NORTHWEST GIRLS SOFTBALL-FASTPITCH
LEAGUE RULES

Amended September 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1: LEAGUE INFORMATION.....1
SECTION 2: LEAGUE MISSION STATEMENT 1
SECTION 3: BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1
Board Overview 1
Board Member Requirements 1
President 2
Vice President 2
Player Advocate 2
Secretary 3
Treasurer 3
Concession Director 3
Division Representatives 4
Equipment/Field Manager 4
Scheduler 4
Uniforms/Pictures/Trophies/Medals 4
SECTION 4: FINANCES 5
Reimbursements.....5
Sponsorships and Fundraisers.....5
SECTION 5: LEAGUE AGE STRUCTURE 5
SECTION 6: PLAYER REGISTRATIONS 6
SECTION 7: HEAD COACHES, COACHING STAFF, AND COACHING VACANCIES.....6
USA Softball Registration and ACE Certification 6
Coaching Vacancies 7
Head Coaches 7
Coaching Staff 7
SECTION 8: PLAYER EVALUATIONS AND PLAYER LIST.....7
SECTION 9: PLAYER VACANCIES 8
SECTION 10: TEAM SELECTION 8
6u Division – League Age 4-6 Years Old 8
8u Through 18u Divisions 8
Draft 9
Classification Guidelines 10
Trades.....10
Known “B/Gold” Player, Pitcher, and Catcher Definitions 10
Pitchers and Catchers Selected in the “B/Gold” Draft 10
Draft Day Procedure 11
All Pitchers and Catchers Will Be Designated Prior to the Draft 11
SECTION 11: LEAGUE AND PARK GROUND RULES 12
Prohibited Items 12
Field Prep and Cleanup 12
Scheduled Games and Postponement of Games 12
Game Length 12
Team Snack Shack Requirements 12
SECTION 12: LOCAL DIVISION RULES 13

Practices and Games 13
Divisions Required to Report Pitcher and Catcher (P/C) Outs 13
8u-16u Division Rules 13
Game Time and Pitcher Warmups.....13
Inning Run Limits 14
Run Ahead/Mercy Rules 13
Pitching Distance 14
Uniforms 14
Gameplay 14
Rules for Pitchers and Catchers.....14
Pitcher and Catcher Limits – In-League Games 14
Pitcher and Catcher Limits – Inter-League Games 15
Recording Outs – Special Rules for Pitcher and Catcher 15
Courtesy Runner Rule 15
Specific Rules for 8u Only 16
Bunting 16
Walks 16
Sliding 16
Stealing 16
SECTION 13: PLAYER EQUIPMENT 16
FaceMasks.....16
Helmets 16
Cleats 16
Clothing 16
League Equipment Borrowed by A Head Coach 16

APPENDICIES

APPENDIX A: DRAFT ORDER OUTLINE 17
Draft Order Outline.....18
APPENDIX B: DIVISION RULES 19
8u Rules Updated September 2025 20
10u Rules Updated September 2025.....24
12u Rules Updated September 2025.....27
14u Rules Updated September 2025.....30
16/18u Rules Updated September 2025.....33
APPENDIX C: CODES OF CONDUCT 36
Coaches Code of Conduct Updated July 2023 37
Players and Parents Code of Conduct Updated July 2023.....38
APPENDIX D: PENALITIES AND SANCTIONS 39-42

SECTION 1 - LEAGUE INFORMATION

League Organization:	Northwest Girls Softball-Fastpitch
Mailing Address:	P.O. Box 34721, Las Vegas, Nevada 89133
League Phone Number:	See the League's website.
League Email Address:	NorthwestGirlsSoftball.nwgsvegas.com
League Website:	www.northwestgirlssoftball.com
Board of Directors:	See the League's website for a current listing.

SECTION 2 - LEAGUE MISSION STATEMENT

Northwest Girls Softball (the "League") is a non-profit organization run solely by volunteers, whose mission is to provide an opportunity for our community's children to learn the game of softball in a positive and safe environment, and develop an understanding of fairness, sportsmanship, and teamwork toward each individual.

SECTION 3 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The League Bylaws set forth by the Board shall be evaluated on a yearly basis for possible amendments.

Board Overview

This section outlines each of the Board positions and the responsibilities associated with each position. All the Board positions listed shall have the right to vote on any Board issue so long as it is not a conflict of interest to their respective position.

Board Member Requirements

- It is the responsibility of each Member to attend every Board Meeting.
- Each board Member shall assist with the construction and cleanup of Opening Day and End-of-Season ceremonies.
- Each Board Member shall participate in the League's semi-annual fundraiser(s).
- Each Board Member and committee chair will cover one night at the field on a bi-weekly schedule. Schedule accommodations may be made at the discretion of the league President and the Secretary.
- Assist the Vice President with special events as needed.
- Any Board Member with at least three (3) unexcused absences for meetings set forth will be subject to removal from the Board by a majority vote of the Board.
- Persons who are on probation or suspension with any NV youth sports league or association are not permitted to run for or serve on the Northwest Girls Softball Board of Directors in any capacity.
- Persons and those in their immediate family who have filed criminal actions against the Northwest Girls Softball organization, persons who have been previously removed from the board and persons who have resigned before their term was completed must receive a ⅔ majority vote of the sitting board before being eligible to run for or serve on the board in any capacity. Persons who are elected or appointed and later found to have been ineligible at the time of winning the elected seat or being appointed must submit an immediate resignation.
- Vote on matters before the Board so long as it is not a conflict of interest to his or her position or involves a matter regarding his or her own child.
- Carry a Nevada Food Handler Safety Card.
- Each board member shall keep all working documents related to league business on the League's Google Drive with a minimum of viewable access for all board members. For example, but not limited to bank account ledgers, evaluation forms, draft documents, and uniform order forms.

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President

The President shall:

- Conduct the affairs of the League and execute the policies established by the Board.
- Communicate to the Board such matters as deemed appropriate and make such suggestions as may tend to promote the welfare of the League. Present a report in cooperation with the Vice President about the condition of the League at the annual meeting.
- Conduct the League in conformity with the policies, principles, rules, and regulations of USA Softball and USA Softball of Nevada, as agreed to under conditions of the charter issued to the League.
- Designate in writing other officers, if necessary, to have power to make and execute for/and in the name of the League such contracts and leases they may receive, and which have had prior approval from the Board.
- Investigate complaints, irregularities, and conditions detrimental to the League and report thereon to the Board as circumstances warrant.
- Represent the League at meetings.
- Chair with cooperation from the Vice President at all Board meetings.

Vice President

The Vice President shall:

- In the absence or disability of the President, conduct and execute all affairs of the League. When acting, the Vice President shall have all the powers of the President.
- Organize and implement All-Star Formation with the cooperation of the Player Advocate.
- All communication shall be copied to the President.
- Evaluate disciplinary guidelines. Follow up and investigate all disciplinary matters.
- Coordinate with the President, Player Advocate, and Division Representatives in responding to player-related complaints, disputes, and concerns.

Player Advocate

The Player Advocate shall:

- Review all player applications and confirm age eligibility.
- Coordinate player evaluations.
- Conduct, with the assistance of Division Representatives, the formation of divisions/teams (based on the number of registering players).
- Conduct, with the assistance of the Board and the Draft Committee, the draft each season.
- Record all player transactions and maintain an accurate and up-to-date record thereof.
- Coordinate with Division Representatives and Vice President in responding to player-related and coach-related complaints, disputes, and concerns.
- Coordinate with the Board the transfer or pick up of players for all divisions.
- Prepare All-Star/Tournament team eligibility rosters.
- Organize and implement All-Star formation with the cooperation of the Vice President.
- All communication shall be copied to the President, Vice President, and corresponding Division Representatives.
- Monitor Pitcher and Catcher (P/C) outs all season. This includes going through the P/C spreadsheets monthly verifying that all drafted and/or designated P/C are on track to hit 20% of outs in a "C/Silver" Subdivision and 30% of outs in a "B/Gold" Subdivision by the end of the season.
- Keep a record of all players who tried out as a pitcher or catcher, those who were designated, and those who were drafted as such.

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Secretary

The Secretary shall:

- Be responsible for recording the activities of the League and maintaining the appropriate files and necessary records.
- Coordinate special events as needed.
- Provide copies of minutes to the Board members to be ratified at the next meeting.
- Give notice of all Board meetings to the appropriate members.
- Prepare the annual calendar and update it with the Board at each meeting.
- Notify Members, Directors, Officers, and committee members of their election or appointment.
- Receive and submit player injury forms. Notify respective Division Representatives.
- All communication shall be copied to the President and Vice President.
- Onboard and lead Division Representatives.
- Responsible for all outreach in the league. [ie. VGK, Aviators, UNLV]

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall:

- Keep all financial documents related to the League up to date and viewable for all League Board members on the League's google drive, including but not limited to monthly ledgers, bank statements, and team sponsorship accounts.
- Keep a record and manage all components of team sponsorship funds including providing at minimum bi-weekly reimbursement to coaches for approved team expenses.
- Send out tax donation receipts to all sponsors within two weeks of the conclusion of the end-of-season tournament or by December 31st whichever may come first.
- Receive funds and deposit them into a depository approved by the Board.
- Pay all bills and balance bank statements monthly.
- Keep records of the receipt and disbursement of all League funds.
- The Treasurer shall provide a monthly, and up-to-date financial report and make it available to the Board at each Board meeting.
- Prepare and present an annual financial report to the Board.
- Prepare and submit an annual budget to the Board and be responsible for the proper execution thereof.
- Prepare or manage the League's annual tax filing to the IRS and for submission to the Board of Directors.
- Keep a record of and coordinate all player scholarships, family voluntary repayment schedules, and contracts.
- Present to the Board a financial report and updated ledger at each Board meeting.
- All communication is to be copied to the President.

Concession Director

The Concession Director shall:

- Manage the concession stand and all workers with the assistance of a co-director and coordinate the scheduling of volunteers.
- Be responsible for maintaining the concession stand and meeting all health department regulations.
- Be responsible for opening and closing the concession stand during all scheduled games.
- Select the appropriate volunteers to work at the concession stand.
- Carry a Nevada Food Handler Safety Card.
- Be responsible for ordering food and other items used.
- Organize and train the members of the concessions committee.
- Keep a running tally of expenses and revenue throughout the season. This should be reconciled at the end of each week and given to the treasurer along with any monies that the Snack Bar has taken in.

Division Representatives (6u, 8u, 10u, 12u, 14u, 16/18u)

Division Representatives shall:

- Assist the Player Advocate with all player evaluation dates.
- Serve as the independent evaluator for your assigned division tryouts.
- Assist the Player Advocate with assigned divisions and player promotions.
- Assist the Player Advocate in age eligibility.
- Observe the conduct of Managers and Coaches during practices and games throughout the season and correct any identified concerns.
- Keep abreast of player-related issues including roster changes, vacancies, long-term injuries, etc.
- Distribute and collect important league information to their specific division coaches via email.
- Update scores and pitcher/catcher outs weekly. Scores need to be posted prior to the next game in the division.
- Coordinate receipt of player injury forms with the Secretary.

Equipment/Field Manager

The Equipment/Field Manager shall:

- Maintain a proper inventory of safe equipment as required by USA Softball.
- Order and distribute game balls.
- Be responsible for the ordering, distribution, maintenance, and return of all equipment.
- Assist the City Park Officials and USA Softball for repairs to fields and other improvements.
- Assist with requesting bids for any major upgrades including cost estimates, plans, and timeline of projects and how it will impact the League.
- Supervise maintenance of fields, and report issues to the Board regarding any field maintenance contractor.

Scheduler

The Scheduler shall:

- Create a 12-game schedule for each team in each division. The number of scheduled games may be adjusted prior to each season in consultation with the Board.
- Ensure that schedules are updated when the season is active.
- Schedule and post all practice and games for the season and ensure that schedules are posted on the League/team management program.
- Work with USA Softball and/or field permit holders to secure the use of fields for each season.
- Ensure game and practice schedules are reported to USA Softball in the required time frame for field permits.

Uniforms/Pictures/Trophies/Medals Director

The Uniform/Pictures/Trophies Director shall:

- Organize Closing Ceremonies. This is to include the distribution of all league trophies and medals.
- Solicit and secure multiple bids for league uniforms, team pictures, and placement awards.
- Organize team picture days during the regular season, All-Stars, and B-Select.
- Order plaques for league sponsors.
- Distribute uniforms and pictures with the assistance of available Board members.

SECTION 4 – FINANCES

All funds received, and disbursements made shall be to or from a League account at an FDIC-insured financial institution, as approved by the Board.

Reimbursements

- A receipt is required to be given to the Treasurer for all transactions. A reimbursement request shall be made in writing. Please see the Request for Reimbursement form located on the League's website under Important Documents.
- Board Members needing a reimbursement of items outside the normal league expenditures, will require either President or Finance Committee's written approval. Any league expense, regardless of reimbursement status, needs Finance Committee approval.

Sponsorships and Fundraisers

- Sponsorship funds can be obtained by a team (no limit) and must be paid to the League. The League retains 10% of any additional sponsorship money to help defray (Maximum of $350.00 per sponsor) League expenses and keep registration fees as low as possible. The teams may use any remaining funds for team-related expenses in the current season. Any funds that are not utilized during the same season shall be paid to the League. Teams must submit receipts for reimbursement (by the designated date set forth by the League Treasurer).
- A team may obtain a sponsor for a tournament. The sponsor must make a payment in the exact amount. The League will not retain 10%.
- All sponsorship payments must be submitted to the League with a completed sponsorship form. The form is located on the League website.
- The League will retain 10% of all League-wide fundraisers.

SECTION 5 – LEAGUE AGE STRUCTURE

Use the table below to determine age eligibility for each division for the 2026 Season.

2026 USA Softball Age Chart

Match month (top line) and box with year of birth. The player's age and division is indicated on the right.

SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	AGE	DIVISION
2019	2019	2019	2019	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	5	6U
2018	2018	2018	2018	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	6	6U
2017	2017	2017	2017	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	7	8U
2016	2016	2016	2016	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	8	8U
2015	2015	2015	2015	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	9	10U
2014	2014	2014	2014	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	10	10U
2013	2013	2013	2013	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	11	12U
2012	2012	2012	2012	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	12	12U
2011	2011	2011	2011	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	13	14U
2010	2010	2010	2010	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	14	14U
2009	2009	2009	2009	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	15	16U
2008	2008	2008	2008	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	16	16U
2007	2007	2007	2007	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	17	18U
2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	18	18U

SECTION 6 – PLAYER REGISTRATIONS

- Registration dates will be determined by the Board for the upcoming season and will be posted online in a timely manner.
- Registration will be completed prior to player evaluations. Registration can be extended at the discretion of the Board.
- The cost for registration will be determined on a season-by-season basis.
- Registration dates, locations, and times will be announced before each season. All registration may be online.
- Registration fees are due at registration. Registration fees must be paid prior to player evaluations for a player to be considered available. Payment plans are available upon request. Payment plans need to be up to date at the time of the draft for a player to be considered available. Any registration fee that is returned and/or not paid will be subject to a $50.00 fee and the affected registered player may not take the field or receive her uniform until the fee and registration is current. Any player with a balance from a prior season may not register until the balance is paid in full.
- Players may request "C/Silver" only on their registration (at registration only). The Board may determine that a player will be made available in the "B/Gold" draft notwithstanding the request. If a player was a "B/Gold" player the previous season, the player will need to be reclassified with the Board's and USA Softball's approval prior to the draft.
- Player registration fees include a full uniform (pants, jersey, belt, and socks). A team may not require additional funds from players for any reason.
- All League concerns shall be brought first to the head coach, followed by Division Representative, followed by the Player Advocate, and the Board.

SECTION 7 – HEAD COACHES, COACHING STAFF, AND COACHING VACANCIES

- The NWGS Board of Directors can remove a coach and/or coaching staff from the League following a majority vote, due to actions or behavior found to be in violation of the mission, rules, codes of conduct, and/or bylaws of the League.
- Per USA Softball of Nevada, no coach or manager may recruit a "B/Gold" or "C/Silver" player during the Recreational League's season (approximate dates are Spring - February 1 through May 23, All-Stars - May 1 through August 15, and Fall – August 1 through November 30). Such action will result in suspension or removal from the League and USA Softball of Nevada.
- NWGS strongly encourages all coaches to use Team Snap as their primary means of communication with parents.

USA Softball Registration and ACE Certification

- All team/league adult staff members (i.e., head coaches/coaches/team parent volunteers) that enter the field of play or the dugout or may have individual contact with a Junior Olympic player must be individually registered, background checked, and ACE certified through the Nevada USA Register USA Softball mandatory registration system at https://registerusasoftball.com/.
- All team staff members must complete a background check, Safe Sport certification, and ACE certification no later than the designated date set forth by the NWGS board.

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Coaching Vacancies

- If a team is abandoned, meaning the Head Coach and coaching staff have left the team, the Board may appoint a head coach.
- In a "B/Gold" Subdivision, if the head coach's position is vacated, one (1) of the previous season's staff members may have the first right to apply to the Board for the vacated position.
- The Board considers head coaches in the following order of priority:

    1. Returning teams to the same age division.
    2. Returning coach who took the season off due to high school (18u).
    3. Team aging up into a new division.
    4. New coach with an age-eligible daughter.
    5. New coach to the League.

Head Coaches

- Head Coaches who reside outside of the League's zip code boundaries must wait one season before being eligible to coach.
- A coach can only Head Coach one (1) team per season. Upon Board approval, he/she may also Head Coach a secondary team.
- Head Coaches must be at least sixteen (16) years of age, pass a background check, be ACE certified, and agree to always adhere to the League's policies and procedures.
- Head Coaches will ensure there is always a background checked/Ace-certified female in the dugout or at the field during practices and games.
- No Coach is ever guaranteed a team in any given division including returning coaches.

Coaching Staff

- All team staff must be able to show proof of an unexpired Volunteer Coach Educated USA Softball card when on the field or in the dugout.
- All team staff must complete a background check, Safe Sport certification, and ACE certification no later than the designated date set forth by the NWGS board.
- The League provides registration/insurance for four (4) coaches per team. The team is welcome to carry more than four (4) but will be responsible for the additional fees.
- All League concerns shall be brought first to your Head Coach, followed by Division Representative, followed by the Player Advocate and Board of Directors before contact with a USA Softball of Nevada Commissioner.

SECTION 8 – PLAYER EVALUATIONS AND PLAYER LIST

- Player evaluations are held each season so that teams can be as balanced as possible. Coaches and selected Board Members are to observe the players so that teams can be selected with a good mix of pitchers, fielders, and hitters. Player evaluations never cause players to be excluded from teams; it only helps to distribute players amongst teams.
- Player evaluations shall be held prior to the draft.
- All players must attend player evaluations unless they are on an existing team and reported to the Player Advocate prior to registration.
- All players participating in softball for the first time will be placed in a "C/Silver" Subdivision unless they attend the player evaluation and are drafted to a "B/Gold" Subdivision.
- Players not attending player evaluations will not be eligible for primary selection in the draft. These players will be placed into a "blind draw." These girls will be placed on a team in a "C/Silver" Subdivision. A known "B/Gold" or Travel Ball player, pitcher, or catcher, not attending the player evaluation, may be identified by the Board, and be made available for a "B/Gold" Subdivision draft, or made available in the pitcher or catcher round, as applicable. A known player will be identified by the position of pitcher or catcher.
- Prior to player evaluations, the Player Advocate shall make a player list showing the names and league ages of each player eligible for the draft. This list is to be distributed to each Coach at evaluations.

- Prior to the draft, the Player Advocate shall provide a list of eligible players to be drafted along with any notes specified on each player's application.
- Prior to the draft, all pitchers and catchers will be disclosed to the Coaches.
- To be designated as a pitcher or catcher, the player must have pitched or caught 20% of her team's outs in a "C/Silver" Subdivision or 30% of her team's outs in a "B/Gold" Subdivision in league games in the immediately preceding season, be a known pitcher or catcher, or have tried out as such at evaluations.
- Teams may have two (2) representatives per team on the field at evaluations. No players of the same age division, or parents, will be permitted in dugouts or on the fields during evaluations.

SECTION 9 – PLAYER VACANCIES

- Vacancies occur regularly throughout the season for a variety of reasons.
- Coaches shall notify the Player Advocate immediately upon becoming aware that a player may leave the team for any reason.
- Once it has been determined that it is appropriate to replace a player on the roster, the following steps may be taken:

    1. The Coach has the option to take the next player on the waiting list, or the team may be assigned a player from the waiting list.
    2. The Player Advocate shall contact the player and her parent(s) to inform them of the available spot.
    3. If it is economically feasible for the League to do so (i.e., uniforms, etc.).

SECTION 10 – TEAM SELECTION

All players in the League will be placed on teams in the following manner dependent on the guidelines described in Section 5 (League Age Structure).

- Note: If a member of the Board has a child in the draft, that member shall not be present for the applicable division unless the member is a coach or the League's Player Advocate.
- In the Spring Season, returning teams may keep all returning players from the immediately preceding season as long as they are age eligible.
- In the Fall Season, returning teams may keep up to six (6) returning players from the immediately preceding season, as long as they are age eligible.

6u Division - League age 4-6 years old

There are no player evaluations for this age division. The Player Advocate will place each player onto a team. Requests can be made at the time of registration by a parent/guardian to have their child play for a specific Head Coach or with another child. Each Head Coach in this division may request up to six (6) players as long as those players have requested that specific Head Coach on their player application. The League will do its best to honor such requests but cannot guarantee the placement of a child onto a particular team.

8u through 18u Divisions

Player evaluations will be held for each age division and all coaches in that age division will have the opportunity to evaluate all eligible players. All players that did not return to their previous season's team roster are to be evaluated and attend assessments to determine which division they shall play in. No player may move up more than one (1) age division. For example, a player age-eligible for the 8u division may play in the 8u or 10u divisions, but not 12u or higher.

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Returning teams with up to six (6) returning players and at least one (1) Coach from their previous season will be recognized as an existing team.

- In a "B/Gold" Subdivision, an existing team must include one (1) qualifying pitcher and (1) qualifying catcher.
- In a "C/Silver" Subdivision, teams with up to six (6) players will be considered if there are enough players to adequately fill all teams' rosters including their own.
- In the event of a tie (same amount of returning players) and there are not enough returning players to fill all rosters, the Board selects the returning team based on the following criteria:
    a. Seniority
    b. Behavior
    c. Knowledge
    d. Experience
- The remaining positions will be filled by the draft or blind draw.
- Any player not wishing to return to her previous team will be placed in the draft.
- Team merging/splitting is NOT permitted within the same age division.
- A new team will be constructed of the Head Coach's daughter only and will fill its roster by draft or draw.
- If a team is abandoned, meaning the Head Coach and coaching staff have left the team, the team will be considered an existing team, not a new team, and will follow returning rules including draft order.
- In order for a player to return to her existing team, she must have played on that team the prior season, or the prior Fall if the player was rostered to a High School softball team in the Spring. If she did not play the prior season with the League, she must go in the draft.
- In a "B/Gold" Subdivision, if a team is otherwise eligible to return, but without either a pitcher or a catcher, the Head Coach may declare a pitcher/catcher, as applicable, from the current roster. The Head Coach must ensure that the declared player pitches or catches, as applicable, 30% of the team's outs in the upcoming season. A Head Coach violating this requirement will be suspended from coaching for the rest of the season and the following season.
- If the Player Advocate received a letter from a parent/player with wishes for the player to be selected in a "B/Gold" draft as a general athlete vs. being a pitcher/catcher in a "C/Silver" Subdivision, said player will not pitch/catch one (1) inning in a "B/Gold" Subdivision. A Head Coach violating this requirement will be suspended from coaching for the rest of the season and the following season.

Draft

The Player Advocate and the Draft Committee will conduct a player draft as soon as possible after evaluations have been completed.

- Spring teams can return their entire team from the immediately preceding Fall Season.
- Fall teams can return up to six (6) age-eligible players from their preceding Spring Season.
- A player may only be placed on a team (or drafted) if they are fully registered and have paid registration fees in full prior to evaluations.
- In age groups with subdivisions (i.e. "B/C" or "Gold/Silver"), the "B" or "Gold" Subdivision will draft first.
- The draft is open to one (1) representative per team only.
- The Coach will have two (2) minutes to submit a draft choice when it has been announced it is their turn.
- The draft order will be determined by the previous regular season standings. The team with the lowest overall standing will draft first and the team with the best overall standing the prior season will draft last. Newly formed teams to the League will have the first draft pick. Teams moving up age divisions will pick after any new team(s) with their standings dictating order. Team(s) moving up a classification ("C" to "B" or "Silver" to "Gold") will pick next with their standings dictating order.
- In case of no subdivisions in an age division, the draft order will be as follows: new teams, "C" or "Silver" teams coming up divisions, "C" or "Silver" existing, "B" or "Gold" team coming up divisions, existing "B" or "Gold" teams.

Example – 12u Division

Draft order would be as follows: new team, 10C coming up to 12s, 12C existing, 10Bs coming up to 12s.

Classification Guidelines

- It is up to the Board to subdivide or not an age division. In situations where an age division is subdivided, it is up to the Board to classify teams into "B/Gold" or "C/Silver" subdivisions. Subdivision teams reclassified as "C/Silver" are ones that finished with a less than .500 record.
- For a team to be reclassified from a "C/Silver" to a "B/Gold" team, they must finish above .500 and finish in 1st or 2nd place in their division.
- The Board may reclassify teams in order to balance divisions.
- A team cannot be reclassified from "B/Gold" to "C/Silver" without permission from the Board and USA Softball.
- No team is guaranteed to move in any age division and/or classification status.
- If necessary to complete divisions, the Board has discretion to exempt a team from any rule.
- 16/18u Summer league teams are not considered intact teams unless they come as a High School team.

Trades

- There are to be no trades discussed until AFTER the draft concludes. There is no trading of draft picks during the draft, only like players AFTER. If it is deemed that any manipulation has occurred, both coaches are subject to removal from the League.
- Player trades must be completed at the draft prior to leaving the draft room. No trades will be considered afterward.
- Trades can be rejected by the Draft Committee.
- Blind draws and keeper players cannot be traded. Pitchers and catchers selected in the pitcher or catcher round may only be traded for a pitcher or catcher also selected in the pitcher or catcher round.

Known "B/Gold" Player, Pitcher, and Catcher Definitions

- Players not attending player evaluations will not be eligible for primary selection in the draft. These players will be placed into a "blind draw." These girls will be placed on a team in a "C/Silver" Subdivision. A known "B/Gold" player (KBP), known pitcher (KP), or known catcher (KC) not attending evaluations may be identified by the Board and be made available for the "B/Gold" draft or made available in the pitcher or catcher draft round as applicable.
- Known "B/Gold" Player is defined as a player who played on a "B/Gold" team in the same age division in the immediately preceding season, was rostered to an All-Star/B-Select team in the same age division in the immediately preceding season or is coming to NWGS from an A-ball team.
- A known Pitcher/Catcher is defined as a pitcher or catcher who made 20% of their team's innings in a "C/Silver" Subdivision or 30% of their team's innings in a "B/Gold" Subdivision at that position in the immediately preceding season.

Pitchers and Catchers Selected in "B/Gold" Draft

- In an age division with subdivisions (such as "B/C" or "Gold/Silver") a "B/Gold" team may only select a player qualifying as a pitcher or catcher, a player who tried out as a pitcher or catcher, or a known pitcher or catcher:
  a. In the pitcher or catcher draft round, as applicable, or
  b. With any of the team's first three (3) draft picks regardless of round in the general player draft.

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- Once a “B/Gold” team has two (2) pitchers and/or catchers who must make 30% of outs on their roster, they may not select a 3rd player at that position in ANY ROUND.
- The Head Coach must ensure that the drafted player pitches or catches, as applicable, 30% of the team’s outs in the upcoming season during league play. Coaches should consult with their Division Representative during the season to keep track of their percentage usage. A Head Coach violating this requirement will be suspended for the rest of the season and the following season.
    - There is no limit to the maximum use on a weekly basis so long as coaches meet the 30% minimum usage by the end of the season.

<u>Draft Day Procedure</u>

- It is imperative that an exhaustive list of all players eligible to be placed on teams be created and posted prior to the start of the draft. Players eligible to be drafted will be listed and all players in the blind draw will be listed at the bottom. Pitchers and catchers will be evaluated by the Division Representative and will be disclosed at Draft Day for selection as “Starting” Pitchers/Catchers.
- Pitcher and catcher round picks will be slotted prior to the draft to align with eligible pitchers and catchers to be drafted. Keeper players will be slotted into their occupying draft positions, so coaches are aware of where they are picking.
- Once the draft is complete, including trades, rosters will be printed and all players who are required to make 20% of outs in “C/Silver” Subdivisions or 30% of outs in “B/Gold” Subdivisions pitching or catching will be marked on the roster. The Head Coach or Team Representative at the draft will sign the roster acknowledging their understanding.
- If a team has an existing pitcher or catcher (Player A) and another player (Player B) that qualifies for both, they must declare Player B as the opposite of Player A.
- If requested by a family, age-eligible siblings (Sisters/Stepsisters) must be placed on the same team. If a girl with one (1) or more siblings is chosen, then her siblings will be assigned to the team’s lowest draft slot. Once all teams have drafted the allotted number of players, as determined by the Player Advocate in advance of the draft, any players having not been drafted shall be entered on a waiting list.
- In an age division with subdivisions (such as “B/C” or “Gold/Silver”), a “B/Gold” team may only select a player qualifying as a pitcher or catcher, or who tried out as a pitcher or catcher, in the pitcher or catcher draft round, as applicable, if they do not already have two (2) players designated at that position. The Head Coach must ensure that the drafted player pitches or catches, as applicable, 30% of the team’s outs in the upcoming season during league play. Coaches should consult with their Division Representative during the season to keep track of their percentage usage. A Head Coach violating this requirement will be suspended for the rest of the season and the following season.
    - There is no limit to the maximum use on a weekly basis so long as coaches meet the 30% minimum usage by the end of the season.

<u>All Pitchers and Catchers Will be Designated Prior to the Draft</u>

1. “B/Gold” Subdivision
    - Any pitcher/catcher drafted must make designated outs percentage unless directed by player/parent to Player Advocate prior to the draft.
    - No Qualified/Designated pitcher/catcher may be drafted AFTER the team has two (2) designated at that particular position.
    - If a Known Pitcher is selected in the third round (Player Round 1) they must have a form on file
    - indicating their desire to play in a “B/Gold” Subdivision as a general player and understand they may not pitch or catch one inning.

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2. “C/Silver” Subdivision
    - Not permitted to take a pitcher OR catcher, if the team already has two (2) known players at that particular position in the first two athlete rounds (unless the player has signed a waiver form stating they will not pitch/catch this season OR all other teams have two (2) known players at those particular positions).
    - All issues concerning pitchers and catchers are subject to review and decisions made by the Player Advocate, the Division Representative, and the President.

SECTION 11 – LEAGUE GROUND AND PARK RULES

All Las Vegas City and Clark County Park rules must be followed.

Prohibited Items

- Alcohol is not permitted at any game or practice facility.
- Tobacco of any kind is not permitted on the playing field, in the dugout, or around players at any time.
- No smoking or nicotine products are permitted in or around the stands/dugouts etc. This includes e-cigarettes.
- No artificial noisemakers of any kind.
- Commonly used softball chants by softball teams are permitted. Negative cheering that is felt to be excessive or done to humiliate a player is not permitted and should be brought to your Division Representative's attention to review. Any necessary disciplinary steps needed will be addressed by Vice President.

Field Prep and Cleanup

- Teams are responsible for cleaning up the dugout and spectator area after each game. Failure to do so may result in the team having trash duty or be considered for additional Snack Shack shifts.
- Teams are responsible for raking practice fields after each practice. The Away team is responsible to perform a quick rake/tamp on the batter’s area before leaving field when a game immediately follows them.

Scheduled Games and Postponement of Games

- Teams must show up for all scheduled games regardless of weather conditions unless notified by a League official.
- Only a League official or umpire can cancel or postpone a scheduled game. These games will only be rescheduled, time permitting.
- The home team will occupy the 3rd base dugout unless back-to-back games are played, in which case the team(s) playing the prior game shall remain in the same dugout.

Game Length

- Game time is one hour and twenty minutes. There is no new inning after one hour and twenty minutes. When game time is reached during an inning, finish the inning.

Team Snack Shack Requirements

- Each team will be required to sign up for two (2) snack bar shack shifts. The head coach must ensure there are four (4) volunteers available for two (2), two (2) hour shifts**; one (1) of them may be a minimum of 16 years old. If snack bar shack duty is not fulfilled or signed up for one (1) week prior to the start of the season:
    1. The team will forfeit its most recent prior win, or its next win if the team has no wins.
    2. The head coach will be suspended for the next game.
    3. The team will be rescheduled for snack bar duty at a later date.

**In the event there are more teams than spots available for every team to take two spots, the Concession Director will have full discretion to determine which teams will have one (1) or two (2) shifts.

SECTION 12 – LOCAL DIVISION RULES

The League adheres to and follows the rules outlined in the USA Softball Participant Manual Official Rules of Softball (https://www.usasoftball.com/official-rulebook/) for the current year, except here amended by our local rules below. Local rules as outlined here will supersede the USA Softball Participant Manual Official Rules of Softball. All Coaches are responsible for knowing and following the rules. See Appendix A for a summary of each division's rules.

Practices and Games

- The regular season runs from the draft through closing ceremonies.
- League-sanctioned practices and games are scheduled by the League scheduler during a league season. One (1) batting cage session each week during a league season is also considered league sanctioned. Anything outside of this, excluding league-sanctioned tournaments, is considered non-league-sanctioned.
- Coaches and players who attend or participate in non-league-sanctioned practices and batting cage sessions are not protected by the League's liability insurance and will not be able to hold the League liable for any personal injury, property damage, or economic loss resulting from these non-sanctioned practices and batting cage sessions. This includes but is not limited to, injuries caused by carelessness, recklessness, or intentional wrongdoing.
- Each season will consist of 12 games. Additional games may be added if scheduling permits. The number of scheduled games may be adjusted prior to each season in consultation with the Board.

Divisions Required to Report P/C Outs

8u – 16/18u are required to report Pitcher and Catcher outs to their Division Representative.

- The winning Head Coach is responsible for reporting the P/C outs via email to their Division Representative within **24 hours** of the completion of their game.
- The opposing coach must be included in the email.
- Failure to meet these reporting requirements results in the below repercussions:

1. 1st offense – 1 game suspension
2. 2nd offense – 2 game suspension
3. 3rd offense - 0-7 forfeit loss

8u-16u Division Rules

Game Time and Pitcher Warm-ups

- Game time begins with the first warm-up pitch.
- Forfeits occur five (5) minutes after game time unless the prior game has run late.
- Pitcher warm-up before the game and between innings is five (5) pitches or one (1) minute, whichever comes first.
- A game will NOT be rescheduled unless it is called by the Umpire due to weather or safety issues.
- Game time is one hour and twenty minutes. There is no new inning after one hour and twenty minutes. When game time is reached during an inning, finish the inning.
- A game that has completed three (3) innings, or that has completed two and one-half innings with the home team ahead, will be an official game and not rescheduled if called by the umpire due to weather or safety issues.

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Inning Run Limits

- After game time expires, a game shall end if at any point a team cannot at least tie its opponent because of run cap rules.

  A. 8u
    - run maximum – first inning.
    - run maximum – second inning.
    - 4 run maximum – third and subsequent innings.

  B. 10u through 16u
    - 4 run maximum – first through third innings.
    - 6 run maximum – fourth and subsequent innings.

Run Ahead/Mercy Rules

A. 8u
- No run-ahead rule.

B. 10u through 16u
- 12 runs ahead – after the third inning.
- 10 runs ahead – after the fourth inning.
- 8 runs ahead – after the fifth inning.

Pitching Distance

- Follow the USA Softball Distance Table except for 8u which will be 30 feet.

Uniforms

- Face masks are mandatory for any girl playing in the field for 14U and under only.
- If hats are worn, they must be like in color.
- Metal cleats are not permitted.
- No jewelry or hard hair accessories. Sport rope necklaces are allowed.

Gameplay

- No coaches are allowed in the outfield except for 8u where one coach is allowed in the outfield.
- Bat the bench - all players in attendance.
- Every girl must play two (2) defensive innings.
- All substitutions must be made by the top of the 3rd inning.
- If any players were unable to play their two (2) innings, those players must start the next game and complete any missed innings.
- It is the sole responsibility of the Head Coach to demonstrate proper use of players by either book or player card.
- A team in violation of this rule will have the Head Coach suspended from the field for one (1) full game.
- Umpires who have a conference with any player shall have a coach present.
- The infield fly and dropped third strike rules are applied to all divisions except for 6u and 8u.

Rules for Pitchers and Catchers

Pitcher and Catcher Limits – In-League Games

- Pitcher/catcher outs are recorded for each game and are totaled each league week in 8u through 16/18u.
- A league week runs from Sunday to Saturday.
- Any team in violation of these rules will forfeit the game in question and the Head Coach will be suspended from the field for one full game.

  A. 8u
    - Pitchers and catchers may only pitch/catch six (6) outs per game.
      - This rule does not apply to tournament play.

  B. 10u and 12u

"B" Division

- Pitchers and catchers have no outs limit but must make 30% of the total outs for their team for the season.

"C" Division

- Pitchers and catchers may only pitch:
  - 9 outs – in a week with one (1) League game.
  - 18 outs – in a week with two (2) League games.
  - 27 outs – in a week with three (3) League games.
  - 36 outs – in a week with four (4) League games.
- This rule does not apply to tournament play.

C. 14u and 16/18u

- Unlimited pitching and catching outs per week.

Pitcher and Catcher Limits – Inter-League Games

- Pitcher and Catcher outs in games played with South Vegas are still counted toward weekly outs totals (see "Pitcher and Catcher Limits – In-League Games p. 13-14).
- Any team in violation of these rules will forfeit the game in question and the Head Coach will be suspended from the field for one full game.

A. 8u
- Two (2) innings (6 outs) per game for pitchers and catchers.
- One (1) pitch constitutes an inning.

B. 10u and 12u ("C" Subdivision only; "B" Subdivision is unlimited)
- Three (3) innings (9 outs) per game for pitchers and catchers.
- One (1) pitch constitutes an inning.

C. 14u and 16/18u
- Unlimited pitching and catching innings.

Recording Outs - Special Rules for Pitchers and Catchers

- In an inning where the maximum runs are allowed but three outs are not recorded:
  - If the pitcher or catcher plays the entire inning, then each pitcher and catcher will be charged with three (3) outs.
  - If the pitcher or catcher is relieved in an inning, then the pitcher or catcher is charged with the actual outs she records but must be charged with at least one (1) out each.
  - If the pitcher or catcher is relieved in the inning and no outs are recorded, then each pitcher and catcher is charged with one (1) out.
  - If the application of these rules results in a total of only two (2) outs being assigned to all pitchers or all catchers in an inning, then the pitcher or catcher who pitched or caught the most pitches in the inning will be assigned an additional out.
  - If the pitchers or catchers pitched or caught the same number of pitches, then the pitcher or catcher who started the inning will be assigned an additional out.

Courtesy Runner Rule

- If the pitcher and/or catcher is on base you may utilize the courtesy runner rule at any time, the last recorded out may run for the pitcher/catcher.
- If the pitcher/catcher is the last out, proceed to the next out.
- If there are no outs furthest away will be utilized.
- In the event that there are zero (0) outs in the first inning, the player in the lineup who is furthest away from batting may run for the pitcher/ catcher.

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Specific Rules for 8u Only

Bunting

- A batter who fakes a bunt to swing will be called out.

Walks

- There are no walks for the first five (5) league games of the season.
- The coach of the team at bat will throw up to three (3) pitches, depending on how many strikes are in the count when the opposing pitcher throws the fourth ball.
    1. At a 4-0 count – the coach throws up to three (3) pitches.
    2. At a 4-1 count – the coach throws up to two (2) pitches.
    3. At a 4-2 count – the coach throws one (1) pitch.
- If the ball is not put into play after all coach pitches are thrown, the batter is out.
- The coach may pitch from anywhere within the pitching circle (no closer to the plate than eight (8) feet in front of the pitching rubber).
- The pitcher may play anywhere in the pitching circle while the coach pitches, but not in front of the pitching rubber.
- After the first five (5) league games, coaches no longer pitch, and batters may be walked.

Hit By Pitch

- A batter hit by a pitch in the air is treated as a dead ball, and the batter is awarded first base.
- A batter is not awarded first base if the ball hits the batter after first hitting the ground and the pitch will be called a ball unless the batter swung.

Sliding

- Sliding is permitted and encouraged, but not mandatory.

Stealing

- Players may steal one (1) base per pitch with no advancement on an overthrow.
- Players may not steal home.
- Other than as stated in the immediately preceding rule, runners may advance one (1) base on an overthrow.

SECTION 13 – PLAYER EQUIPMENT

All equipment, including bats, must be USA approved.

Face Masks

- Face masks are mandatory for any girl playing in the field for 14U and under only. Face masks/guards that are cracked or deformed, or if padding has deteriorated or is missing, are prohibited. It is up to the parents/coaches to insure there are no cracks or deformities.

Helmets

- Players helmets must have a USA approved face mask.

Cleats

- Only molded cleats, no metal cleats, are permitted in any age division.

Clothing

- No Clothing depicting alcohol, gaming, or vulgar or inappropriate sayings will be allowed.

League Equipment Borrowed by A Head Coach

- Head Coaches are responsible for their equipment. Any abnormal damage or breakage will be reviewed by the Board and determined as to who will replace it.

APPENDIX A

DRAFT ORDER OUTLINE

"C/Silver" Draft

1. **Pitcher (P) Round 1**
    a. New teams without a pitcher select in the order drawn.
    b. Upcoming teams without a pitcher select in reverse order of the previous season's standings.
    c. Returning teams without a pitcher select in reverse order of the previous season's standings.
    d. If a team has 1 pitcher, they will not pick this round.

2. **Catcher (C) Round 1 (snake back)**
    a. Returning teams without a catcher select in reverse order of the Pitcher Round.
    b. Upcoming teams without a catcher select in reverse order of the Pitcher Round.
    c. New teams select a catcher in reverse order of the Pitcher Round.
    d. If a team has 1 catcher, they will not pick this round.

3. **Player Round 1**
    a. New teams redraw for order and pick first.
    b. Upcoming teams select in the reverse order of the previous season's standings.
    c. Returning teams select in the reverse order of the previous season's standings.

4. **Remaining Player Rounds**
    a. Starting in full reverse order from Player Round 1, teams draft Round 2.
    b. Returners are slotted in the following rounds: 4, 5, 6, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 2, 11, 1, 12.
    c. Pitcher/catcher picks are represented within the player round in rounds surrounding keepers. Top and bottom.
    d. Draft order continues in snake fashion until all the available players are selected.

"B/Gold" Draft

1. **Pitcher (P) Round 1**
    a. Upcoming teams (age) without 2 pitchers select in reverse order of the previous season's standings.
    b. Upcoming teams (division) without 2 pitchers select in reverse order of the previous season's standings.
    c. Returning teams without 2 pitchers select in reverse order of the previous season's standings.
    d. If a team has 2 pitchers they will not pick this round.

2. **Catcher (C) Round 1 (snake back)**
    a. Returning teams without 2 catchers select in reverse order of the Pitcher Round.
    b. Upcoming teams (division) without 2 catchers select in reverse order of the Pitcher Round.
    c. Upcoming teams (age) without 2 catchers select in reverse order of the Pitcher Round.
    d. If a team has 2 catchers, they will not pick this round.

3. **Player Round 1**
    a. Upcoming teams (age) select in the reverse order of the previous season's standings.
    b. Upcoming teams (division) select in the reverse order of the previous season's standings.
    c. Returning teams select in the reverse order of the previous season's standings.

4. **Remaining Player Rounds**
    a. Starting in full reverse order from Player Round 1, teams draft Round 2.
    b. Returners are slotted in the following rounds: 4, 5, 6, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 2, 11, 1, 12.
    c. Pitcher/catcher picks are represented within the player round in rounds surrounding keepers. Top and bottom.
    d. Draft order continues in snake fashion until all the available players are selected.

APPENDIX B

DIVISION RULES

NORTHWEST GIRLS SOFTBALL-FASTPITCH

8u Rules - UPDATED September 2025

USA Softball rules will be used with the following modifications:

COACHES

Refer to the NWGS League Rules Section 7 – Head Coaches, Coaching Staff, and Coach Vacancies for full rules and guidelines regarding coaches. The following items are here simply for emphasis.

- All coaches must be ACE certified. (League Rules, Section 7, p.6)
- All team staff must be able to show proof of an unexpired Volunteer Coach Educated Softball card when on the field or in the dugout. (League Rules, Section 7, p. 6)
- Ensure there is always a background-checked/ACE-certified female in the dugout or on the field during practices and games. (League Rules, Section 7, p. 6)

GAME INFORMATION

A. Game Time Begins with the first warm-up pitch. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
   - Pitcher warm-up before the game and between innings is five (5) pitches or one (1) minute, whichever comes first. (USA Softball Official Rules 2023, Chapter 6A, Section 9)

B. Forfeits occur five (5) minutes after game time unless the prior game has run late. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)

C. A game will NOT be rescheduled unless it is called by the Umpire due to weather or safety issues. (League Rules, Section 12, p.12)

D. Game time is one hour and ten minutes. There is no new inning after one hour and ten minutes. When game time is reached during an inning, finish the inning. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

E. A game that has completed three (3) innings, or that has completed two and one-half innings with the home team ahead, will be an official game and not rescheduled if called by the umpire due to weather or safety issues. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)

F. Inning Run Limits:
   - 2 run maximum – first inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - 3 run maximum – second inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - 4 run maximum – third and subsequent innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - After game time expires, a game shall end if at any point a team cannot at least tie its opponent because of run cap rules. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)

G. No Run Ahead Rule (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

H. Pitching distance is 30'. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

I. Umpires and the opposing coach must have your lineup prior to the start of the game.
   - Per the USA Softball Official Rules, lineup cards must include each player's first and last name, jersey number, and starting position. (USA Softball Official Rules 2023, Rule 4, Section 1, Letter A, Number 1)
   - It is the responsibility of each team's scorekeeper to check the score with the umpire at the end of each half-inning.

UNIFORMS

- Girls must be in full uniform with shirts tucked in. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rules Supplement, Number 49 Sporting Behavior)
- Face masks are mandatory for any girl playing in the field. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13 and Section 13 p. 16)
- If hats are worn, they must be "like" in color. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
- Metal cleats are not permitted. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13, and Section 13, p. 16)
- No jewelry or hard hair accessories. Sport rope necklaces are allowed. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

GAMEPLAY

A. Ten (10) players on the defensive playing field.
   - The following positions will be used: pitcher, catcher, 1B, 2B, 3B, SS, R-field, R-center, L-center, L- field. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 4, Section 1)

B. Defense is allowed one coach in the outfield. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

C. Bat the bench - all players in attendance. (League Rule, Section 12, p. 13)

D. If there are only eight (8) players in attendance, the 9th position will take an out. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)
   - This penalty is effective the entire game. (USA Softball Rule Book 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)
   - Late arrival(s) may be inserted in the 9th position and beyond. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)
   - A team may not play with seven (7) players. (USA Softball Rule Book 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)

E. Every girl must play two (2) defensive innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - All substitutions must be made by the top of the 3rd inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - If any players were unable to play their two (2) innings, those players must start the next game and complete any missed innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - It is the sole responsibility of the Head Coach to demonstrate proper use of players by either book or player card. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13) ○ A team in violation of this rule will have the Head Coach suspended from the field for one full game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

F. Umpires who have a conference with any player shall have a coach present. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

G. Infield fly and dropped third strike rules do not apply. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

H. A batter who fakes a bunt to swing will be called out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)

I. There are no walks for the first five (5) league games of the season. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - The coach of the team at bat will throw up to three (3) pitches, depending on how many strikes are in the count when the opposing pitcher throws the fourth ball. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
     - At a 4-0 count, the coach throws up to three (3) pitches. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
     - At 4-1 up to two (2) pitches. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
     - At 4-2 one (1) pitch. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)

   1. If the ball is not put into play after all coach pitches are thrown, the batter is out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   2. The coach may pitch from anywhere within the pitching circle but no closer to the plate than eight (8) feet in front of the pitching rubber. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
      - The pitcher may play anywhere in the pitching circle while the coach pitches, but not in front of the pitching rubber. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)

3. After the first five (5) league games, coaches no longer pitch, and batters may be walked. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)

J. A batter hit by a pitch in the air is treated as a dead ball, and the batter is awarded first base. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - A batter is not awarded first base if the ball hits the batter after first hitting the ground and the pitch will be called a ball unless the batter swung. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)

K. Sliding is permitted and encouraged, but not mandatory. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 16)

L. Players may steal one (1) base per pitch with no advancement on an overthrow. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 16)
   - Players may not steal home. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 16)

M. Other than as stated in the immediately preceding rule, runners may advance one (1) base on an overthrow. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 16)

N. If the pitcher and/or catcher is on base you may utilize the courtesy runner rule at any time (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 8, Section 10), the last recorded out may run for the pitcher/catcher. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - If the pitcher/catcher is the last out, proceed to the next out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - If there are no outs furthest away will be utilized. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - In the event that there are zero (0) outs in the first inning, the player in the lineup who is furthest away from batting may run for the pitcher/ catcher. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
     - In the top of the first inning, the pitcher and catcher are the players identified at that position on the lineup card. Thereafter, the pitcher and catcher are identified as the last players who physically played that position on defense. (USA Softball Rule Book, Rule 8, Section 10)

O. Commonly used softball chants by softball teams are permitted. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)
   - Negative cheering that is felt to be excessive or done to humiliate a player is not permitted and should be brought to your Division Representative's attention to review. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)
   - Any necessary disciplinary steps needed will be addressed by Vice President. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

P. No artificial noisemakers of any kind. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

RECORDING OF PITCHER AND CATCHER OUTS

1. Pitchers and catchers may only pitch/catch six (6) outs per game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
   - This rule does not apply to tournament play. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
   - The week runs from Sunday to Saturday. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

2. Special Rules for pitchers and catchers in an inning where the maximum runs are allowed but three outs are not recorded:
   - If the pitcher or catcher plays the entire inning, then each pitcher and catcher will be charged with three (3) outs. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
   - If the pitcher or catcher is relieved in the inning, then each pitcher and catcher is charged with the actual outs she records but must be charged with at least one (1) out each. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
   - If the pitcher or catcher is relieved in the inning and no outs are recorded, then each pitcher and catcher is charged with one (1) out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)

- If application of these rules results in a total of only two (2) outs being assigned to all pitchers or all catchers in an inning, then the pitcher or catcher who pitched or caught the most pitches in the inning will be assigned an additional out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15) ○ If the pitchers or catchers pitched or caught the same number of pitches, then the pitcher or catcher who started the inning will be assigned an additional out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 19)
- Any team in violation of these rules will forfeit the game in question and the Head Coach will be suspended from the field for one (1) full game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

PITCHING AND CATCHING FOR INTER-LEAGUE GAMES

- Three (2) innings per game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
- One (1) pitch constitutes an inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
- Pitcher and Catcher outs in games played with South Vegas are still counted toward weekly outs totals. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)

REPORTING PITCHER AND CATCHER OUTS

- The winning Head Coach is responsible for reporting P/C outs via email to their Division Representative within 24 hours of the completion of their game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
- The opposing coach must be included on the email. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
- Failure to meet these reporting requirements results in the below repercussions:

    1. 1st offense – 1 game suspension
    2. 2nd offense – 2 game suspension
    3. 3rd offense - 0-7 forfeit loss

NORTHWEST GIRLS SOFTBALL-FASTPITCH

10u Rules - UPDATED September 2025

USA Softball rules will be used with the following modifications:

COACHES

Refer to the NWGS League Rules Section 7 – Head Coaches, Coaching Staff, and Coach Vacancies for full rules and guidelines regarding coaches. The following items are here simply for emphasis.

- All coaches must be ACE certified. (League Rules, Section 7, p.6)
- All team staff must be able to show proof of an unexpired Volunteer Coach Educated Softball card when on the field or in the dugout. (League Rules, Section 7, p. 6)
- Ensure there is always a background-checked/ACE-certified female in the dugout or on the field during practices and games. (League Rules, Section 7, p. 6)

GAME INFORMATION

A. Game Time Begins with the first warm-up pitch. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
   - Pitcher warm-up before the game and between innings is five (5) pitches or one (1) minute, whichever comes first. (USA Softball Official Rules 2023, Chapter 6A, Section 9)

B. Forfeits occur five (5) minutes after game time unless the prior game has run late. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)

C. A game will NOT be rescheduled unless it is called by the Umpire due to weather or safety issues. (League Rules, Section 12, p.12)

D. Game time is one hour and twenty minutes. There is no new inning after one hour and twenty minutes. When game time is reached during an inning, finish the inning. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

E. A game that has completed three (3) innings, or that has completed two and one-half innings with the home team ahead, will be an official game and not rescheduled if called by the umpire due to weather or safety issues. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)

F. Inning Run Limits
   - 4 run maximum – first through third innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p.13)
   - 6 run maximum – fourth and subsequent innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p.13)
   - After game time expires, a game shall end if at any point a team cannot at least tie its opponent because of run cap rules. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

G. Mercy Rule
   - 12 runs ahead – after the third inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - 10 runs ahead – after the fourth inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - 8 runs ahead – after the fifth inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

H. Pitching distance is 35'. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 2, Section 1)

I. Umpires and the opposing coach must have your lineup prior to the start of the game.
   - Per the USA Softball Official Rules, lineup cards must include each player's first and last name, jersey number, and starting position. (USA Softball Official Rules 2023, Rule 4, Section 1, Letter A, Number 1)
   - It is the responsibility of each team's scorekeeper to check the score with the umpire at the end of each half-inning.

UNIFORMS

- Girls must be in full uniform with shirts tucked in. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rules Supplement, Number 49 Sporting Behavior)
- Face masks are mandatory for any girl playing in the field. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13 and Section 13 p. 16)
- If hats are worn, they must be "like" in color. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
- Metal cleats are not permitted. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13 and Section 13, p. 16)
- No jewelry or hard hair accessories. Sport rope necklaces are allowed. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

GAMEPLAY

A. Bat the bench - all players in attendance. (League Rule, Section 12, p. 13)

B. If there are only eight (8) players in attendance, the 9th position will take an out. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)

- This penalty is effective the entire game. (USA Softball Rule Book 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)
- Late arrival(s) may be inserted in the 9th position and beyond. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)
- A team may not play with seven (7) players. (USA Softball Rule Book 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)

C. Every girl must play two (2) defensive innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

- All substitutions must be made by the top of the 3rd inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
- If any players were unable to play their two (2) innings, those players must start the next game and complete any missed innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
- It is the sole responsibility of the Head Coach to demonstrate proper use of players by either book or player card. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13) ○ A team in violation of this rule will have the Head Coach suspended from the field for one full game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

D. Umpires who have a conference with any player shall have a coach present. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

E. If the pitcher and/or catcher is on base you may utilize the courtesy runner rule at any time (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 8, Section 10), the last recorded out may run for the pitcher/catcher (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)

- If the pitcher/catcher is the last out, proceed to the next out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
- If there are no outs furthest away will be utilized. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
- In the event that there are zero (0) outs in the first inning, the player in the lineup who is furthest away from batting may run for the pitcher/ catcher. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)

  - In the top of the first inning, the pitcher and catcher are the players identified at that position on the lineup card. Thereafter, the pitcher and catcher are identified as the last players who physically played that position on defense. (USA Softball Rule Book, Rule 8, Section 10)

F. Commonly used softball chants by softball teams are permitted. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

- Negative cheering that is felt to be excessive or done to humiliate a player is not permitted and should be brought to your Division Representative's attention to review. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)
- Any necessary disciplinary steps needed will be addressed by Vice President. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

G. No artificial noisemakers of any kind. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

RECORDING OF PITCHER AND CATCHER OUTS

1. Pitchers and catchers may only pitch/catch:

   A. "B" Subdivision

   - No out limits but must make 30% of the total outs for their team for the season. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)

B. “C” Subdivision

- Pitchers and Catchers must make 20% of the total outs for their team for the season if chosen in the pitcher or catcher round of the draft. (League Rules, Section 10, p. 10)
- 9 outs in a week with one (1) League game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
- 18 outs in a week with two (2) League games. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
- 27 outs in a week with three (3) League games. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
- 36 outs in a week with four (4) League games. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14) ○ The week runs from Sunday to Saturday. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13) ○ This rule does not apply to tournament play. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)

2. Special Rules for pitchers and catchers in an inning where the maximum runs are allowed but three outs are not recorded:

- If the pitcher or catcher plays the entire inning, then each pitcher and catcher will be charged with three (3) outs. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
- If the pitcher or catcher is relieved in the inning, then each pitcher and catcher is charged with the actual outs she records but must be charged with at least one (1) out each. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
- If the pitcher or catcher is relieved in the inning and no outs are recorded, then each pitcher and catcher is charged with one (1) out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
- If the application of these rules results in a total of only two (2) outs being assigned to all pitchers or all catchers in an inning, then the pitcher or catcher who pitched or caught the most pitches in the inning will be assigned an additional out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
- If the pitchers or catchers pitched or caught the same number of pitches, then the pitcher or catcher who started the inning will be assigned an additional out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
- Any team in violation of these rules will forfeit the game in question and the Head Coach will be suspended from the field for one full game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

PITCHING AND CATCHING FOR INTER-LEAGUE GAMES

1. “B” Subdivision
   - No out limits. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
2. “C” Subdivision
   - Three (3) innings per game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
   - One (1) pitch constitutes an inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
   - Pitcher and Catcher outs in games played with South Vegas are still counted toward weekly outs totals. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)

REPORTING PITCHER AND CATCHER OUTS

- The winning Head Coach is responsible for reporting P/C outs via email to their Division Representative within 24 hours of the completion of their game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
- The opposing coach must be included on the email. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
- Failure to meet these reporting requirements results in the below repercussions:

  1st offense – 1 game suspension
  2nd offense – 2 game suspension
  3rd offense - 0-7 forfeit loss

NORTHWEST GIRLS SOFTBALL-FASTPITCH

12u Rules - UPDATED September 2025

USA Softball rules will be used with the following modifications:

COACHES

Refer to the NWGS League Rules Section 7 – Head Coaches, Coaching Staff, and Coach Vacancies for full rules and guidelines regarding coaches. The following items are here simply for emphasis.

- All coaches must be ACE certified. (League Rules, Section 7, p.6)
- All team staff must be able to show proof of an unexpired Volunteer Coach Educated Softball card when on the field or in the dugout. (League Rules, Section 7, p. 6)
- Ensure there is always a background-checked/ACE-certified female in the dugout or on the field during practices and games. (League Rules, Section 7, p. 6)

GAME INFORMATION

A. Game Time Begins with the first warm-up pitch. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
   - Pitcher warm-up before the game and between innings is five (5) pitches or one (1) minute, whichever comes first. (USA Softball Official Rules 2023, Chapter 6A, Section 9)

B. Forfeits occur five (5) minutes after game time unless the prior game has run late. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)

C. A game will NOT be rescheduled unless it is called by the Umpire due to weather or safety issues. (League Rules, Section 12, p.12)

D. Game time is one hour and twenty minutes. There is no new inning after one hour and twenty minutes. When game time is reached during an inning, finish the inning. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

E. A game that has completed three (3) innings, or that has completed two and one-half innings with the home team ahead, will be an official game and not rescheduled if called by the umpire due to weather or safety issues. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)

F. Inning Run Limits
   - 4 run maximum – first through third innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p.13)
   - 6 run maximum – fourth and subsequent innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p.13)
   - After game time expires, a game shall end if at any point a team cannot at least tie its opponent because of run cap rules. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

G. Mercy Rule
   - 12 runs ahead – after the third inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - 10 runs ahead – after the fourth inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - 8 runs ahead – after the fifth inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

H. Pitching distance is 40'. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 2, Section 1)

I. Umpires and the opposing coach must have your lineup prior to the start of the game.
   - Per the USA Softball Official Rules, lineup cards must include each player's first and last name, jersey number, and starting position. (USA Softball Official Rules 2023, Rule 4, Section 1, Letter A, Number 1)
   - It is the responsibility of each team's scorekeeper to check the score with the umpire at the end of each half-inning.

UNIFORMS

- Girls must be in full uniform with shirts tucked in. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rules Supplement, Number 49
- Sporting Behavior)
- Face masks are mandatory for any girl playing in the field. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13 and Section 13 p. 16)
- If hats are worn, they must be "like" in color. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
- Metal cleats are not permitted. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13 and Section 13, p. 6)
- No jewelry or hard hair accessories. Sport rope necklaces are allowed. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

GAMEPLAY

A. Bat the bench - all players in attendance. (League Rule, Section 12, p. 13)

B. If there are only eight (8) players in attendance, the 9th position will take an out. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)
   - This penalty is effective the entire game. (USA Softball Rule Book 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)
   - Late arrival(s) may be inserted in the 9th position and beyond. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)
   - A team may not play with seven (7) players. (USA Softball Rule Book 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)

C. Every girl must play two (2) defensive innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - All substitutions must be made by the top of the 3rd inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - If any players were unable to play their two (2) innings, those players must start the next game and complete any missed innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - It is the sole responsibility of the Head Coach to demonstrate proper use of players by either book or player card. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - A team in violation of this rule will have the Head Coach suspended from the field for one full game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

D. Umpires who have a conference with any player shall have a coach present. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

E. If the pitcher and/or catcher is on base you may utilize the courtesy runner rule at any time (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 8, Section 10), the last recorded out may run for the pitcher/catcher (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - If the pitcher/catcher is the last out, proceed to the next out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - If there are no outs furthest away will be utilized. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - In the event that there are zero (0) outs in the first inning, the player in the lineup who is furthest away from batting may run for the pitcher/ catcher. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - In the top of the first inning, the pitcher and catcher are the players identified at that position on the lineup card. Thereafter, the pitcher and catcher are identified as the last players who physically played that position on defense. (USA Softball Rule Book, Rule 8, Section 10)

F. Commonly used softball chants by softball teams are permitted. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)
   - Negative cheering that is felt to be excessive or done to humiliate a player is not permitted and should be brought to your Division Representative's attention to review. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)
   - Any necessary disciplinary steps needed will be addressed by Vice President. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

G. No artificial noisemakers of any kind. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

RECORDING OF PITCHER AND CATCHER OUTS

1. Pitchers and catchers may only pitch/catch:
   A. "B" Subdivision
      - No out limits but must make 30% of the total outs for their team for the season. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)

   B. "C" Subdivision
      - Pitchers and Catchers must make 20% of the total outs for their team for the season if chosen in the pitcher or catcher round of the draft. (League Rules, Section 10, p. 10)
      - 9 outs in a week with one (1) League game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
      - 18 outs in a week with two (2) League games. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
      - 27 outs in a week with three (3) League games. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
      - 36 outs in a week with four (4) League games. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
      - The week runs from Sunday to Saturday. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
      - This rule does not apply to tournament play. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
2. Special Rules for pitchers and catchers in an inning where the maximum runs are allowed but three outs are not recorded:
   - If the pitcher or catcher plays the entire inning, then each pitcher and catcher will be charged with three (3) outs. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
   - If the pitcher or catcher is relieved in the inning, then each pitcher and catcher is charged with the actual outs she records but must be charged with at least one (1) out each. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
   - If the pitcher or catcher is relieved in the inning and no outs are recorded, then each pitcher and catcher is charged with one (1) out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - If the application of these rules results in a total of only two (2) outs being assigned to all pitchers or all catchers in an inning, then the pitcher or catcher who pitched or caught the most pitches in the inning will be assigned an additional out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - If the pitchers or catchers pitched or caught the same number of pitches, then the pitcher or catcher who started the inning will be assigned an additional out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - Any team in violation of these rules will forfeit the game in question and the Head Coach will be suspended from the field for one full game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

PITCHING AND CATCHING FOR INTER-LEAGUE GAMES

1. "B" Subdivision
   - No out limits. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
2. "C" Subdivision
   - Three (3) innings per game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
   - One (1) pitch constitutes an inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
   - Pitcher and Catcher outs in games played with South Vegas are still counted toward weekly outs totals. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)

REPORTING PITCHER AND CATCHER OUTS

- The winning Head Coach is responsible for reporting P/C outs via email to their Division Representative within 24 hours of the completion of their game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
- The opposing coach must be included on the email. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
- Failure to meet these reporting requirements results in the below repercussions:

  1. 1st offense – 1 game suspension
  2. 2nd offense – 2 game suspension
  3. 3rd offense - 0-7 forfeit loss

NORTHWEST GIRLS SOFTBALL-FASTPITCH

14u Rules - UPDATED September 2025

USA Softball rules will be used with the following modifications:

COACHES

Refer to the NWGS League Rules Section 7 – Head Coaches, Coaching Staff, and Coach Vacancies for full rules and guidelines regarding coaches. The following items are here simply for emphasis.

- All coaches must be ACE certified. (League Rules, Section 7, p.6)
- All team staff must be able to show proof of an unexpired Volunteer Coach Educated Softball card when on
- the field or in the dugout. (League Rules, Section 7, p. 6)
- Ensure there is always a background-checked/ACE-certified female in the dugout or on the field during practices and games. (League Rules, Section 7, p. 6)

GAME INFORMATION

A. Game Time Begins with the first warm-up pitch. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
   - Pitcher warm-up before the game and between innings is five (5) pitches or one (1) minute, whichever comes first. (USA Softball Official Rules 2023, Chapter 6A, Section 9)

B. Forfeits occur five (5) minutes after game time unless prior game has run late. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)

C. A game will NOT be rescheduled unless it is called by the Umpire due to weather or safety issues. (League Rules, Section 12, p.12)

D. Game time is one hour and twenty minutes. There is no new inning after one hour and twenty minutes. When game time is reached during an inning, finish the inning. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

E. A game that has completed three (3) innings, or that has completed two and one-half innings with the home team ahead, will be an official game and not rescheduled if called by the umpire due to weather or safety issues. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)

F. Inning Run Limits
   - 4 run maximum – first through third innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p.13)
   - 6 run maximum – fourth and subsequent innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p.13)
   - After game time expires, a game shall end if at any point a team cannot at least tie its opponent because of run cap rules. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)

G. Mercy Rule
   - 12 runs ahead – after the third inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - 10 runs ahead – after the fourth inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - 8 runs ahead – after the fifth inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

H. Pitching distance is 43'. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 2, Section 1)

I. Umpires and the opposing coach must have your lineup prior to the start of the game.
   - Per the USA Softball Official Rules, lineup cards must include each player's first and last name, jersey number, and starting position. (USA Softball Official Rules 2023, Rule 4, Section 1, Letter A, Number 1)
   - It is the responsibility of each team's scorekeeper to check the score with the umpire at the end of each half-inning.

UNIFORMS

- Girls must be in full uniform with shirts tucked in. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rules Supplement, Number 49 Sporting Behavior)
- Face masks are mandatory for any girl playing in the field. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13 and Section 13 p. 16)
- If hats are worn, they must be "like" in color. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
- Metal cleats are not permitted. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13 and Section 13, p. 16)
- No jewelry or hard hair accessories. Sport rope necklaces are allowed. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

GAMEPLAY

A. Bat the bench - all players in attendance. (League Rule, Section 12, p. 13)

B. If there are only eight (8) players in attendance, the 9th position will take an out. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)
   - This penalty is effective the entire game. (USA Softball Rule Book, Rule 1, Section 1)
   - Late arrival(s) may be inserted in the 9th position and beyond. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)
   - A team may not play with seven (7) players. (USA Softball Rule Book, Rule 1, Section 1)

C. Every girl must play two (2) defensive innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - All substitutions must be made by the top of the 3rd inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - If any players were unable to play their two (2) innings, those players must start the next game and complete any missed innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - It is the sole responsibility of the Head Coach to demonstrate proper use of players by either book or player card. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - A team in violation of this rule will have the Head Coach suspended from the field for one full game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

D. Umpires who have a conference with any player shall have a coach present. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

E. If the pitcher and/or catcher is on base you may utilize the courtesy runner rule at any time (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 8, Section 10), the last recorded out may run for the pitcher/catcher (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - If the pitcher/catcher is the last out, proceed to the next out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - If there are no outs furthest away will be utilized. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - In the event that there are zero (0) outs in the first inning, the player in the lineup who is furthest away from batting may run for the pitcher/ catcher. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - In the top of the first inning, the pitcher and catcher are the players identified at that position on the lineup card. Thereafter, the pitcher and catcher are identified as the last players who physically played that position on defense. (USA Softball Rule Book, Rule 8, Section 10)

F. Commonly used softball chants by softball teams are permitted. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)
   - Negative cheering that is felt to be excessive or done to humiliate a player is not permitted and should be brought to your Division Representative's attention to review. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)
   - Any necessary disciplinary steps needed will be addressed by Vice President. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

G. No artificial noisemakers of any kind. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

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RECORDING OF PITCHER AND CATCHER OUTS

1. Unlimited pitching and catching outs per week (In-League and Inter-League). (League Rules, Section 12, p. 19)
2. Outs are tracked as follows:
    - If the pitcher or catcher plays the entire inning, then each pitcher and catcher will be charged with three (3) outs. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
    - If the pitcher or catcher is relieved in the inning, then each pitcher and catcher is charged with the actual outs she records but must be charged with at least one (1) out each. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
    - If the pitcher or catcher is relieved in the inning and no outs are recorded, then each pitcher and catcher is charged with one (1) out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
    - If the application of these rules results in a total of only two (2) outs being assigned to all pitchers or all catchers in an inning, then the pitcher or catcher who pitched or caught the most pitches in the inning will be assigned an additional out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
    - If the pitchers or catchers pitched or caught the same number of pitches, then the pitcher or catcher who started the inning will be assigned an additional out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)

REPORTING PITCHER AND CATCHER OUTS

- The winning Head Coach is responsible for reporting P/C outs via email to their Division Representative within 24 hours of the completion of their game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
- The opposing coach must be included on the email. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
- Failure to meet these reporting requirements results in the below repercussions:

    1. 1st offense – 1 game suspension
    2. 2nd offense – 2 game suspension
    3. 3rd offense - 0-7 forfeit loss

NORTHWEST GIRLS SOFTBALL-FASTPITCH

16/18u Rules - September 2025

USA Softball rules will be used with the following modifications:

COACHES

Refer to the NWGS League Rules Section 7 – Head Coaches, Coaching Staff, and Coach Vacancies for full rules and guidelines regarding coaches. The following items are here simply for emphasis.

- All coaches must be ACE certified. (League Rules, Section 7, p.6)
- All team staff must be able to show proof of an unexpired Volunteer Coach Educated Softball card when on the field or in the dugout. (League Rules, Section 7, p. 6)
- Ensure there is always a background-checked/ACE-certified female in the dugout or on the field during practices and games. (League Rules, Section 7, p. 6)

GAME INFORMATION

A. Game Time Begins with the first warm-up pitch. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
   - Pitcher warm-up before the game and between innings is five (5) pitches or one (1) minute, whichever comes first. (USA Softball Official Rules 2023, Chapter 6A, Section 9)

B. Forfeits occur five (5) minutes after game time unless the prior game has run late. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)

C. A game will NOT be rescheduled unless it is called by the Umpire due to weather or safety issues. (League Rules, Section 12, p.12)

D. Game time is one hour and twenty minutes. There is no new inning after one hour and twenty minutes. When game time is reached during an inning, finish the inning. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

E. A game that has completed three (3) innings, or that has completed two and one-half innings with the home team ahead, will be an official game and not rescheduled if called by the umpire due to weather or safety issues. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)

F. Inning Run Limits
   - 4 run maximum – first through third innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p.13)
   - 6 run maximum – fourth and subsequent innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p.13)
   - After game time expires, a game shall end if at any point a team cannot at least tie its opponent because of run cap rules. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)

G. Mercy Rule
   - 12 runs ahead – after the third inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - 10 runs ahead – after the fourth inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - 8 runs ahead – after the fifth inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

H. Pitching distance is 43'. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 2, Section 1)

I. Umpires and the opposing coach must have your lineup prior to the start of the game.
   - Per the USA Softball Official Rules, lineup cards must include each player's first and last name, jersey number, and starting position. (USA Softball Official Rules 2023, Rule 4, Section 1, Letter A, Number 1)
   - It is the responsibility of each team's scorekeeper to check the score with the umpire at the end of each half-inning.

UNIFORMS

- Girls must be in full uniform with shirts tucked in. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rules Supplement, Number 49 Sporting Behavior)
- Face masks are not mandatory, but highly recommended. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13 and Section 13 p. 16)
- If hats are worn, they must be "like" in color. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
- Metal cleats are not permitted. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13 and Section 13, p. 16)
- No jewelry or hard hair accessories. Sport rope necklaces are allowed. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

GAMEPLAY

A. Bat the bench - all players in attendance. (League Rule, Section 12, p. 13)

B. If there are only eight (8) players in attendance, the 9th position will take an out. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)
   - This penalty is effective the entire game. (USA Softball Rule Book 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)
   - Late arrival(s) may be inserted in the 9th position and beyond. (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 1, Section 1)
   - A team may not play with seven (7) players. (USA Softball Rule Book, Rule 1, Section 1)

C. Every girl must play two (2) defensive innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - All substitutions must be made by the top of the 3rd inning. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - If any players were unable to play their two (2) innings, those players must start the next game and complete any missed innings. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - It is the sole responsibility of the Head Coach to demonstrate proper use of players by either book or player card. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
   - A team in violation of this rule will have the Head Coach suspended from the field for one full game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)
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D. Umpires who have a conference with any player shall have a coach present. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 13)

E. If the pitcher and/or catcher is on base you may utilize the courtesy runner rule at any time (USA Softball Rulebook 2023, Rule 8, Section 10), the last recorded out may run for the pitcher/catcher (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - If the pitcher/catcher is the last out, proceed to the next out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - If there are no outs furthest away will be utilized. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - In the event that there are zero (0) outs in the first inning, the player in the lineup who is furthest away from batting may run for the pitcher/ catcher. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
   - In the top of the first inning, the pitcher and catcher are the players identified at that position on the lineup card. Thereafter, the pitcher and catcher are identified as the last players who physically played that position on defense. (USA Softball Rule Book, Rule 8, Section 10)

F. Commonly used softball chants by softball teams are permitted. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)
   - Negative cheering that is felt to be excessive or done to humiliate a player is not permitted and should be brought to your Division Representative's attention to review. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)
   - Any necessary disciplinary steps needed will be addressed by Vice President. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

G. No artificial noisemakers of any kind. (League Rules, Section 11, p. 11)

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RECORDING OF PITCHER AND CATCHER OUTS

1. Unlimited pitching and catching outs per week (In-League and Inter-League). (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
2. Outs are tracked as follows:
    - If the pitcher or catcher plays the entire inning, then each pitcher and catcher will be charged with three (3) outs. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
    - If the pitcher or catcher is relieved in the inning, then each pitcher and catcher is charged with the actual outs she records but must be charged with at least one (1) out each. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 14)
    - If the pitcher or catcher is relieved in the inning and no outs are recorded, then each pitcher and catcher is charged with one (1) out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
    - If application of these rules results in a total of only two (2) outs being assigned to all pitchers or all catchers in an inning, then the pitcher or catcher who pitched or caught the most pitches in the inning will be assigned an additional out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)
    - If the pitchers or catchers pitched or caught the same number of pitches, then the pitcher or catcher who started the inning will be assigned an additional out. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 15)

REPORTING PITCHER AND CATCHER OUTS

- The winning Head Coach is responsible for reporting P/C outs via email to their Division Representative within 24 hours of the completion of their game. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
- The opposing coach must be included on the email. (League Rules, Section 12, p. 12)
- Failure to meet these reporting requirements results in the below repercussions:

    1. 1st offense – 1 game suspension
    2. 2nd offense – 2 game suspension
    3. 3rd offense - 0-7 forfeit loss

APPENDIX C

CODES OF CONDUCT

Coaches Code of Conduct

This Coaches Code of Conduct applies to Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Managers, Team Mom, and any others on a team's coaching staff. All people are referred to as coaches for this document. Each coach who will be on the field or in the dugout with players during any practice or game shall sign this form and abide by these rules.

The NWGS Board of Directors (the Board) handles complaints against coaches and is able to remove a coach and/or coaching staff from the League following a majority vote, with or without a hearing, due to actions or behavior found to be in violation of the mission, rules, codes of conduct, and/or bylaws of the League. A coach may appeal any discipline, suspension, or removal by requesting a hearing in front of the full Board pursuant to hearing rules adopted by the Board. The coach will remain disciplined, suspended, or removed until a decision by the full Board, whose decision shall be final.

Ejection from a game by any coach will result in the following penalties:

- 1st Ejection: Suspension from the next game.
- 2nd Ejection: Suspension from the next two games and not eligible to coach an All-Star team.
- 3rd Ejection: Losing coaching duties for the remainder of the season and permanent ejection from the League at the Board's discretion.

The Chain of Command for reporting issues or discrepancies is as follows:

- Coach – Division Representative – Player Advocate and Vice President – President
- Parents should report any and all issues to their Head Coach. If the issue is with the Head Coach, parents may report directly to the Player Advocate.
- All coaches will abide by all USA Softball, USA Softball of Nevada, and NWGS league rules.
- No coach or manager may recruit a "B/Gold" or "C/Silver" player during the Recreational League's season (approximate dates are Spring – February 1 through May 23, All-Stars – May 1 through August 15, and Fall - August 1 through November 30). Such action will result in suspension or removal from the League and USA Softball of Nevada.
- All Coaches will always maintain a professional demeanor while around players, which includes, but is not limited to:
    1. Being under the influence of alcohol or drugs or using tobacco products.
    2. Refraining from using threatening, abusive, foul, or improper language toward anyone, including inappropriate conduct on social media.
    3. Excessive arguing with umpires, opposing coaches, parents, or fans.
    4. Mentally or physically abusing or endangering players.
- Head Coaches are responsible for monitoring the behavior of his or her coaches, players, player parents and relatives, and fans, and their compliance with NWGS league rules. NWGS encourages all teams to use Team Snap as their primary communication method. Other communication methods may not be sufficient to resolve disputes or issues on a team when reported to the Board.
- All coaches shall ensure the bleachers/stands areas, including the dugout, is clean following their games (trash, bottles, food containers need to be disposed of in a trash can and no seeds left on ground). Please notify the Snack Shack if any trash cans need emptying. Failure to abide by this may result in your team being assigned trash duty, or extra Snack Shack shifts, at Board discretion. The Away Team for the proceeding game will perform quick rake/tamp of the batter's box for the next game even if no game is scheduled. Equipment is located in the umpire room.
- Coaches and players who attend or participate in non-league-sanctioned practices and batting cage sessions are not protected by the League's liability insurance and will not be able to hold the League liable for any personal injury, property damage, or economic loss resulting from these non-league-sanctioned practices and batting cage sessions. This includes, but is not limited to, injuries caused by carelessness, recklessness, or intentional wrongdoing.

Players and Parents Code of Conduct

All reported violations of the below Players and Parents Code of Conduct will be reviewed by the League's President, Vice President, Player Advocate, and Division Representative. Based upon the severity, violations may result in a verbal warning, written warning, player, parent or coach suspension, or player, parent or coach expulsion from the League.

When a Parent or Spectator is in violation of the below rules, the Umpire will eject the Head Coach. The Board will then follow up, and provide additional punishment as needed, including but not limited to immediate game suspension for the next game.

The Chain of Command for reporting issues or discrepancies is as follows:

- Parent - Head Coach - Division Representative - Player Advocate and Vice President - President
- Parents will report any and all issues to their Head Coach. If the issue is with the Head Coach, parents may report directly to the Division Representative or Player Advocate.
- Shall demonstrate high ideals and maintain self-control and good sportsmanship. This includes being courteous to opposing coaches, team members, fans, board members, and umpires.
- Shall respect the integrity and judgment of umpires by accepting their decisions without any negative behavior.
- Shall not belittle an opponent, official, board members, or any other associated with the League or its activities.
- Shall control and discourage profanity or abusive language directed toward anyone involved with the League and its activities.
- Shall not, under any circumstances, engage in fights or altercations of any kind.
- Shall recognize safety as a top priority. Equipment shall not be thrown in anger. Equipment shall be handled in a manner to ensure maximum safety. Players and parents shall respect the League's equipment and facilities.
- Shall, at all times, demonstrate high morals, good sportsmanship, and exemplary behavior that is representative of being a member of the League, and a leader of young women.
- Shall emphasize the importance of proper sideline behavior and restrain from engaging in or entertaining fights or altercations of any kind.
- When a player is ejected, that player is required to leave the immediate playing field (cannot be in the dugout or stands). The Board will then follow up, and provide additional punishment as needed, including but not limited to immediate game suspension for the next game.
- Shall ensure the bleachers/stands areas, including the dugout is clean following their games (trash, bottles, and food containers need to be disposed of in a trash can and no seeds left on the ground). Please notify the Snack Shack if any trash cans need emptying. Failure to abide by this may result in the team being assigned trash duty, or extra Snack Shack shifts, at Board discretion.
- No parent may recruit a "B/Gold" or "C/Silver" player during the Recreational League's season (approximate dates are Spring – February 1 through May 23, All-Stars – May 1 through August 15, and Fall - August 1 through November 30). Such action will result in suspension or removal from the League.
- Coaches and players who attend or participate in non-league-sanctioned practices and batting cage sessions are not protected by the League's liability insurance and will not be able to hold the League liable for any personal injury, property damage, or economic loss resulting from these non-league-sanctioned practices and batting cage sessions. This includes but is not limited to, injuries caused by carelessness, recklessness, or intentional wrongdoing.

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APPENDIX D

PENALITIES AND SANCTIONS

Section 3: Board of Directors

- Any Board Member with at least three (3) unexcused absences for meetings set forth will be subject to removal from the Board by a majority vote of the Board (League Rules p. 1).
- Members of the League who are on probation or suspension are not permitted to run for or serve on the Board (League Rules p. 1).

Section 6: Player Registrations

- Any registration fee that is returned and/or not paid will be subject to a $50.00 fee and the affected registered player may not take the field or receive her uniform until the fee and registration is current (League Rules, p. 5).
- Any player with a balance from a prior season may not register until the balance is paid in full (League Rules, p.
- 5).

Section 7: Head Coaches, Coaching Staff, and Coaching Vacancies

- The NWGS Board of Directors is able to remove a coach and/or coaching staff from the league following a majority vote, due to actions or behavior found to be in violation of the mission, rules, and/or bylaws of the League (League Rules, p. 5).
- Per USA Softball of Nevada, no coach or manager may recruit a "B/Gold" or "C/Silver" player during the Recreational League's season (approximate dates are Spring - February 1 through May 23, All-Stars - May 1 through August 15, and Fall – August 1 through November 30). Such action will result in suspension or removal from USA Softball of Nevada (League Rules, p. 5).
- Head Coaches who reside outside of the League's zip code boundaries must wait one season before being eligible to coach (League Rules, p. 5).

Section 10: Team Selection

8U through 18U Divisions (League Rules Section 9)

- Regarding a "B/Gold" Subdivision - The Head Coach must ensure that the declared player pitches or catches, as applicable, The Head Coach must ensure that the drafted player pitches or catches, as applicable, 30% of the team's outs in the upcoming season during league play. Coaches should consult with their Division Representative during the season to keep track of their percentage usage. A Head Coach violating this requirement will be suspended for the rest of the season and the following season. (League Rules, p. 8).
- Regarding the "B/Gold" Draft for a player being selected as a general player vs. being a pitcher/catcher in a "C/Silver" Subdivision via a parent letter to the Player Advocate, said player will not pitch/catch one (1) inning in a "B/Gold" Subdivision. A Head Coach violating this requirement will be suspended from coaching for the rest of the season and the following season (League Rules, p. 5). (Also found in Section 10, Draft, in the section "All Pitchers and Catchers will be Designated Prior to the Draft" p. 6).

Draft - Trades

- There is no trading of draft picks during the draft, only like players AFTER. If it is deemed that any manipulation has occurred, both coaches are subject to removal from the League (League Rules, p. 9)

Section 11: League Ground and Park Rules

Prohibited Items

- Negative cheering that is felt to be excessive or done to humiliate a player is not permitted and should be brought to your Division Representative's attention to review. Any necessary disciplinary steps needed will be addressed by the Vice President (League Rules, p. 11).

Field Prep and Cleanup

- Teams are responsible for cleaning up the dugout and spectator area after each game. Failure to do so
- may result in the team having trash duty or be considered for additional Snack Shack shifts (League Rules, p. 11). (Also found in Coaches Code of Conduct and Players and Parents Code of Conduct).

Team Snack Shack Requirements

- Each team is required to sign up for one 4-hour snack bar shift. If snack bar duty is not fulfilled or signed up for one (1) week prior to the start of the season:
    a. The team will forfeit its most recent prior win, or its next win if the team has no wins.
    b. The head coach will be suspended for the next game.
    c. The team will be rescheduled for snack bar duty at a later date. (League Rules, p. 11)

Section 12: Local Division Rules

Divisions Required to Report P/C Outs

- The winning Head Coach is responsible for reporting the P/C outs via email to their Division Representative, prior to their next game. Must include opposing coach on email. Failure to do so will result in an 0-7 forfeit loss being recorded, and suspension from the next immediate game (League Rules, p. 12; also found in Coaches Code of Conduct).

Gameplay

- Every girl must play two (2) defensive innings. A team in violation of this rule will have the Head Coach suspended from the field for one (1) full game (League Rules, p. 13).

Pitcher and Catcher Limits-In League and Inter-League Games

- Any team in violation of the rules in this section will forfeit the game in question and the Head Coach will be suspended from the field for one full game (League Rules, p. 43)

Section 13: Player Equipment

- Head coaches are responsible for their equipment. Any abnormal damage or breakage will be reviewed by the Board and determined as to who will replace it (League Rules, p. 16).

Codes of Conduct

Coaches

- Complaints against coaches – The Executive Board may act on its own if improper behavior is observed by or reported to any board member.
- Ejection from a game – Ejection from a game by any Coach will result in the following penalties: A.
    a. 1st Ejection: Suspension from next game.
    b. 2nd Ejection: Suspension from next two games, not eligible to coach All-Star team.
    c. 3rd Ejection: Losing coach duties for the remainder of the season and permanent ejection from the League at the Executive Board's discretion.
- Coaches who do not follow the expectations described above (in the Coaches Code of Conduct) may be warned, disciplined, suspended, or ultimately removed at the discretion of the Executive Board, with or without a hearing. A coach may appeal any discipline, suspension, or removal by requesting a hearing in front of the full Board pursuant to hearing rules adopted by the Executive Board. The coach will remain disciplined, suspended, or removed until a decision by the full board, whose decision shall be final.

Parents and Players

- When a player is ejected, that player is required to leave the immediate playing field (cannot be in dugout or stands). The Board will then follow up, and provide additional punishment as needed, including but not limited to immediate game suspension for the next game.
- When a parent or Spectator is in violation of the above rules (Parents and Players Code of Conduct), the Umpire will eject the Head Coach. The Board will then follow up, and provide additional punishment as needed, including but not limited to immediate game suspension for the next game.
- All reported violations will be reviewed by the League's President, Player Advocate, and Division Representative. Based upon severity, violations may result in a verbal warning, written warning, player or parent or coach suspension from game(s), or player or parent or coach expulsion from the League.