



## Softball Rules – Ages 9 and Up



1. There will be a 5-run limit per inning or 3 outs.
2. No new inning will be started after 1 hour 20 minutes or at any point in which mathematical elimination applies.
3. Catching equipment is mandatory for catchers.
4. Base distances: 60 ft for all ages.
5. Pitching distances:
  - a. 9/10 is 35 ft.
  - b. 11/12 is 40 ft.
  - c. 13 & Up is 43 ft.
6. Dizzy Dean Fast Pitch softball rules will be followed.
7. Rule books will be provided by recreation department.
8. Coaches are responsible for making sure that all rules are followed.
9. Ages 9 thru 12 play 6 innings and 13 and older play 7 innings.
10. Each player must play at least 2 full defensive innings by the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> inning. Free defensive substitution after the 4<sup>th</sup> inning.
11. Each team will bat a continuous line-up with the exception of a player who cannot or will not participate because of injury or other reason.
12. Number of defensive players:
  - a. 9/10 and 11/12 age groups will have 10 defensive players.
  - b. 13/14 and up age groups will have 9 defensive players
  - c. A team can play with 8 players; however, the 9<sup>th</sup> batter will be considered an out.
13. Dizzy Dean Fast Pitch bat restrictions will apply.
14. An 11" core 47 ball will be used for 9/10 division
15. A 12" core 47 ball will be used for 11 years and older.
16. Scorebooks will be provided for each team. The home team will be the official book. Visiting team will keep the scoreboard – person keeping scoreboard must be over the age of 16.
17. The tie breaker rule will be used if a game is tied at the end of regulation play or time limit.
  - a. Visiting team will start the new inning with a base runner on 2<sup>nd</sup> base and with **2 outs**.
  - b. The base runner will be the last batter from the previous inning.
  - c. The home team will do the same in the bottom half of the inning.
  - d. This procedure will be followed in each inning until a winner is determined.



## Softball Rules – Ages 9 and Up



18. Championship is determined by the following:
  - a. Overall season record.
  - b. Head to head competition.
  - c. Runs Allowed - Determined by the sum of points during all regular season games.
  - d. Coin Flip – Both coaches must have the opportunity to be present.
19. Two unexcused absences from practice may result in the suspension of one game. Park will decide if the absence is excused or not.
20. If a youth sports player is not present before the start of his/her game, the coach will add him/her to the bottom of the lineup/roster and will only be required to play him/her one-half of the mandatory minimum for that sport.
21. All players, coaches, parents, and spectators should be familiar with the Park Rules, Playing Rules, Zero Tolerance Policy, and Parent Code of Ethics for all sports and activities in which they participate. Violations of any rules, policies, or code of ethics could result in ejection, fine, suspension, or any combination of the three.

**\*\*\*RULE VIOLATIONS MAY RESULT IN FORFEIT OF GAME\*\*\***

**ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED!!!**