BHBL Recreational Girls Softball Guidelines - Revised 4/5/2023



INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION

<u>Offense</u>

- 1) The batting order will consist of all the girls in attendance for that night's game.
- 2) Girls will be pitched to by an adult coach/parent. A girl must be present in the pitching circle to field defensively.
- 3) Girls will receive no more than 5 pitches per at bat unless the 5th pitch is batted foul. After the 5th pitch the batter is out and no walks are allowed.
- 4) Any batter reaching three strikes will be called out.
- 5) Base runners will advance one base pre hit, unless the ball is batted out of the infield. Girls may then advance, at risk of being put out, until the ball is returned to the pitcher.
- 6) An inning will end when either three outs are made by the defense or the batting team has batted all their players. Strikeouts are not included as outs.
- 7) There is no stealing or advancing on overthrows. Once the ball is out of play runner must stop at the next open base.

<u>Defense</u>

- 1) All girls on the defensive team will be on the field consisting of:
 - a) one girl at each of the following positions: pitcher, catcher, first base, second base, short stop, third base.
 - b) all other girls will play on the outside edge of the infield.
- 2) Full catcher's gear is mandatory for all girls playing the catcher's position. We recommend using an adult coach/parent to back up/assist to speed game play.

GENERAL RULES

- 1) 11" Safety balls will be used in all games.
- 2) At the first sign of visible lightning or sound of thunder, all play must be suspended for a period of thirty minutes. There are no exceptions.
- 3) No jewelry will be worn on field. All hair past shoulder length must be tied back.
- 4) There will be no scorekeeping in this division. All games will end in a tie.
- 5) No new inning should be started after one hour and twenty minutes.
- 6) Coaches (limit of 2) are encouraged to be on the field at all times to instruct the girls.

7) The girls and coaches will line up at home plate to shake hands after the game. Both teams are responsible cleaning/picking up.

8) Fielding masks are strongly recommended for all players.

Remember, above all, that this is a fun time for girls to learn the game of softball.



INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION - ADDENDUM

In order to better prepare our players for the changes at the next level, the following adjustments will be in effect for the final four games of the season:

Each Batter Will Receive Three (3) pitches From A Player-Pitcher. The Batter Then Gets Three (3) pitches From A Coach-Pitcher. All Batters Reaching Three (3) Strikes, Combined, Will Be Called Out. If The Ball Is Not Put Into Play After These Six (6) pitches, The Batter Is Out. No Walks Are Allowed. Again, to encourage batters to swing, strikeouts will not be counted as outs.