

NOVICE DIVISION

1 Batting Helmets

- (a) Batting Helmets must CSA approved and have a full face cage

2 Player Rotation

- (a) **COACHES MUST STRIVE FOR EQUAL PLAY OF ALL PLAYERS.**
- (b) **All players must play the minimum of every other inning and no player will be sat out a second time until all players have sat out for one inning.**
- (c) The same applies for sitting a third inning, if necessary. Exception to this is for injury, sickness, or personal hygiene.

3 Pitcher's Rules

- (a) A pitcher may pitch a maximum of 2 consecutive innings and a maximum of 3 innings in a game. For Playoffs the maximum is 4 innings.
- (b) Any appearance in an inning shall count as an inning pitched.
- (c) An exception to this rule is a pitcher who replaces for reason of injury
- (d) Any pitcher who hits 2 batters in one inning (not necessarily consecutive) shall be removed from the pitching position for the remainder of that inning.
- (e) Should the pitcher hit a total of 3 batters in the course of the game, that pitcher is not allowed to pitch for the remainder of the game.
- (f) The ball must directly hit the batter. A ball that hits the ground then hits the batter does not apply, but is still a dead ball and the batter awarded first base at the discretion of the umpire.
- (g) A trip to the mound is counted when the coach crosses the base line or instructs the pitcher through any defensive player.
- (h) Two trips to the mound in one inning will cause the coach to replace the pitcher for that inning.
- (i) The pitcher may move to another position but cannot pitch for the remainder of that inning.
- (j) A trip to the mound for the purpose of checking an injury to the pitcher will not be counted, unless the coach gives instruction to the pitcher during the stoppage.

4 Fielding Rules

- (a) A maximum of 9 defensive players can be on the field at one time.
- (b) 8 foot circle must chalked in around the pitchers plate.
- (c) Outfielders must be a minimum of 5 feet beyond baseline area in fair territory.
- (d) **The infield fly rule is in effect.**
- (e) Bunting is allowed.
- (f) **The batter can become a base runner when the catcher fails to catch the third strike.**
- (g) Stealing bases is allowed after the ball leaves the pitchers hand.

NOVICE DIVISION

- (h) On a walk, stealing second base in a continuous motion from the plate is allowed.
- (i) **If the pitcher has possession of the ball within the 8ft circle, any base runner must immediately attempt to advance to the next base or immediately return to the last base touched. Any movement back or forth shall result in the base runner being called out.**

5 Game Length

Games shall be a minimum 3 innings with no new innings starting after 80 minutes.

- (a) Inning 4 is considered an open inning, all other innings have a 5 run limit
- (b) In the event of inclement weather or time elapsed, the game will be considered complete if the home team is leading after 2.5 innings or the visiting team is leading after 3 innings.
- (c) Medal games shall be 7 innings with the 7th inning being the open inning and NO time limit. Pitching rules apply.
- (d) In the event of a tie in a playoff or medal game, additional innings will be played until a winner is declared.
- (e) For playoffs: The international tie breaker rule is in effect.
- (f) After 7 innings pitching rules no longer apply.
- (g)

6 Call up of Players

Call ups are allowed from the SQUIRT Division.

- (a) Call-ups are allowed to bring a team to a maximum of 9 players.
- (b) Coaches should verify team attendance prior to requesting call-ups.
- (c) If a player is called up and will bring the team to more than 9 she must still be played as if a member of the team. The call-up player must wear her regular uniform.
- (d) Call-ups that arrive during the game can only play if the team has less than 9 players
- (e) Call-ups may not be used in the pitching position.
- (f) Call-ups may not come from the REP division.
- (g) All call-ups should be arranged through the SQUIRT Division Convener. If the Convener cannot be reached, then the coach may contact the SQUIRT Division coach or the player directly.
- (h) The NOVICE division team may call up the same SQUIRT player a maximum of 5 times for the regular season and playoffs combined.

7 Catcher Substitution

In order to speed up the game, when there are 2 out and the catcher is on base, the coach may replace the catcher with a substitute runner. The runner must be the last out for that inning.