

# 2013 DeKane Final

## DeKane Conference Softball League – 10U Rules (3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grade) (Updated 4/16/2013)

All rules & regulations shall follow ASA except as modified, clarified or altered as follows.

**General Rules-** Home team occupies the 3rd base dugout. Home team is responsible for field preparation. Home team decides if the field is playable. Home team coach is responsible for rescheduling make up games. Make up games must be scheduled before the end of the regular season Coaches are responsible for their players and parents conduct during a game. Each team is to supply one game ball for each game.

**Playing Field** - - Area behind backstop is off limits to everyone. No batter may warm up outside the on deck circle. On deck batter must be backside of the player up to bat. Only 1st and 3rd base coaches allowed on the field. Pitchers plate distance from back of home plate - 35 feet. Distance between bases – 60 feet. Safety base to be used at first base.

**Equipment** - MUST BE ADHERED TO DURING PRACTICES AND GAMES.

Balls: 11" ASA approved FP optic yellow.

Bats: Official Softball Only.

Catchers: Full catchers equipment to be worn (helmet, mask, throat protector, shin guards, chest protector)

Batting Helmets: must have face masks and chin straps. All batters, on deck batters and runners must wear helmets while on field and when taking warm up pitches. If the batter/base runner intentionally knocks off her helmet, the umpire may call her out.

Uniforms- All players must wear their official team uniforms with their shirts tucked in. Wearing of jewelry is prohibited unless it is religious or medical. Then it must be taped down for safety. Metal spikes are prohibited.

**Players** - A player can only play on one team and one town within the league.

Requirement - Field 9 players. Outfielders must play 10' beyond baseline. Min 8 players are needed to play.

Bringing up a player - A team may bring up players from a lower division if the team will have less than 9 players on the roster available for the game. The player being brought up cannot pitch, must play outfield and will bat last in the lineup. Players of questionable eligibility must be able to produce verification within 24 hours or game will be forfeited. **No called up player may play in the field if a rostered player is on the bench.**

**Playing Time/Positions-** Players cannot play more than 2 consecutive innings at any one position with the exception of the pitcher and catcher, who can play no more than 3 innings combined at this position (innings do not have to be back to back) (Pitching 1 pitch to 1 batter constitutes a full inning). Players cannot sit out more than 3 innings in any game except for disciplinary reasons. Defensive players may be moved in and out of position freely including pitchers.

**The Game** - Home team is to take the field for a 15 minute practice 30 minutes prior to the game. Visiting team takes the field for practice 15 minutes before the game. Games are to start on time with no inning to start after **2 hours** from scheduled start time. **If field limitations require that the game time limit be reduced both coaches and the umpire must be aware of it before the start of the game.** The declared last inning must be a unanimous decision between both head coaches and the umpire. 4 run max per inning. Unlimited runs for the last decided inning, and extra inning. 1 extra inning in case of a tie, for this inning only the international tie breaker rule will apply. If no one scores the game will end in a tie. Extra inning is unlimited scoring. A completed game is 3 1/2 innings if the home team has the lead. If the game is suspended prior to a completed game, when the game is replayed, the same runner shall be put on the same base and the same batter with same batting order shall resume until the game has been declared complete. No girl can be walked in. If bases are loaded and the pitcher walks the next batter, the batters coach will take over for the pitcher and pitch until the batter either strikes out or hits the ball.

**Scoring** - 4 runs per inning max. Unlimited runs for the last declared inning, and extra innings.

**Pitching** - ASA rules for pitching motion will be followed.

Delivery - The ball must be thrown underhand. Both feet must remain in contact with the pitcher's plate at all times prior to the forward step.

Strike Zone - Over the plate and between the front of batters arm pits and knees.

Pitchers - A pitcher may pitch a max of 3 innings per game. Pitching to 1 batter in an inning will be considered a full inning. A pitcher returning to pitch in the same inning will receive no warm up pitches.

**Batting** -

Batting order- A continuous batting order shall be used by all teams. If a batter is hurt and cannot continue, the next batter takes her count. She may come back to play when ready. Opposing team must be notified.

Batter's Box - Batters must stay in the batter's box at all times during swing. The batter is out if they step on or in front of home plate during the pitchers delivery.

Bunting - Allowed.

**Fake bunting then swinging (slashing) is not allowed.**

Foul Balls - Unlimited with 2 strikes.

Dropped 3rd Strike - Not in effect.

**Base Running** -

Stealing - Not allowed.

Pass Balls - Not allowed.

Lead Offs - Allowed after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. Runners leaving the base too soon will be called out.

Sliding- Optional but runners must avoid contact when a play is made at 2nd, 3rd, or home or they will be called out.

Out of Play Ball - One base beyond the base being approached will be awarded.

Baseline - Runner is called out when running more than 3' outside of the baseline.

Infield Fly Rule - Not in effect.

Continuous Walk - Not in effect.

Dead Ball - Play is dead and runners cannot advance once any infielder has possession of the ball in the pitchers circle. If the runner maintains continual movement to the next base without stopping they may advance at their own risk; if the runner stops at any time they must return to the previous base.

Pick Off - All runners can advance on "pick off" play.

## **Umpires –**

Decisions - Decisions by all umps are final. There are no provisions. Appeals must be made prior to the next pitched ball. Only head coaches can address an umpire.

Interference - Base runner is out if interfering with a fielder attempting to field a batted ball.

Thrown Bats - Upon the umps judgment, a thrown bat will result in the batter being called out.

Weather - The ump will, in consulting with the coaches, suspend a game if lightning or the assumption of lightning is present.

**Misc-** No foreign material (i.e. hitting devices) on the fence lines during a game.

**Safety** - A game will be called if there is visible lightning in the vicinity. All girls must be removed to an area of safety. COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROCEDURE: A player or coach who is bleeding or who has an open wound shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment has been administered. If medical care or treatment can be administered in a reasonable amount of time, the individual does not have to leave the game. The length of time that is considered reasonable is the umps/coaches judgment. The re-entry rule applies to players taken out of the game for this rule. If there is an excessive amount of blood on any part of the uniform, that part of the uniform shall be changed before that individual may participate.

**Code of Conduct** - COACHES/players/parents/guests, regardless of residence, town association, and/or prior completion of any other Code of Conduct, will be held responsible for their behavior at any field, or location being sponsored by DeKane Conference Softball League. Negative behavior that cannot be resolved within their organization will be brought forth to the Board of the DeKane Conference Softball League. If the infraction(s) is not resolved to the satisfaction of each town's representative, then a citation may be imposed on that organization as a whole. Three (3) infractions in one (1) season will result in suspension of the **entire** organization from play within the DeKane Conference Softball League