



Yorkville Parks & Recreation Department

Girls Softball League 3rd/4th Division Rules

All rules for this league shall follow the current edition of the National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS) Rule Book except for the following

THE PLAYERS

- 1) Each girl must not sit more than 2 innings per game. Coaches are encouraged to give equal playing time to all players.
- 2) No girl shall play the same defensive position more than 3 innings per game.
- 3) Courtesy runner will be allowed for the catcher after two outs. Courtesy runner will be the last batted out.
- 4) Continuous batting order will be used. Everyone bats.
 - a. If a player arrives late, she will be added to the bottom of the batting line up.
 - b. If a player must leave before the game ends due to injury, illness or family matters that player is not an out every time her spot comes up in the batting line up. It will just be skipped.
 - c. If a player is injured during her at bat and cannot continue her at bat, this is not an out. Last batted out may complete the at bat.
 - d. If a player is ejected during the game, her spot in the batting line up becomes an automatic out. The player is not suspended for any subsequent games.
 - e. If a coach is ejected during the game, he/she will be suspended for the next game. If coach attempts to be in the dugout coaching at the next game, his/her team forfeits.
- 5) Teams can play with a minimum of 7 players. If minimum 7 players cannot be reached, the team will forfeit the game.

THE GAME

- 1) Home team has the option for infield practice for 10 minutes 25 minutes before game time.
- 2) Visiting time has the option for infield practice for 10 minutes 15 minutes before game time.
- 3) Infield practice shall stop 5 minutes before game time.
- 4) All efforts shall be made to not disturb the base lines during infield practice.
- 5) No players may occupy the pitchers circle and lines shall be avoided during infield practice.
- 6) A game shall consist of 6 innings or 2 hours. In weather situations, an official game is 4 innings. (3 ½ if home team is ahead.)
 - a. *Fall Ball Exception:* There is No minimum number of innings required for official game as there are no standings.
- 7) No new inning is to be started after 2 hours. Games may end in a tie. Time limit - The home team may be allowed to continue an inning past the time limit. Drop dead time of two hours and fifteen minutes.
- 8) There is a 5-run rule per inning for all innings. Unlimited runs can be scored in the final inning until the third out is made.
- 9) There is a 15-run slaughter rule after 4 innings (3 ½ if home team is ahead).
- 10) Team chanting and comments can only be directed to players on your own team and must be of a

positive manner. NO chanting allowed when the pitcher is on the pitcher's plate.

- 11) Each team will play with a maximum of 10 players on the field: 4 outfielders, 4 infielders, pitcher, catcher.
- 12) All outfielders must be on the grass prior to the pitch, unless you have an extended infield, discuss with ump and opposing coach prior to game. Outfield positions may not cover bases unless they are backing up a play or covering an empty base.
- 13) The pitcher (when coach is pitching) must be level with or behind the mound and within the circle. The rest of the infield must not be positioned any closer to the batter than the back of the pitcher's circle. Coach pitcher may pitch from anywhere within the mound, they do not have to stand on the mound.
- 14) If a batted ball hits the coach pitcher, it is a live ball.
- 15) Infield fly rule is not in effect.
- 16) Bunting is allowed. The batter cannot take a bunt stance and then pull back and take a full swing at the pitch. If the batter attempts this, she is out. This is for the infielders' safety.
- 17) Bases are 60 feet apart.
- 18) If a game is cancelled, all attempts should be made between the coaches to reschedule and communicated to the home team town rep to then communicate to Yorkville.
 - a. Fall Ball Exception: Rain outs or cancelled games can be made up, but it is not required.
- 19) If you are short players, you may only recruit from the 8U division. If you recruit a pitcher from the lower level, they can only pitch 3 innings maximum. Recruit bats last in the order and, if not pitching, must play in the outfield.
 - a. *Fall Ball Exception:* If you are short players, you may recruit from within your own division and from the 1st/2nd division. If you recruit a pitcher, they can only pitch 3 innings maximum. Recruit bats last in the order and, if not pitching, must play in the outfield.
- 20) Games must be rescheduled within 2 weeks of the original scheduled date otherwise the game will result in a forfeit by the team unable to determine a new date or field a team.
- 21) Depending on the number of teams (decided upon by Yorkville), there may be an East & West division where those teams play against one another throughout the regular season split up by the region you live in and number of teams each community has.

PITCHING

- 1) The pitcher's rubber shall be 35 feet from home plate.
- 2) Pitchers will be allowed 5 warm up pitches before their first inning. Returning pitchers will be allowed 3 warm up pitches before any inning after their first.
- 3) Pitching will be NFHS Rules.
- 4) There will be no illegal pitches.
- 5) Per game, a pitcher must be removed from pitching for the remainder of the game on the fourth trip of the coach to the mound.
- 6) Per inning, a pitcher must be removed from pitching for the remainder of the inning on the second trip of the coach to the mound.
- 7) No runs shall be walked in unless a batter is hit by pitch. If the bases are loaded and the

player/pitcher throws 4 balls as called by the official the batter keeps the current count, and the coach of the hitting team shall throw a maximum of 5 pitches to the batter. The batter shall not walk but may strike out. If the batter gets a foul ball on the last coach pitch, an additional pitch will be given until the batter strikes out, gets a hit, grounds out or flies out.

- 8) After 4 walks in an inning the coach must pitch for the remainder of the inning. If a pitcher hits a girl with her pitch, this is counted as one of the 4 walks.
- 9) There are no restrictions on replacing pitchers. Free substitutions are allowed at any time during the game if PITCHING Rule 2 is adhered to.
- 10) Coaches are encouraged to teach the girls the following rules. (12U and up, illegal pitches will be in play.)
 - a. Hands apart when Pitcher steps on the mound {ball can be either in hand or in glove}.
 - b. Pitcher brings hand to glove. This is the start of the wind up. {Pitcher is not allowed to separate her hands and bring them together in the glove again.}
 - c. One foot must be in contact with the pitching rubber and second foot must start on or behind pitching rubber before the forward pitching motion.
- 11) Once a pitcher hits four players during a game, there must be a coach meeting to discuss if that player will continue pitching that inning (this is essentially a warning to the pitcher).
- 12) Once that pitcher hits 7 players throughout the game, they must be removed from pitching.

BASE RUNNING

- 1) Players should be instructed by their coaches to slide to AVOID CONTACT with another player. This is for the safety of all involved.
- 2) Sliding shall follow NFHS rules.
- 3) When the ball is hit on the infield, base runners and the batter runner may only advance one base. Runners advancing more than one base will be sent back without the liability of being put out. (Batters will only receive a single)
- 4) When the ball is hit to the outfield on a fly, line drive or ground ball (non- error, no overthrow), players may run to the base they are committed to but not to any additional bases. The ball is still considered live during this time. Outfield players are encouraged to throw the ball in as quickly as possible.
- 5) Base runners may steal once the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.
 - a. Base runners may steal 2nd and 3rd base only (may steal one base per new batter).
 - b. Base runners that leave early will be sent back to the previous base without risk of being put out and the team will be given a warning.
 - c. Base runners who steal more than one base per batter will be sent back to the previous base without risk of being put out and the team will be issued a warning. Following violations will result in an out.
 - d. You cannot steal on an overthrown ball. Only on pitches per batter.
- S) 3 step Lead offs are allowed after the ball leaves the pitchers hand. Leaving the base early will result in a warning.

SAFETY

- 1) Pitchers are required to wear a facemask. All other defensive players are required to wear a facemask.
- 2) Batting helmets are required to have a full facemask.
- 3) Proper Catchers equipment is required.
- 4) No metal cleats
- 5) On Deck Hitter must be positioned behind the batter and as far away as practical.
- 6) At any point prior to or during a game that lightning is present the game shall be delayed 30 minutes.
- 7) All coaches, players, umpires, and spectators must exit the park to their vehicles if lightning occurs.
- 8) Each time there is an occurrence of lightning the 30 minutes starts over.
- 9) If lightning occurs prior to game time, there shall be only (2) 30-minute attempts at starting the game.
- 10) Home team has discretion on calling a game if weather is severe enough which then falls upon the home team town representative to relay this to Yorkville Recreation Staff.
- 10) If lightning occurs during game play, there shall be only (1) 30-minute attempt to restart the game.

POST SEASON TOURNAMENT

- 1) The matchups and field location will be determined by the final regular season standings as shown on QuickScores.com
- 2) The better seeded team on the bracket will be the host up until the finals.
- 3) The higher seed shall be home team.
- 4) East & West Championship teams will come together to play each other for the Championship game in Yorkville.
- 5) The No New Inning time limit is still in effect.
 - a. If the score is tied at the end of the previous inning, game will proceed with the International Tie Breaker play until there is a winner. 1TB = game will begin with 0 outs and a player on 2nd base. The batter will begin with a 1 and 1 count to begin the inning.

All rules for this league shall follow the current edition of the National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS) Rule Book. Rule books can be obtained by visiting NFHS.org



Yorkville Parks & Recreation Department

Girls Softball League

5th/6th Division Rules

All rules for this league shall follow the current edition of the National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS) Rule Book except for the following

THE PLAYERS

- 1) Each girl must not sit more than 2 innings per game. Coaches are encouraged to give equal playing time to all players.
- 2) Courtesy runner will be allowed for the catcher after two outs. Courtesy runner will be the last batted out.
- 3) Continuous batting order will be used. Everyone bats.
 - a. If a player arrives late, she will be added to the bottom of the batting line up.
 - b. If a player must leave before the game ends due to injury, illness or family matters that player is not an out every time her spot comes up in the batting line up. It will just be skipped.
 - c. If a player is injured during her at bat and cannot continue her at bat, this is not an out. Last batted out may complete the at bat.
 - d. If a player is ejected during the game, her spot in the batting line up becomes an automatic out. The player may be suspended for subsequent games.
 - e. If a coach is ejected during the game, he/she will be suspended for the next game. If coach attempts to be in the dugout coaching at the next game, his/her team forfeits.
- 4) Teams can play with a minimum of 9 players. If the minimum is not reached, the team will forfeit the game. If you are short players, you may only recruit from the 10U division.
 - a. Fall Ball Exception: If you are short players you may recruit from within your own division and from the 12U division from your own town.

THE GAME

- 1) Home team has the option for infield practice for 10 minutes 25 minutes before game time.
- 2) Visiting time has the option for infield practice for 10 minutes 15 minutes before game time.
- 3) Infield practice shall stop 5 minutes before game time.
- 4) All efforts shall be made to not disturb the base lines during infield practice.
- 5) No players may occupy the pitchers circle and lines shall be avoided during infield practice.
- 6) Home and opposing coaches will come together before each game to exchange their team rosters. Current travel players MUST be highlighted in yellow on the roster, so all coaches are fully aware.
- 7) A game shall consist of 7 innings or 2 hours. In weather situations, an official game is 4 innings. (3 ½ if the home team is ahead.)
 - a. Fall Ball Exception: No minimum number of innings is required for an official game as there are no standings.
- 8) No new inning is to be started after 2 hours. Ties are ok.
- 9) There is a 5-run rule per inning for all innings. Unlimited runs can be scored in the final inning until the third out is made.
- 10) There is a 12-run slaughter rule after 4 innings or 10 runs after 5 innings. Game is over at that point.
- 11) Team chanting and comments can only be directed to players on your own team and must be of a positive manner. NO chanting once the pitcher is on the pitcher's plate.
- 12) Each team will play with a maximum of 9 players on the field: 3 outfielders, 4 infielders, pitcher, catcher.

- 13) Infield fly rule is in effect. An Infield Fly is a fair fly ball (not a line drive or bunt) that, in the judgment of the umpire, can be caught by an infielder, pitcher, or catcher with ordinary effort and when there are runners on first and second or first, second, and third and less than two outs.
- 14) Bunting is allowed. The batter cannot take a bunt stance and then pull back and take a full swing at the pitch. If the batter attempts this, she is out. This is for the infielders' safety.
- 15) Bases are 60 feet apart.
- 16) If a game is cancelled, all attempts should be made between the coaches to reschedule. This must then be communicated to the home team town rep who will communicate to Yorkville on the rescheduled game.
 - a. Fall Ball Exception: Rain outs or cancelled games can be made up, but it is not required.
- 17) Games must be rescheduled within 2 weeks of the original scheduled date otherwise the game will result in a forfeit by the team unable to determine a new date or field a team.

PITCHING

- 1) The front of the pitcher's rubber shall be 40 feet from the back tip of home plate.
- 2) Pitchers will be allowed 5 warm up pitches before their first inning. Returning pitchers will be allowed 3 warm up pitches before any inning after their first.
- 3) Pitching shall follow all NFHS rules
- 4) An Illegal pitch is ruled a ball. Runners advance one base.
- 5) There are no restrictions on replacing pitchers. Free substitutions are allowed at any time during the game.
- 6) Coaches are encouraged to teach the girls the following rules. (One warning will be issued and then illegal pitches will be in play.)
 - a. Hands apart when Pitcher steps on the mound (ball can be either in hand or in glove).
 - b. Pitcher brings hand to glove. This is the start of the wind up. (Pitcher is not allowed to separate her hands and bring them together in the glove again.)
 - c. One foot must be on the pitching rubber and the other on or behind the rubber, prior to the first step.
- 7) Per game, a pitcher must be removed from pitching for the remainder of the game on the fourth trip of the coach to the mound.
- 8) Per inning, a pitcher must be removed from pitching for the remainder of the inning on the second trip of the coach to the mound.
- 9) An individual 12U age division (current travel player) pitcher may only pitch 2 innings per game maximum.
- 10) Once a pitcher hits four players during a game, there must be a coach meeting to discuss if that player will continue pitching that inning (this is essentially a warning to the pitcher).
- 11) Once that pitcher hits 7 players throughout the game, they must be removed from pitching.

BASE RUNNING

- 1) Players should be instructed by their coaches to slide to AVOID CONTACT with another player. This is for the safety of all involved.

- 2) Slide Rule: NFHS rule 8-6 "The runner is out" if:
 - a. Article 13; the runner does not legally slide and causes illegal contact and/or illegally alters the actions of the fielder in the immediate act of making a play on her.
 - b. Article 14; she remains on her feet and maliciously crashes into a defensive player. Malicious contact supersedes obstruction.
- 3) Stealing is allowed (all bases) once the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.
- 4) Dropped third strike is in effect. The batter becomes the runner on the third strike if the pitch is not caught before touching the ground if
 - a. 1st base is unoccupied before the pitch or
 - b. 1st base is occupied with two outs.

SAFETY

- 1) Pitchers are required to wear a facemask. All other players are required to wear a facemask.
- 2) Batting helmets are required to have a full facemask.
- 3) Proper Catchers equipment is required.
- 4) No metal cleats
- 5) On Deck Hitter must be at the Batter's back.
- 6) At any point prior to or during a game that lightning is present the game shall be delayed 30 minutes.
- 7) All coaches, players, umpires, and spectators must exit the park to their vehicles if lightning occurs.
- 8) Each time there is an occurrence of lightning the 30 minutes starts over.
- 9) If lightning occurs prior to game time, there shall be only (2) 30-minute attempts at starting the game.
- 10) If lightning occurs during game play, there shall be only (1) 30-minute attempt to restart the game.
- 11) Home team has discretion on calling a game if weather is severe enough which then falls upon the home team town representative to relay this to Yorkville Recreation Staff.

POST SEASON TOURNAMENT

- 1) The matchups and field location will be determined by the final regular season standings as shown on QuickScores.com
- 2) The better seeded team on the bracket will be the host up until the finals game.
- 3) The higher seed shall be home team.
- 4) No new inning time limit is still in effect.
 - a) If the score is tied at the end of the previous inning, game will proceed with the International Tie Breaker play until there is a winner. 1TB = game will begin with 0 outs and a player on 2nd base. The batter will begin with a 1 and 1 count to begin the inning.



Yorkville Parks & Recreation Department

Girls Softball League

7th/8th Division Rules

All rules for this league shall follow the current edition of the National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS) Rule Book except for the following

THE PLAYERS

- 1) Each girl must not sit more than 2 innings per game. Coaches are encouraged to give equal playing time to all players.
- 2) Courtesy runner will be allowed for the catcher after two outs. Courtesy runner will be the last batted out.
- 3) Continuous batting order will be used. Everyone bats.
 - a. If a player arrives late, she will be added to the bottom of the batting line up.
 - b. If a player must leave before the game ends due to injury, illness or family matters that player is not an out every time her spot comes up in the batting line up. It will just be skipped.
 - c. If a player is injured during her at bat and cannot continue her at bat, this is not an out. Last batted out may complete the at bat.
 - d. If a player is ejected during the game, her spot in the batting line up becomes an automatic out. The player may be suspended for subsequent games.
 - e. If a coach is ejected during the game, he/she will be suspended for the next game. If coach attempts to be in the dugout coaching at the next game, his/her team forfeits.
- 4) Teams can play with a minimum of 8 players. If the minimum is not reached, the team will forfeit the game. If you are short players, you may only recruit from the 12U division.
 - a. Fall Ball Exception: If you are short players you may recruit from within your own division and from the 12U division from your own town.

THE GAME

- 1) Home team has the option for infield practice for 10 minutes 25 minutes before game time.
- 2) Visiting time has the option for infield practice for 10 minutes 15 minutes before game time.
- 3) Infield practice shall stop 5 minutes before game time.
- 4) All efforts shall be made to not disturb the base lines during infield practice.
- 5) No players may occupy the pitchers circle and lines shall be avoided during infield practice.
- 6) Home and opposing coaches will come together before each game to exchange their team rosters. Current travel players MUST be highlighted in yellow on the roster, so all coaches are fully aware.
- 7) A game shall consist of 7 innings or 2 hours. In weather situations, an official game is 4 innings. (3 ½ if the home team is ahead.)
 - a. Fall Ball Exception: No minimum number of innings is required for an official game as there are no standings.
- 8) No new inning is to be started after 2 hours. Ties are ok.
- 9) There is a 8-run rule per inning for all innings. Unlimited runs can be scored in the final inning until the third out is made.
- 10) There is a 12-run slaughter rule after 4 innings or 10 runs after 5 innings. Game is over at that point.
- 11) Team chanting and comments can only be directed to players on your own team and must be of a positive manner. NO chanting once the pitcher is on the pitcher's plate.
- 12) Each team will play with a maximum of 9 players on the field: 3 outfielders, 4 infielders, pitcher, catcher.

- 13) Infield fly rule is in effect. An Infield Fly is a fair fly ball (not a line drive or bunt) that, in the judgment of the umpire, can be caught by an infielder, pitcher, or catcher with ordinary effort and when there are runners on first and second or first, second, and third and less than two outs.
- 14) Bunting is allowed. The batter cannot take a bunt stance and then pull back and take a full swing at the pitch. If the batter attempts this, she is out. This is for the infielders' safety.
- 15) Bases are 60 feet apart.
- 16) If a game is cancelled, all attempts should be made between the coaches to reschedule. This must then be communicated to the home team town rep who will communicate to Yorkville on the rescheduled game.
 - a. Fall Ball Exception: Rain outs or cancelled games can be made up, but it is not required.
- 17) Games must be rescheduled within 2 weeks of the original scheduled date otherwise the game will result in a forfeit by the team unable to determine a new date or field a team.

PITCHING

- 1) The front of the pitcher's rubber shall be 43 feet from the back tip of home plate.
- 2) Pitchers will be allowed 5 warm up pitches before their first inning. Returning pitchers will be allowed 3 warm up pitches before any inning after their first.
- 3) Pitching shall follow all NFHS rules
- 4) An Illegal pitch is ruled a ball. Runners advance one base.
- 5) There are no restrictions on replacing pitchers. Free substitutions are allowed at any time during the game.
- 6) Coaches are encouraged to teach the girls the following rules. (One warning will be issued and then illegal pitches will be in play.)
 - a. Hands apart when Pitcher steps on the mound (ball can be either in hand or in glove).
 - b. Pitcher brings hand to glove. This is the start of the wind up. (Pitcher is not allowed to separate her hands and bring them together in the glove again.)
 - c. One foot must be on the pitching rubber and the other on or behind the rubber, prior to the first step.
- 7) Per game, a pitcher must be removed from pitching for the remainder of the game on the fourth trip of the coach to the mound.
- 8) Per inning, a pitcher must be removed from pitching for the remainder of the inning on the second trip of the coach to the mound.
- 9) An individual 14U age division (current travel player) pitcher may only pitch 2 innings per game maximum.
- 10) Once a pitcher hits four players during a game, there must be a coach meeting to discuss if that player will continue pitching that inning (this is essentially a warning to the pitcher).
- 11) Once that pitcher hits 7 players throughout the game, they must be removed from pitching.

BASE RUNNING

- 1) Players should be instructed by their coaches to slide to AVOID CONTACT with another player. This is for the safety of all involved.

- 2) Slide Rule: NFHS rule 8-6 "The runner is out" if:
 - a. Article 13; the runner does not legally slide and causes illegal contact and/or illegally alters the actions of the fielder in the immediate act of making a play on her.
 - b. Article 14; she remains on her feet and maliciously crashes into a defensive player. Malicious contact supersedes obstruction.
- 3) Stealing is allowed (all bases) once the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.
- 4) Dropped third strike is in effect. The batter becomes the runner on the third strike if the pitch is not caught before touching the ground if
 - a. 1st base is unoccupied before the pitch or
 - b. 1st base is occupied with two outs.

SAFETY

- 1) Pitchers are required to wear a facemask. All other players are required to wear a facemask.
- 2) Batting helmets are required to have a full facemask.
- 3) Proper Catchers equipment is required.
- 4) No metal cleats
- 5) On Deck Hitter must be at the Batter's back.
- 6) At any point prior to or during a game that lightning is present the game shall be delayed 30 minutes.
- 7) All coaches, players, umpires, and spectators must exit the park to their vehicles if lightning occurs.
- 8) Each time there is an occurrence of lightning the 30 minutes starts over.
- 9) If lightning occurs prior to game time, there shall be only (2) 30-minute attempts at starting the game.
- 10) Home team has discretion on calling a game if weather is severe enough which then falls upon the home team town representative to relay this to Yorkville Recreation Staff.
- 11) If lightning occurs during game play, there shall be only (1) 30-minute attempt to restart the game.

POST SEASON TOURNAMENT

- 1) The matchups and field location will be determined by the final regular season standings as shown on QuickScores.com
- 2) The better seeded team on the bracket will be the host up until the finals game.
- 3) The higher seed shall be home team.
- 4) No new inning time limit is still in effect.
 - a) If the score is tied at the end of the previous inning, game will proceed with the International Tie Breaker play until there is a winner. 1TB = game will begin with 0 outs and a player on 2nd base. The batter will begin with a 1 and 1 count to begin the inning.

