

Pittsylvania County Girls Softball League

U-8 SOFTBALL RULES

I. Overall Rules

- A. All players must provide a birth certificate in order to play.**
- B. The AGE cutoff date for softball will be January 1st of the current year.**
- C. CYL/PCGSL has no boundary restriction. All are welcome to participate**
- D. There will be no refunds of registration fees without a doctor's excuse.**
- E. No one can request to be paired up with a coach or another player (unless they are siblings), except T-Ball.**
- F. Everyone is required to help with the fundraising program of the season.**

II. Playing Rules

- A. All games will be played according to the official PCGSL softball rules.**
- B. Players for all ages will go into a draft if there are two teams in their area. The draft is to distribute the talent throughout the league. The draft process is a blind draft and subject to change upon discretion of the Board.**
- C. No player wearing cast constructed on any kind of material (either hard or soft) will be allowed to play. Also any other player that has been declared ineligible by a physician for any other medical illness or condition MUST provide a signed release stating that the player may resume play!**
- D. All batters and those warming up at bat must wear a protective helmet with face guard.**
- E. Only the stamped current ASA/NSA bats are allowed.**
- F. Catchers must wear a protective helmet and mask during all practice and games. This includes any player warming up the pitcher.**
- G. Players suspended from school will not be allowed to practice or play in games until the suspension is lifted. Such players may dress out in full uniform and sit with the team in support. The Players name and number will be given to opposing team prior to start of game.**
- H. Each player in all league divisions MUST not sit the bench more than 1 inning consecutively.**
- I. All line ups will be a continuous batting order.**
- J. All games at Crider Field MUST be completed by 9:45 pm. Lights MUST be turned off by 10:00 pm per town ordinance.**

III. Team Requirements

Revised: 09/14/18

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- A. The Home team will provide one person to keep the official scorebook. This person must sit at the designated scorer's table.
- B. All players, managers, and coaches MUST wear their uniform and/or shirts during play. Player's shirts must be tucked in before entering play. No jewelry of any kind can be worn during a game.
- C. No one will be allowed in the dugout during the game EXCEPT the Manager, Coaches, and Players. NO PARENTS!
- D. Players may NOT leave the dugout during the game unless it is an emergency.
- E. Food is NOT allowed in the dugout. Drinks are allowed but MUST be in place at the beginning of the game.

IV. Coaches and Managers

- A. Potential Managers and Coaches will be nominated by the League President and approved by the Board of Directors.
- B. ALL League Managers and Coaches MUST promote and maintain good sportsmanship at all times. Including practices, games, and/or league functions. Managers and Coaches MUST treat all League officials and umpires with courtesy and respect.
- C. Upon the ejection from a game, from an umpire, all persons are required to leave the premises and can stay in the parking until the game has ended.
- D. If a coach is ejected from a game they will be required to sit the next game.
- E. Managers and Coaches MUST refrain from the use of ALL tobacco products outside of the designated area.
- F. Managers/Coaches may be asked to line the field prior to each game.
- G. Managers/Coaches are required to remove trash from their respective dugouts after their game is complete.

V. League Discipline

Players, Managers, and Coaches are expected to maintain a high standard of conduct and sportsmanship. Enforcement of playing rules at league games is the sole responsibility of the umpire(s) who have been assigned to the game. Enforcement of additional league conduct rules is the joint responsibility of the umpires assigned to the game and any board members present at the game. The Player Agent MUST be informed of any incident regarding a player.

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- A. If a Manager, Coach, Player, or Spectator is ejected from a game for any violations, he/she **MUST** leave the premises, but may stay in the parking lot to pick up child. Failure to act accordingly may result in the forfeiture of the game and suspension from the league for the rest of the season.
- B. If a Manager, Coach, Player, or Spectator is ejected from a second game during the same season, the manager, coach, player, or spectator may be suspended from league play pending a hearing with the Board of Directors.

VI. Miscellaneous Provisions

- A. The League President and Player Agent reserve the right to move a player from one division to another based on the player's ability or lack thereof.
- B. The use of ALL tobacco products is prohibited except in the designated area.
- C. Any situation that is not covered in these bylaws will be rules upon by the Board of Directors in the best interests of the League.
- D. **Bylaws Violations**
 - 1. The Board of Directors will review any violations of the bylaws.
 - 2. The Board of Directors may take any action that is deemed necessary.
 - 3. The Board of Directors decision is FINAL.
- E. **Injuries**
 - 1. The injured player will be removed from the game.
 - 2. A substitute player **MUST** be entered.
 - 3. The injured player will **NOT** be allowed to return to the game until the problem has been corrected. If any part of the player's uniform /clothing is visibly soiled, it **MUST** be changed before returning to the game.
 - 4. Managers/Coaches and anyone else involved with the injured player should exercise **COMMON SENSE**.

VII. 8-U Rules

- 1. No player under the age of six (6) at the start of the current season will be allowed to participate in this league without permission.
- 2. The manager **MUST** report any questions of the player's ability to play to the Player agent.
- 3. The players should arrive to the field at least 15 minutes before the game is scheduled to begin.
- 4. Cleats are required for play. Metal/Spikes are **NOT** allowed.

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5. Each team will have a Manager (Head Coach), two (2) Coaches (Assistant Coaches) and one (1) team Parent.
6. Two Coaches will be allowed as base coaches, and the remaining coaches/team parent MUST remain in dugout.
7. All four (4) coaches for the defensive team will be allowed on field to help assist players.
8. Baseline distance is 60 feet.
9. The pitching distance is thirty (30) feet.
10. Up to four (4) players are allowed in the outfield.
11. Players MUST be rotated in defensive play every other inning. Players may not sit out more than one consecutive inning.
12. Field positions may consist of a maximum ten (10) players. A team must field a minimum of seven (7) roster players or forfeit a game.
13. **A team may borrow up to two (2) players from the same age division or below. No borrowed player will be allowed to pitch, catch, or play the infield. The borrowed player will bat last in the lineup.**
14. The batting order will consist of ALL players present.
15. Any offensive coach will pitch to his/her players.
16. There will be a five (5) pitch limit per batter. Only three (3) swings will be allowed.
17. If an Offensive Coach interferes with the play of the ball, it is considered dead. Batter will be called and runners will NOT advance.
18. If a Defensive Coach interferes with the play of the ball, it is considered dead, batter is awarded first, and runners will advance.
19. The player playing the position of the Pitcher shall keep both feet within the sixteen (16) foot diameter pitching circle until the ball is hit.
20. In the interest of saving time a courtesy runner for the catcher only may be used. The last recorded out is to be the courtesy runner!
21. **No stealing will be allowed. Once the Coach has released the ball runners are allowed to take three (3) steps off the base.**
22. No player can steal Home on a pass to the catcher.
23. When the ball reaches the pitchers circle, all plays are then considered dead.
24. The "in-filed fly" rule is NOT in effect, the ball remain live with opportunity to get an out or score a run.
25. Drop third strike is not allowed.
26. Outfielders must play behind baseline.
27. A game will consist of six (6) innings if time allows.

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28. **NO NEW INNING WILL BEGIN AFTER AN HOUR & TWENTY MINUTES**
29. There will be free substitution and re-entry.
30. Only five (5) runs are allowed to be scored per inning.
31. In all other situations not covered by these rules, the VHSL rules will apply.

**FROM THIS DATE FORWARD EVERY DEFENSIVE PLAYER WILL BE
REQUIRED TO WEAR A FACE MASK AT ALL TIMES!**