



## **2021 Fall Ball Playing Rules SOFTBALL – 8 and Under Division**

***Fall Ball season is for instructional and developmental purposes. WINNING IS NOT THE PRIORITY!!! No league standings will be maintained. No League awards will be given out at the end of the season. Many of the players in this division are playing on an organized sports team for their first time ever. As a coaching staff your priority are training and assisting your players to learn how to play and to have fun. Team spirit and good sportsmanship will be emphasized. Positive coaching is to be used.***

### **DIVISION MAKE-UP**

- Players of League Age 7 and 8, as per PONY rules. League age is players age as of December 31, 2021.
- The team roster shall not include more than eight of the older age players.

### **PLAYING FIELD**

- Distance between bases is 50 feet.
- The pitcher's plate is 30 feet from home plate.
- Fields will be marked with a circle surround the pitcher's mound, 5 feet in radius / 10 feet in diameter.
- Fields will be marked with 10-foot horizontal lines at 15 feet beyond 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> base. This determines where the infield ends, and the outfield begins.

### **EQUIPMENT**

- 10-inch soft softball

### **GAME DURATION**

- Games will be drop dead at one hour and 20 minutes (no matter inning it is).
- Each team will be allowed maximum 5 runs per team / per inning, or 3 outs, whichever comes first.
- No mercy rule in effect.
- No standings will be kept.

### **PITCHING**

- Maximum three innings per game.
- Player Pitcher: The pivot foot must be in contact of the pitcher's plate to begin deliver. The non-pivot foot may be in contact with or behind the plate and allows the pitcher to step back with the non-pivot foot, providing that the step-back begins prior to start the pitch by separating the hands. The pivot foot is the right foot for a right-handed pitcher, left foot for a left-handed pitcher. **Penalty:** 1<sup>st</sup> time warning all others will be a ball.
- As soon as a pitcher delivers one pitch to a batter the pitcher shall be considered as having pitched in one inning.



