

GENERAL

Governing Rules

1 General Rules

- (a) The Softball Canada Rules of play govern this league, except where specified differently below.
- (b) Registering with this league all players release the Barrie District Girls Softball Association (B.D.G.S.A) from any and all liability and responsibility in the event of injuries or damages that occur while participating in a B.D.G.S.A hosted event.
- (c)

Only players registered with B.D.G.S.A and are in good standing are able to play in either the House League Division or the Representative League Division.

Divisional Distances & Baseball Sizes:			
<i>Division</i>	<i>Base Distance</i>	<i>Pitching Distance</i>	<i>Baseball Size</i>
Tyke	45 Feet	25 Feet	11" High Visibility; 47 Core
Mite	45 Feet	28 Feet	11" High Visibility, 47 Core
Squirt	55 Feet	35 Feet	11" High Visibility, 47 Core
Novice	60 Feet	38 Feet	12" High Visibility, 47 Core
Bantam	60 Feet	40 Feet	12" High Visibility, 47 Core
Varsity	60 Feet	43 Feet	12" High Visibility, 47 Core

If the base distance is 55 feet, the distance from home to 2nd is 77 feet 9.25 inches *****
If the base distance is 60 feet, the distance from home to 2nd is 84 feet 10.25 inches *****

2 Number of players for a legal game

- (a) A team must play if 7 members are present at game time. No outs are recorded for missing players.
- (b) A team having less than 7 players, is given a 15 minute grace period after an official start time. If the team still does not have 7 players after the grace period the team is considered to be in default and the opposing team is credited with winning the game with a score of 7 - 0.
- (c) If both teams are in default each will be credited with a losing the game. Rescheduling of games other than rain outs is only allowed by the VP of House League and the Convenor of the Division.
- (d) In the event of late arrivals. Players who arrive in uniform prior to the end of the game may play. Borrowed players must be returned to their respective team. Late and borrowed players will be added to the bottom of the team's line-up.

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3 Game Times

- (a) All games are 80 minutes unless otherwise specified specifically by Division.
- (b) Umpire must preside over all legal games.
- (c) The Umpires watch is the official time.
- (d) The grace period is considered part of the game time. This does not apply to playoffs.

4 Game Ejections

- (a) Any profanity or unsportsmanlike conduct by players or coaches may result in ejection from the game.
- (b) Parents or fans that become abusive towards players, coaches or umpires may cause the game to be defaulted.
- (c) Any player who wilfully abuses equipment (i.e. throwing helmets, etc.) can be ejected from the game subject to one warning from the coach or umpire.
- (d) The coach shall be responsible for removing any parent or player and ensuring that all players respect the equipment provided. Any player or coach involved in a fight shall be ejected from the game.
- (e) Any unnecessary physical contact made by a base runner or fielder will result in the immediate ejection of that player. A warning will be issued to the player and coach. If the player is ejected a second time for this, they will be expelled from the league. The player will have to apply to the executive for reinstatement should they choose to play in subsequent years.
- (f) All game ejections must be reported by the umpire to the Umpire-in-Chief, who shall file a report to the Executive.

5 Home Team Responsibilities

- (a) Home team is responsible for preparing the field for play including liming baselines, placing of the bases and pitchers plate and for the removal and safe storage after the game. High traffic areas such as the pitching and base areas should be raked level to restore the playing surface.
- (b) Home team will have their choice of dug out.
- (c) Home team is responsible for reporting the score to the division convener.
- (d) Home team shall properly display sponsors banner at each diamond and store carefully in the equipment box.
- (e) Home team is responsible for informing the convenor of any base equipment issues. Missing or ripped bases, no chalk, no hammer or rake, etc.

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6 Base Coach Rule

- (a) Each team is allowed a coach at first and third base when their team is at bat.
- (b) Base coaches must remain off the field of play and may not make contact with the runner while the ball is in play or the runner is out.** *****
- (c) Coaches may make contact with their player when the ball is dead or time has been called.** *****
- (d) No open toed footwear will be allowed by base coaches.
- (e) If base coach is under the age of 18, they must wear the same CSA helmets as approved for batters.

7 Uniforms

- (a) Uniforms supplied by B.D.G.S.A. must be worn at all games with no alterations (i.e. cut off pants or sleeves).
- (b) Alterations to provide proper fit are allowed.
- (c) All players must have their shirts tucked in at all times.
- (d) Should a batter enter the batter's box with an improper uniform (untucked shirt), a warning will be issued to both teams.
- (e) After two warnings, a team out will be imposed. The third out will result in the loss of bat for the offending team.
- (f) A player's number must be visible while batting.
- (g) Authorized baseball shorts are allowed to be worn. They must be black in colour.
- (h) The league highly recommends players wear padded "sliders" for their own protection if shorts are being worn.

8 Safety

- (a) It is strongly recommended that all players wear female protective equipment (Jill).
- (b) Catchers must wear chest protectors, shin guards, mask, throat protector and protective headgear.
- (c) Any player, coach, or parent catching warmup for a pitcher during the game MUST wear protective headgear.** *****
- (d) Opposing teams must lend any equipment as needed.
- (e) Any player who refuses to wear the protective equipment is to be removed from the catching position. This applies to practices as well as games.
- (f) Helmets are mandatory for hitting in all divisions, please refer to your specific division for additional details & requirements.
- (g) Jewellery. Softball Canada rules applies. Items deemed unsafe by the umpire must be removed. Failure to comply will result in the player or players being ruled ineligible to play. Medic Alert bracelets are not considered jewellery. All earrings must be removed. TAPING OF EARRINGS IS NOT ALLOWED.
- (h) Smoking is strictly prohibited by players and coaches on the field or in the dugout area.
- (i) No open toed footwear is allowed on the field or in the dugout area.
- (j) Double Safety bag is required for first base for all games.
- (k) Base runners running to First Base must touch the orange part of the first base bag.** *****
- (l) Fielders covering First Base must be touching the white part of the base. If the fielder is touching the orange part of the base, the runner will be called safe. Exception -Tyke Division** *****

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- (k) All injuries must be reported to the divisional convenor, who must report it to the Vice President, House League Division.
- (l) There will be no designated runners or batters. If a player is injured or too ill to play, the last out will take her place if she is on base. If the player cannot assume her next at bat, the coach will notify the umpire and opposing coach and the player will be removed from the line-up. No out is recorded and the player may not re-enter the game. If a batter cannot continue while at bat the last batter out will bat in her place and assume the current count.

9 Score Keeping

- (a) Teams shall be awarded 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 points for a loss or default for all regular season games.
- (b) All teams qualify for the playoff tournament.
- (c) All players are to be listed on the score sheet in order of their turn at bat. All players must bat in order. List both the first and last names of all players and their uniform numbers on the score sheet. Late arrivals are added to the bottom of the score sheet.
- (d) The team finishing higher in the regular season standings will be home team in all playoff games. However, if a second deciding game in the gold medal game is required, home team will be decided by a coin toss.

10 Rule Changes

- (a) If any coaches, players, or parents have suggestions for a rule change, addition or deletion they feel will better suit playing conditions for any or all divisions, they are encouraged to submit their proposal in writing clearly outlining their proposal and reasons for the submission to the Rule Committee Chairperson. The committee will review all submissions with the Umpire-In-chief and Convenors and decide upon acceptance or rejection.
- (b) The Executive may, upon the request of a Convenor, review any rule during the season and make any changes deemed appropriate.