

Southtowns Girls Softball League

7-9 Rules of Play

*Revised 3/9/11

*Revised 4/16/14

*Revised 5/4/15

* Revised 4/22/16

NSA RULES ARE IN EFFECT WITH THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING

1. Fast pitch with 10 defensive players. A team must start a game at 6:15pm sharp if they have 8 players present. Teams with less than 8 players will be granted a 10 minute grace period. If however, they still cannot field at least 8 players after the grace period, they will forfeit the game.
2. Free substitution at all defensive positions.
3. Defense may not station more than 6 players in the infield (including pitcher & catcher.)
4. Pitching distance shall be 32 feet and base paths 60 feet.
5. Pitchers may pitch no more that 3 innings per game. One pitch or more in an inning counts as an inning pitched.
6. All present players shall be in the batting order at all times.
7. The offensive team can bat no more than 12 players in an inning. When the twelfth player completes her at bat, the inning is over. This rule is waived in the 6th inning of every game. Both teams will bat until 3 outs are made (unless the home team is in the lead at the beginning or during the bottom of the 6th, in which case the game is over)
8. Bunting is not allowed.
9. NO WALKS
10. NO HIT BY PITCH. However, during player pitch innings, if the pitcher hits the batter with the pitch, the coach will finish pitching to the batter for that plate appearance. The pitcher may then resume pitching to the next batter.
11. **NO MERCY RULE IS IN EFFECT.**

PITCHING RULES

The following rules apply for the entire season

Innings 1 and 2 ...Girls will pitch. If after 6 pitches, the batter has not made an out or bats the ball in play, the coach will relieve the pitcher and pitch to the batter until she makes an out or bats the ball in play. The coach must pitch from the pitcher's rubber.

Innings 3, 4, 5 ...Coach pitch only. Coaches pitch from the rubber and pitch to batters until they make an out or bat the ball in play. The coach must pitch from the pitcher's rubber.

STARTING the 3rd full week of JUNE

Innings 1, 2, 3 ...Girls will pitch. If after 6 pitches, the batter has not made an out or bats the ball in play, the coach will relieve the pitcher and pitch to the batter until she makes an out or bats the ball in play. The coach must pitch from the pitcher's rubber.

Innings 4 and 5 ...Coach pitch only. Coaches pitch from the rubber and pitch to batters until they make an out or bat the ball in play. The coach must pitch from the pitcher's rubber.

12. A player can only pitch 2 innings per game and 3 innings per week
13. No stealing is allowed. A player may not leave the base until the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. Players leaving early or taking more than 8-foot leadoffs will be called out by the umpire and a dead ball will be called.
14. No balks will be called.
15. Runners shall advance only on a hit ball. Runners shall stop advancing when the ball is returned to the infield. The infield is considered inside the base paths. The ball does not have to be in possession of a player.
16. No infield fly rule.
17. Sliding is allowed but feet first only. Avoidable collisions will result in the runner being called out on the first offense. If it happens a second time by the same runner, the runner will be ejected from the game.

18. Benches and all playing areas will be kept in good order and clear of all persons except players, coaches, scorers and on bat person.
19. Site-specific ground rules will be covered by the umpire before each game begins.
20. Umpires will automatically call base runners out for missed bases. No appeal plays.
21. No advancing on overthrows to any base.

7-9 League Regulations

1. Players must register with a participating association. Teams should be assembled with parity in mind.
2. Player ages are 7-9, with a cut-off date of January 1, 2011.
3. All batters and base runners must wear helmets w/ facemasks.
4. Host association will provide bases and game balls. The ball will be 11-inch soft compression softballs.
5. All trophies and awards are at the discretion of each association on their own.
6. Host association must provide and pay for the umpires. Associations are also responsible for training their umpires as well.
7. Every girl who arrives by the start of the second inning must play at least three defensive innings and must bat at least once in a five-inning game.
8. Games will be played twice a week on weeknights and will start at 6:15pm SHARP. Coaches are responsible for having their team ready to **begin** @ 6:15pm.
9. A regulation game will consist of 5 innings. If the score is tied at the end of six innings, extra innings may be played provided no new inning starts after 8:15pm. If the game is tied after the 8:15pm curfew, the game will go in the books as a tie.
10. A legal game consists of 4 innings. If the home team is ahead, 3 ½ innings shall constitute a game. If rain forces the curtailment of a game after 4 innings have been played the score reverts to the last completed inning. Games will be called by the umpire at the first sign of thunder or lightning.
11. During player pitch innings, if the pitcher hits the batter with the pitch, the coach will finish pitching to the batter for that plate appearance. The pitcher will then resume pitching to the next batter.
12. **Rainouts / rescheduling games:**
 - The home team's coach of a rained out game must ...
 - a. Find a date that work for both teams.
 - b. Confirm diamond availability w/ his or her league director.
 - c. Reschedule within 14 days of cancellation.
 - d. Inform Ed Warhol once the game is officially rescheduled.
13. Good sportsmanship should be displayed at all times. Only the head coach may speak with the umpire during the game.

THUNDER & LIGHTNING POLICY:

*HJBSL follows the NYSPHSAA policy on thunder and lightning... Thunder and lightning necessitates that contests be suspended. The occurrence of thunder and/or lightning is not subject to interpretation or discussion - thunder is thunder, lightning is lightning.

*When thunder is heard and/or when lightning is seen, the following procedures should be adhered to by the Field Supervisor OR the Head Umpire (in the absence of a Field Supervisor).

a) Suspend play and direct participants to go to shelter, a building normally occupied by the public or if a building is unavailable, participants should go inside a vehicle with a solid metal top (e.g. bus, van, car).

b) Do not permit people to stand under or near a tree; and have all stay away from poles, antennas, towers and underground watering systems.

c) After thunder and/or lightning have left the area, and wait **30 minutes** after the last boom is heard or strike is seen before resuming play or competition.

Disciplinary Action: As the agency which administers this league, The Village of Hamburg Recreation Dept. reserves the right to conduct investigations and hand out disciplinary actions if it sees fit. 2014 league administrator is Nick Gallardo (312-7461)