

INDIAN WELLS VALLEY YOUTH SOFTBALL

RULES APPENDIX

Lower Division Rules

- 1) The official game will be seven innings or time expiration.
 - a) Regular season game time will be 1 hour 30 minutes Drops Dead (1:30 DD).
 - b) If a batter is in the box, then they will be allowed to complete the at bat, with the score reverting to the last completed inning's score.
 - c) No tiebreakers.
 - d) The umpire will announce the official game time after the pre-game coaches meeting.

- 2) Run rules:
 - a) 15 runs after 3 innings.
 - b) 10 runs after 4 innings.
 - c) 8 runs after 5 innings.
 - d) 12U Seven (7) Run Rule: Each team may not score more than seven runs per inning.
 - e) 14U and 16U: There is no rule per inning.

- 3) Pitching:
 - a) No Pitching limits.
 - b) The distance is determined from the front of the pitching rubber to the point of the home plate.
 - c) 8U Distance for the pitching machine is thirty (30').
 - i) Recommended 26 – 32 MPH.
 - ii) Wind Conditions will dictate this speed.
 - iii) Lowest speed setting to accurately cross the plate.
 - iv) Utilize an 11-inch softcore ball.
 - d) 10U Pitchers must pitch from thirty-five feet (35').
 - i) Utilizing an 11-inch hardcore ball.
 - e) 12U Pitchers must pitch from forty feet (40').
 - i) Utilizing a 12-inch hardcore ball.
 - f) 14U and 16U Pitchers must pitch from forty-three feet (43').
 - i) Utilizing a 12-inch hardcore ball.



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- 4) Players must slide when there is a close play. The umpire has the final say.

- 5) Player Participation:
 - a) **All players must play the field for two innings each game.**
 - b) **All Players must be on the batting line-up every game.**
 - c) Players may be borrowed from another team if needed to allow a maximum of 9 total players on the field/line-up.
 - d) Teams must first attempt to borrow players from the team that they are playing before borrowing from another team.
 - e) Teams can begin a game with eight rostered players.
 - f) If a player(s) is injured or becomes ill during a game, teams can play with as few as 7 players. The injured player shall be removed from the line-up and may not be allowed to return.
 - g) If a team has fewer than eight rostered players, that team forfeits the game. The game can still be played as a scrimmage.
 - h) If a player arrives after the lineup is turned in to the scorekeeper and/or umpire, the player will be placed at the end of the lineup. **All players must bat.**

- 6) Field Rules:
 - a) Players must wear a face mask while on the field. Whether they are infield or outfield; this applies to **all practices and games.**
 - b) Both teams are responsible for prepping the field prior to a game and field/dugout cleanup after the game.
 - c) Bases are to be returned to the equipment cage after the final game of the day.
 - d) The Home Team, which will be determined by the schedule, will occupy the third-base side dugout.
 - e) The home team will be responsible for keeping the official score.
 - f) Pre-Game warmups will be limited to the area outside of the base paths.
 - g) Teams will not warm-up on the infield.
 - h) **Examples for how teams can support each other:**
 - i) **Home team preps the field.**
 - ii) **Away team tear down the field.**

- 7) Player Safety:
 - a) Any player warming up a pitcher must wear a catcher's mask.

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- b) All batters, on-deck batters and base runners will always wear a batting helmet. All batting helmets must have a face shield.
 - c) If a player is injured while on base, the player who made the previous out will run for that injured player. If the player is removed from the game due to the injury, the subsequent at bats will not result in an out.
 - d) Jewelry: Exposed jewelry, which is judged by the umpire to be dangerous, must be removed and may not be worn during the game. Medical alert bracelets or necklaces are not considered jewelry. If worn, they must be taped to the body, so the medical alert information remains visible.
 - e) No coach(es) will be authorized to enter the field to discuss a ruling without approval of the umpire.
 - f) Players are to remain in their respective dugout throughout a game with exceptions being made for medical issues and bathroom needs.
 - g) Only coaches, managers, and players of a team currently playing a game are allowed in that team's dugout or behind them (no family members or players from other teams).
- 8) All players on a team will wear uniforms that are like in color and style. • Sweatshirts or undershirts may be worn in inclement weather.
- 9) An IWWYS Board Member not affiliated with the teams playing (i.e., not coaching a team or having no child on the team) will function as a mediator and make final decisions if there is an unknown condition, safety concern, or spectator concern. This board member will identify themselves with the Umpire and Coaches prior to the start of game.