

## Crawford County League 12u Softball Rules

1. NFHS Rules will be observed unless otherwise stated within these bylaws.
2. All games will be scheduled in collaboration by the representatives of each respective league (Bucyrus, Crestline, and Galion). Games will be played as scheduled unless cancelled prior to the game by the league representatives or during a game by agreement of the coaches due to inclement weather. There will be a make-up week for cancelled games between the end of the season and the tournament unless those games do not affect seeding, in which case the games will not be made up.
3. Lightning and thunder delays will be observed. At first sight of lightning or sound of thunder there will be a 20 minute delay but not to exceed 30 minutes which will result in game cancellation. Coaches will not risk player safety by playing in unsafe conditions.
4. Emergency medical forms **MUST** be present with the coach at all league functions. Birth verification must be presented within 24 hours by the league representative if requested by the opposing team. In such case, if the player in question is found to be outside of the age limit or not on the roster, the team in violation will forfeit that contest as well as the consecutive one. At no time shall any team field or any roster contain a player over the playing age of 12. Age will be determined by the child's age as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.
5. Fields are to be prepped by the home/host coach a ½ hour prior to the start of the game. Each team will have 15 minutes of infield practice.
6. Home/host coach of the last game of the day will be responsible for field cleaning/maintenance. The coach of each team will be responsible for the cleanup of trash in their dugout as well as the stands of their respective team's side.
7. Each team will provide 1 new game ball prior to the start of every scheduled game. There will be a total of 2 game balls.
8. Each scheduled team will split the cost of the umpires for that game.
9. All games will be 6 complete innings or a 2 hour time limit whichever comes first. Game times will start at 6pm during the week and this will exclude tournament or Saturdays if scheduled.
10. A game must start with at least 9 players on each roster. In the event one team is unable to field 9 players the game may still be played with 8 players. 8 player games will be considered a scrimmage and will not count towards your tournament seeding. There will be an automatic out for the 9<sup>th</sup> batter in this instance. A game will not be played with less than 8 players and will result in cancellation.
11. Teams may play with a rover but will not be required to field a roving position. If the rover is fielded the makeup will consist of 6 players in the infield and 4 players in the outfield positions.
12. All girls must play at least 3 innings per game.
13. Both teams will be batting all of the girls on their roster for the entire game and will have free substitution defensively. Injured players will not be required to bat if they cannot take the field defensively. Once a player is on the field defensively, she is to play the entire inning unless injury occurs. No substituting during an inning unless there is an injury.
14. Stealing will be high school rules.
15. Players are encouraged to slide at home plate if a play is being made. The umpire may call a runner out if they do not slide. Usually 1 warning is given, but is up to the discretion of the umpire.
16. Pitches are not to be corrected during the game. Coaches need to approach the player after the game or between innings. As long as a girl starts with a foot on the rubber it is a pitch. Pitchers can pitch consecutive games.
17. Home team coach will be responsible to report the win/loss game outcome to a designated league representative in order to track your league record. League records will be used to determine the seeding for the end of season tournament. Tournament will be single elimination.
18. A half "inning" will be 3 outs or 5 runs, whichever comes first for the first 5 innings. The 6<sup>th</sup> inning will be 3 outs and unlimited runs. If the home team is leading after 5 1/2 innings the game will end. A run rule will be in effect. Run rule consists of 15 run lead by the bottom of the 4th inning or a 10 run lead by the bottom of the 5th inning. The run rule will end the game.

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19. Home team book will be considered the correct book in any instance of discrepancy.

20. No metal cleats will be permitted. All bats shall be ASA certified for youth/fast pitch softball.

**21. UMPIRES CALLS ARE FINAL AND ARE NOT TO BE ARGUED DURING GAME TIME. COACH MAY ASK FOR 2<sup>ND</sup> OPINION FROM 2<sup>ND</sup> UMPIRE IF AVAILABLE.**