduled basis the Parks & Recreation Office should be notified. (Oxford Teams)
29. Any player that is bleeding must leave the game indefinitely until first aid has been administered. A base runner may be replaced by the last person to make an out for that team.

30. When a bat is thrown, the batter will be called out at the umpire's discretion.
31. Rain-outs will be called by the league supervisor. Coaches may call the Parks & Recreation office inclement weather phone number after 5pm @ 248-628-1720 x 6 or the OTPR Facebook page. The Parks & Recreation Department will re-schedule rainouts on the earliest available date.
32. Team managers are responsible before and after a game for all players, assistant coaches, and spectators associated with their team. Abusive language and or foul actions will not be tolerated by this Parks & Recreation Department. Umpires and the on site league supervisor has the authority to suspend a game for the removal of a player, coach, and or a spectator. Any person ejected from a game will have two (2) minutes to be out of sight & sound.
33. No negative chanting or chattering at an opposing player or team is allowed. Teams are asked to shake hands after each game under their coaches' supervision.
34. The Director of Parks & Recreation has the authority to amend league rules, schedules, or league changes in order to accommodate a physically challenged participant under the A.D.A or in the best interest of the entire league.
35. Any incident in which a player or coach is ejected by an official will result in that individual sitting out the remainder of the game as well as the next scheduled game. Offenses include but are not limited to: fighting, foul language, abuse of official, and unsportsmanlike conduct.