

# **2025 Winter Ball interleague Rules**

## **Jurupa, Ontario, Chino, Montclair**

### **THE LEAGUE FORMAT REQUIREMENTS AND DIVISION PLAYING RULES**

General Rules That Apply To All Playing Divisions (Exceptions Are Noted)

#### **USA SOFTBALL RULES WILL APPLY WITH EXCEPTION OF THE FOLLOWING**

1. All games postponed due to weather or darkness may be played off, if possible. Rescheduling needs to be cleared by the Division Commissioner and Umpire in Chief.
2. Unsportsmanlike conduct or “showboating” type behavior will NOT be tolerated and parent/coach/player will be ejected from the game
3. All team rostered players must be placed in the batting line-up (Round Robin batting)
4. Players must have played two full innings within the first four innings, unless injured and unable to continue
5. All girls must play a minimum of 50% of the game (2 of 4 innings; 3 of 6 innings; 3 of 7 innings).
6. If any girl plays only 2 of the 5 or 1 of the 3 innings she must start the next game. Failure to adhere to this policy shall result in board action and may result in a forfeit.
7. Ties will be allowed. If the game is tied after 6 innings in 8U or 10U or 7 innings in 12U or 14/HS.
8. USA RUN-AHEAD rule will apply –. (15 after 3, 12 after 4, 8 after 5).
9. Each team must have a minimum of eight (8) players to start and end the game (NO Exceptions). Late players may be added to the bottom of the line-up at any time before the start of the third inning. Any player arriving after the start of the third inning is ineligible.
10. Leagues will recognize the USA "short-handed" rule which states that you may start w/ 8 players but have to take an out for the empty spot in the line-up, which will only occur the FIRST time only.

11. Courtesy runners for pitcher and catcher only.(last batter out)
12. All catchers will wear a facemask with throat or wire guard, chest protectors, and leg guards when behind home plate. When a player is warming up a pitcher, she must wear an approved catcher's mask.
13. All bats shall be official softball bats or those allowed by USA softball.
14. All girls must wear batting helmets with NOCSAE approved face guard when batting, running bases, in the on-deck circle, coaching in the Coach's Box, and all the way into the dugout. Removal of the helmet during a live ball will result in an out.
15. No jewelry or hard hair barrettes shall be allowed. Absolutely no earrings of any kind. Covering earrings with band-aids is not allowed. Medical alert are allowed but must be taped.
16. Teams in all divisions must fulfill all of their snack bar duties in order to be eligible for playoffs (end of season tournament)
19. . If a player leaves during the game or is unable to continue to participate, the first time she is scheduled to be after leaving will result in an out. Subsequent at bats will be skipped without penalty.
20. . If a player is injured while running the bases (note: injury must occur while running the bases, runners will not be given for injuries occurring before running the bases), the last SCHEDULED BATTER may be used as a courtesy runner (at umpire's discretion). The next scheduled at bat of that batter will be an automatic out if she is unable to continue. Subsequent scheduled at bats will be skipped without penalty.
21. The 4up rule will apply for the 6u division. The 5up rule will apply for Divisions 8U-12U. 14U and higher will have a 5up rule till the end of inning 3. Inning 4 plus will be unlimited. Mercy rule will apply.
22. Coaches need to be INSIDE the dugouts, no buckets allowed on the field of play.(Umpire Discretion
23. The blue will have the final say on a call, if you wish to contest the ruling, there is a \$100 fee AND it is at the discretion of the blue.
24. Mercy Rule - The run-ahead rule, often referred to as a "mercy rule" or "run rule" states that if one team is up by eight or more runs after five or more equal innings, the home plate umpire can declare a run-ahead rule and end the game.
25. **Home team will always be determined by a coin flip at the home plate meeting, it doesn't matter which park the game is played in.**

## **26. Scorekeeping**

-After each game a coach or scorekeeper from each team will report the games score to either the snack bar or designated tent at the field in which the game was held. A printed name will be required to verify the score. Any scores not matching will be investigated to find the correct score. If a team does not report their score before the last game of the day and the other team reports theirs then that score will be official. If neither team reports their scores both teams scores will result in a 0-7 forfeit for both teams.

-If a team reports their score and the score online reflects different from the reported score, a manager has 48 hours to contest the score.

## **T-ball / 6U DIVISION**

1. Coaches Will Umpire T-ball and 6u. No official game scores or team standings will be maintained for T-ball

2. A 10" ball will be used (A safety ball)

3. All games shall be limited to 1 hour 10 mins drop dead for 6u and 45 mins for T-ball

4. The base paths shall be set at 60 feet (6u). 35 feet (t-ball)

5. T-ball season will begin with the tee. Each batter will be allowed 3 swings off the tee, a foul ball on the third swing will be considered a foul ball.

-Ball must pass the foul arc in front of the batter's box to be considered a fair ball

6. The 6U division will coach pitch the whole spring season. The designated coach pitcher will get to pitch 3 balls to the batter from the pitching plate, one foot must be on the pitching plate when releasing the ball, if after the 3rd pitched ball the batter doesn't hit the ball fair or foul, the tee will be brought out for 2 swings.

7. A foul ball on the 2nd swing will be considered an out.

8. Pitching distance shall be set at thirty (30) feet. The player shall stand anywhere behind the pitching rubber with one foot in the pitching circle while the adult pitcher is pitching.

9. The outfield shall be considered any area 10Ft. beyond the baseline between 1st and 2nd bases and 2nd and 3rd bases. Outfielders may not come in past the 10 ft line until the ball is hit.

10. The catcher(optional) must remain in the defensive position until after the ball has been hit.

11. No base stealing is allowed. All base runners must remain on the bases until the ball is hit. If a runner is off the base when the ball is hit, the ball is dead, the runner returns to base and the batter bats again (Do-Over).

12. The fielding team will play 9 defensive players if no catcher and 10 defensive players if playing a catcher.

-Infield consist of pitcher, 1st base, 2nd base, shortstop, 3rd base, and catcher(if team chooses)

-1st,2nd,shortstop, and 3rd basemen must stay 5 ft behind pitchers plate before ball is hit

-outfield consist of 4 players

13. Four adults are allowed on the field during the season to guide in making defensive plays. They are not allowed to touch the ball, player or interfere with the play.

14. T-ball innings will consist of all batters batting then the opposing team will bat all batters for 2 to 3 innings with time permitted.

15. 6u innings will consist of 3 outs or a 4 up run rule

16. If an out is made the player that got out must return to the dugout.

17. 1 base on overthrows to first base only.

18. No penalty for sliding

19. Helmets must stay on heads and have a face guard

20. The base of the tee must be 100% on home plate.

21. Play is dead once ball crosses the pitcher circle, if runner has not crossed the half way line when ball passes the pitcher circle runner must go back to the previous base.

### **Seasonal Play Rules 8U -14U**

-All games will be 1 hour 20 no new or 1 hour 30 min drop dead

-Revert back/drop dead rule

- If the home team is ahead when the game is called, the home team wins.
- If the home team was behind at the start of the inning, the game reverts to the prior inning unless the home team has tied the score or taken the lead in which case the game is a tie or win for the home team.
- Base Running is open
- Base patches will be 60 ft

THE SEASONAL PLAY RULES WILL APPLY TO ALL DIVISIONS 8U-14U/HS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FOLLOWING

### **8U Division Game Time and General Rules**

- A 10" USA Softball approved softball will be used.
- Pitching distance shall be thirty (30) feet.
- Pitcher will be limited to 9 outs in any order
- There shall be no infield fly rule or drop third strike.
- Home is closed, runner may only advance on award or live play
- All walks (hit by pitch would be considered a walk also) the designated coach will pitch the remainder of the strikes for that batter.

### **Offensive Rules**

- The adult pitcher shall pitch from within the pitching circle. One foot must be on the pitching plate at the release of the ball.
- No stealing on Adult pitches
- Adult pitching will be allowed until 3/30. Any games on or after 3/31 will be player pitch only. NO TEE AT ANY POINT DURING THE SEASON
- Home runs are allowed with adult pitching
- The defensive player (pitcher) shall stand anywhere behind the pitching plate with at least one foot in the pitching circle while the adult pitcher is pitching. The pitcher who pitched

ball four must be the same player who stands in the circle for coach pitch. No substitutions except for injury.

- If a batted ball strikes the adult pitcher or the adult pitcher interferes with the play a “dead ball” is called and the batter returns to the plate.
- Bunting or sliding will be allowed. (Exception no bunting off adult pitcher)
- When the pitcher has control of the ball while in the pitching circle, The Look Back Rule will apply, per Rule
- Ten (10) players are used in the defensive position, six (6) on the infield, and four (4) in the outfield.
- Outfielders must remain behind 10 feet behind the baseline until the ball is hit.
- Illegal pitching will be brought to the manager's attention, with no penalty. However, if the illegal pitch creates an advantage or if obvious leaping, or quick pitch occurs, at the umpire’s discretion, it may result in a penalty.

## **10U UNDER DIVISION**

- An 11” softball will be used
  - Pitching distance shall be thirty-five (35) feet.
  - Nine players are used in the defensive positions (six in the infield, and three in the outfield) with open substitution allowed throughout the game.
    - Infield fly rule is in effect. (Runners on 1st & 2nd, or 1st, 2nd, & 3rd with less than 2 outs, the batter hits the ball into the air that could be caught by an infielder. It does not need to be caught.) Batters’ out.
- a) Home is open.
- b) Drop 3rd strike will be in effect.

## **12 AND UNDER DIVISION**

- Pitching distance shall be forty (40) feet.
- A 12” ball will be used.

- A game will be limited to seven (7) innings, or 1 hour 20 minutes no new inning/1 hr 30 minutes dropdead.

## **14/ HS AND UNDER DIVISION**

- Pitching distance will be 43
- A 12” ball will be used.
- A game will be limited to seven (7) innings or 1 hour 20 minutes no new inning/1 hr 30 minutes drop dead

## **Tournament/PLAYOFF RULES**

All rules remain in effect as is, with the exception of the following:

Championship Play is double elimination with 1 hour 20 min no new

- 5up till inning 3 & 1 hr 20 no new (6U will be 4up)

-Game time for 6U 1 hour 10 no new. If @1 hour visiting team is up and has no outs, the umpire can call last inning and unlimited runs will be in effect. If the visiting team has 1 or more outs, the Blue will call the next inning the last inning and unlimited runs will be in effect.

-Game time 1 hour 20 no new. If @1 hour 10 min visiting team is up and has no outs, the umpire can call last inning and unlimited runs will be in effect. If the visiting team has 1 or more outs, the Blue will call the next inning the last inning and unlimited runs will be in effect.

- Teams will be seeded by winning percentage from the season

-In the event of teams with identical winning percentages the following tiebreakers will be followed

-HEAD TO HEAD, RUNS ALLOWED, RUNS SCORED, COIN FLIP

- Home team is higher seed

- Higher seed takes 3rd base unless occupied by team that played game previous
- You can borrow max 2 players, up to 9 players. Must bat last and play in outfield
- 5up till inning 3 & 1 hr 20 no new (if @1 hr 10 min the visiting team is up with no outs the blue can declare to both teams that this will be the last inning and there will be unlimited runs. If visiting team has 1 or more outs blue will declare the next inning will be last inning and unlimited runs)
- NO drop, all innings must be completed
- No pitching limits