



# **EKRC FIREBIRDS**

**We look forward to a great season  
with the parents and players.**

**Thank you  
for  
choosing  
EKRC!**

*Worth remembering...*

*"The more we play sports a life-or-death matter and the more we concentrate on a youngster's needing to win or to succeed in order to feel worthwhile, the more we will undermine the contribution that sports make. Let's eliminate the grandiosity of sports and see it for what it should offer to 99% of those who participate: healthy recreation where a child can have fun while developing physical skills and emotional maturity in a positive interaction with other children.*

*Let's teach young athletes the fundamentals, talk to them about their batting averages and field goal percentages and take pride in their triumphs. But let's not neglect or abuse their motivations or emotions. Let's not forget that when they put on a uniform, they are still children, not miniature adults."*

*. . . Thomas Tutko and William Bruns in their book,  
"Winning is Everything and Other American  
Myths"*



Hello,  
Baseball/ Softball Family

We're glad to have you back. For those of you that are new to our program we're especially happy that you have chosen our program and are confident you'll have a grand season of baseball or softball.

E.K.R.C. is a non-profit organization chartered in 1956 to "promote recreation in the community". Ours is a volunteer program - none of our people are paid. The Volunteer operated concession stand is our primary source of funds. A small amount of time (one day) from each family would provide enough help so all of us could enjoy seeing our kids play. Our other source of funds is our fundraiser. It is required that each family participates.

Please volunteer your time and help support your program. The major area that we need help is in the concession stand. When your team is scheduled to work, please be responsible and take your turn.

There will be other events that need volunteers to help. Don't wait to be asked, call your coach, commissioner, or the concession stand to volunteer to work on the additional events. We need to exemplify teamwork for our children by all pitching together to make this organization a success. We look forward to your help!

Kettering Parks and Recreation provides E.K.R.C with the use of State Farm Park. Please help maintain our park by putting trash where it belongs.

Ours is a large program and we try to run it for everybody's benefit. We can't always please everyone even though we always try. Please try to remember this program is for our kids. In the spirit of sportsmanship, I ask you to allow the kids to enjoy themselves. They are giving their best, let's return it in kind.

If you have a complaint, suggestion or want to volunteer, please see me or one of our commissioners - we'll listen.

I hope you have a great time - Enjoy

Thank you

Ed Barnette  
President - EKRC

## 2025 EKRC BOARD

Name		Position
Ed Barnette		President
Kyle Shepherd		Vice President / Sponsorships
Dee Graves		Secretary
Shannon Carter		Treasurer / Head Concessions
Ryan Barnette		Growth & Development Coordinator
Chrissy Reed		Pony Ball / T-Ball Commissioner
Tommy Grigsby		Boys Coach Pitch Commissioner/ Scheduler
Mike Ward		Umpire Director
Zack Walters		Boys Minors Commissioner
Josh Wheeler		Boys Majors Commissioner
Chris Barrett		Boys E-Majors Commissioner
Jeremy Carr		Boys Seniors Commissioner
Dalton Smith		Girls Softball Commissioner
Scott Barnette		Outcast Softball Director
Steven Derrickson		Board Member
Nick O'Dell		Board Member
Gayle Patterson		Board Member
Andrew Goss		Board Member
Reno Anderson		Board Member
Luke Burns		Board Member
George Stevens		Board Member
League	Commissioner	Phone
Pony & T-Ball	Chrissy Reed	937-671-8027
Coach Pitch Boys	Tommy Grigsby	937-469-6192
Boys Minors	Zack Walters	937-623-0831
Boys Majors	Josh Wheeler	937-580-9854
Boys E-Majors	Chris Barrett	937-488-3321
Boys Seniors	Jeremy Carr	937-901-6563
Girls Softball	Dalton Smith	937-398-4256

*Any problems that cannot be resolved with your commissioner, please contact Ed Barnette 580-4630 or mail a letter to:*

*Ed Barnette, President, EKRC  
2945 E Cunnington Ln Kettering, Ohio, 45420  
All complaints, concerns or compliments **received in writing** will  
be brought before the board upon receipt.*

*If you would like to attend a board meeting, please contact Ed Barnette at 937-580-4630.*

## E.K.R.C. Guidelines

### Leagues/Ages Groups

The child's age as of May 1st will be used to determine in which league the child will play. Children may play above their age if approved by the commissioner but will not be allowed to play in leagues below their age without approval.

Managers will be able to roster five players prior to the draw

Each manager must present to the opposing manager a roster of players he has present at the start of the game. This will be the batting order. This does not include Pony Ball & T-Ball.

Players arriving late will be placed at the bottom of the batting order.

Division	Boys	Girls
Pony Ball (Boys & Girls)	3 - 4	3 - 4
T-Ball (Boys & Girls)	5 - 6	5 and 6
Coach Pitch	7 - 8	8 and under *****
Minors	9 - 10	
Majors	11 - 12	12 and under
E-Majors	13 - 14	14 and under
Seniors	18 and under	*****

	Mound Distances	Baseline Distances
T-Ball	Boys - 35' Girls - 35'	Boys - 60' Girls - 60'
Coach Pitch	- 35' 35'	- 60' 60'
Minor	- 42' 35'	- 65' 60'
Major	- 52' 40'	- 75' 60'
E-Majors	- 60'6"	- 90' 60'

	Time Limits	No New Inning	Innings
Pony Ball	Boys/Girls – 1 hr.		4
T-Ball	Boys/Girls - 1 hr.		4
Coach Pitch	Boys - 1 hr. 30	1 hr. 15	6
	Girls - 1 hr. 30	1 hr. 15	6
Minors	Boys - 1hr.45	1 hr. 30	6
Majors	Boys – 2 hr.	1 hr. 45	6
	Girls – 2 hr.	1 hr. 45	6
E-Majors	Boys – 2 hr.	1 hr. 45	6

Any game that is tied after maximum allowed innings will be played until the time limit has been reached. No new inning will start with 15 minutes or less to complete the entire inning. CITY ORDINANCE -- LIGHTS OFF AT 11:00 P.M.

## **Player Guidelines (All Divisions)**

1. Profanity or tobacco products on the bench or playing field will be cause for ejection.
2. A player damaging any equipment in a malicious act will be ejected and must reimburse EKRC for the damaged equipment before being allowed to participate.
3. A player throwing a bat or helmet may be called out and may be ejected from the game, after one warning to the team. This applies to all divisions.
4. The intimidation of any player by another player will not be tolerated (i.e. "trash talk" player's names). This includes "brush backs". The offending player will be ejected.
5. A player who deliberately tries to 'spike' or otherwise injure another player will be ejected.
6. A player ejected from a game by the umpire must leave the dugout and the field. The ejected player is also suspended from play for the next played game.
7. A player, or players, fighting while in uniform before, during or after a game while in the park will be suspended from playing for the next played game. The second offense will be cause for review by the commissioners and the player may be suspended for the remainder of the season.
8. A player may not play for disciplinary reasons.
9. All players must wear the uniform provided by EKRC during the game. Shirts must be tucked in. Metal cleats are prohibited. Only molded rubber cleats may be used.
10. Defacing uniforms is prohibited.
11. Game pants are required. (coach pitch & up)
12. All batters and runners must wear helmets on the playing field.
13. All catchers must wear a protective cup. (coach pitch & up)
14. All players are required to swing bats inside the fenced area ONLY.
15. OHSA rules apply in all divisions unless indicated otherwise within division rules.
16. All bats must be stamped with the appropriate label. No exceptions! First offense, Team warning. Second offense, the Head Coach and Player will be ejected and suspended for the following game.

### **BAT RESTRICTIONS**

For 14 and under, players may use BBCOR certified for NFHS use, wood composite bats which are BBCOR certified, one-piece wood bats, or bats that are BPF 1.15 or USA stamped at the bottom of the barrel.

## Manager/Coach Guidelines

1. The manager of each team is responsible for his/her players, coaches and fans. Make sure that you and everyone associated with your team understand the following rules. These rules apply for the entire time that the teams, coaches, and fans at our ballparks.
  - Harassment of the opposing team, umpires or tournament officials will not be tolerated by anyone. Any harassment, abusive language, gestures, or threats may result in immediate ejection of the individual from the ballpark. Once ejected, an individual is also prohibited from attending the team's next game.
  - Any individual who is ejected from the ballpark must leave immediately.
  - Any physical violence by a player, coach, or manager at any time is a serious offense. Possible penalties include the individual being banned from the next game or for the remainder of the season
  - Any physical violence by a fan will be cause for that individual to be immediately ejected from the ballpark and banned for the remainder of the season.
2. A manager/coach who abuses, verbal or otherwise, another coach, player, umpire, commissioner or spectator will be ejected from the game and must leave the park. The ejected manager/coach is also suspended from his/her next game.
3. Any manager/coach removing their team from the field, unless instructed to do so by the umpire or commissioner, will be suspended for the next game.
4. A runner assisted by a coach while running the bases will be called out.
5. All managers/coaches must remain in the dugout unless time out has been granted by the umpire. First offense will be a warning. Repeated offenses will result in ejection from the game. Manager/coaches are not allowed to be behind the backstop at any time.
6. The **home team manager** of the last game each day is required to return the bases to the equipment box.
7. The managers of each team must clean up the dugout after each game.
8. All games will be played as shown on the official schedule, including any games rescheduled due to bad weather. Managers are not permitted to postpone a game for any reason. Requests for rescheduled games will not be heard by any commissioner for any reason.
9. Each manager must present to the opposing team manager a roster of the players he has present at the start of the game. This will be batting order for the game. Players arriving late will be placed at the bottom of the order.
10. Manager/coach conduct will be reviewed by league officials if a formal written complaint is filed with any officer, commissioner or board member.
11. A continuous batting order will be used at all levels.
12. A scheduled game may be moved to another diamond or area if necessary - as decided by the commissioner in charge.
13. All games will begin at the scheduled time.
14. All coaches and asst. coaches are required to obtain a background check. (See [www.ekrc.org](http://www.ekrc.org) , COACHES CORNER tab on web site for further information)
15. Coaches are responsible for checking their player's bats to make sure they are legal.

## **Pony Division Rules**

1. Each team will consist of one Head Coach, two Assistant Coaches and a maximum of 12 players.
2. **Time limit is 1 hour. No new inning will start after 45 minutes.** Games will start at the scheduled time unless delayed by weather. Since there are no standings and no score keeping, there are no forfeits. Do not wait for all players, players can enter the game as they show up -- but have them try to be on time.
3. Three offensive and two defensive coaches are allowed on the field during the game.
4. No umpires will be used.
5. **Defense:**
  - a. The entire team will play defense
  - b. Positions will consist of a pitcher, catcher, first, second, short stop, third baseman and all the other players will be in the outfield.
  - c. Infield and Outfield are separated by the grass. Outfielders should play on the grass. Infielders in the dirt.
  - d. All catchers must wear a helmet (optional face mask). Coaches should instruct catchers where to stand.
6. **Offense:**
  - a. **Entire** roster will bat each inning according to the batting roster and in continuous order.
  - b. Each batter must take a full swing. The ball must travel 10 feet to be considered a fair ball.
  - c. Base runners will stay on the base, even if they get out. This will help teach base running skills.
  - d. The runners will advance ONE base at a time. Runners may not advance on overthrows that go out of play or beyond foul lines.
  - e. There are no strikeouts in this division. The batter has 7 swings, if the ball is not hit in 7 swings, then the batter returns to the dugout.
  - f. This division is not required to slide, coaches are encouraged to teach sliding at each player's ability level.
7. Please use judgement on thrown bats. If batter throws bat, stop play, return runners and explain to batter. Let batter bat again. The coaches must work with the batters on this. Try to keep the game moving.
8. The Pony Division will use a reduced energy factor (RIF) ball.
9. **Bats must be labeled for Tee ball use** or be approved by the Division Commissioner.
10. The last batter rule will be used. The defensive coach will be notified by the offensive coach when the last batter comes to the plate. The defensive team can end the inning in the following ways: by throwing the batter out at 1st; tagging a runner; by catching a fly-ball; by forcing a runner or by throwing the ball to the catcher who then steps on home plate. The last batter runs the bases. The defensive team should stay on the field until the play is over.

## **T-Ball Division Rules**

1. Each team consists of one manager, two coaches and a maximum of 12 players.
2. **Time limit is 1 hour. No new inning will start after 45 minutes.** Games will start at the scheduled time unless delayed by weather. Since there are no standings and no score keeping, there are no forfeits. Do not wait for all players to be present, players can enter the game as they arrive but have them try to be on time.
3. Three offensive and two defensive coaches are allowed on the field during the game.
4. No umpires will be used.
5. **Defense:**
  - a. The entire team will play defense
  - b. Infield and Outfield are separated by the grass. Outfielders play in the grass. Infielders in the dirt.
  - c. All catchers must wear a helmet (optional face mask). Coaches should instruct catchers to stand.
6. **Offense:**
  - a. batting roster in continuous order.
  - b. Each batter must take a full swing. The ball must travel at least 10 feet to be considered a fair ball.
  - c. Coaches can pitch to players (no more than 4 pitches) than hit off the Tee
  - d. This division is not required to slide, coaches are encouraged to teach sliding at each player's ability level.
7. Please use judgement on thrown bats. If batter throws bat, stop play, return runners and explain to batter. Let batter bat again. The coaches must work with the batters on this. Try to keep the game moving.
8. T-Ball Division will use a reduced energy factor (RIF) ball.
9. **Bats must be labeled for Tee Ball use** or be approved by the Division Commissioner.



## **Coach Pitch Division Rules**

1. Each team consists of one manager, two coaches and a maximum of 12 players.
2. **Time limit is 1 hour & 30 minutes. No new inning will start after 1 hour & 15 minutes.** Games will start at the scheduled time unless delayed by weather.
3. Three offensive and one defensive coach are allowed on the field during the game
4. Umpires will meet coaches at the plate **before** the game starts to announce game time.
5. **Defense:**
  - a. Positions will consist of pitcher, catcher, first, second, short stop, third and **4 outfielders** in an umbrella formation. The remaining players will be in the dugout. Players are to play their position.
  - b. Infield and outfield are separated by grass, outfielders play in the grass, infielders in the dirt.
  - c. All catchers must wear a helmet, chest protector, Leg Guards and a cup if appropriate(boys) while in the catcher's position.
  - d. The pitcher(player) be 35' from plate when the coach pitches the ball from 35'. The player may be no more than 3' from either side of the 35' plate, but not in front of.
  - e. Offensive and defensive outs will count in this division.
  - f. Infield fly rule will not be enforced.
  - g. Open substitution is permitted.
  - h. The defense must remain in the infield, and no more than 3' in front of the bases, until the ball is hit. Players must remain in the outfield grass to throw to the infield, they cannot run it in. **All players are to play their positions.**
  - i. **The ball must be in the infielder's possession in fair infield territory, and the lead runner must be stopped before time out is granted. (Only the umpire can give time out)**
  - j. An overthrow to first base will be a live ball. The runner can advance **ONE BASE**. If already on base, the runner can advance two bases on the hit. (If runner on 1<sup>st</sup> at time of hit, they can advance to third, If on 2<sup>nd</sup> at time of hit, they can score.)
  - k. Players must play a minimum of one inning in the infield and one in the outfield within the first 3 innings per game (this will be enforced). **A team warning will be given for the first offense and Head Coach/ manager suspended for the second.** Exception: The end of year tournament will hold no restrictions on position play.
  - l. **Pitching Coach will not be able to pitch from his knee! Most throw overhand!**
6. **Offense:**
  - a. Batters will bat according to the batting roster in continuous order.
  - b. Each batter must take a full swing. There will be no walks.
  - c. Bunting is not allowed.
  - d. No lead off from bases or steals permitted. If the runner leaves the base before the ball is hit, they will be called out. This is the umpire's judgement call.
  - e. All base runners are **encouraged** to slide into 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or home if a play is being made at that base. Pants are required.
  - f. There will be a maximum of 6 pitches to each batter, or 3 swings. If the sixth pitch is foul tipped, the batter stays at bat. Should a player strike out it counts as an out against the offense.
  - g. If a batted ball inadvertently hits the designated pitcher(coach) it shall be ruled a dead ball and the batter hits again.
  - h. The designated pitcher(coach) will not be allowed to instruct the base runners after the ball is hit and must make an attempt to stay out of the field of play, making sure not to interfere with the ball, runner or fielder.
7. A team must have 7 players to start a game and must forfeit if unable to start within the scheduled starting time. A coach may only bring up a player/s to fill 9 players. Any players playing up for a team must play defense in the outfield and be placed at the bottom of the batting line-up.
8. Games may be suspended due to the weather. A game is considered complete after 4 innings, 3 ½ if home team is ahead.
9. The game will be stopped at the after the 4th inning if a team is leading by 10 or more runs, or 3 ½ if the home team is ahead
10. There will be no team standings.
11. The maximum runs allowed per half inning are 6. Only in the 6<sup>th</sup> inning may a team score unlimited runs.
12. OHSAA rules apply unless indicated above

## Minor Division Rules

1. Each team will consist of one manager, two coaches, and a maximum of 12 players.
2. **Time limit is 1 hour & 45 minutes. No new inning will start after 1 hour & 30 minutes.** Games will start at the scheduled time unless delayed by weather.
3. Offensive coaches are to be present at 1st and 3rd base, all other coaches will remain in the dugout.
4. Umpires will meet coaches at the plate **before** the game starts to announce game time.
5. **Defense:**
  - a. Positions will consist of a pitcher, catcher, first, second, short stop, third baseman and 4 outfielders in an umbrella formation. The rest of the team will be in the dugout.
  - b. All catchers must wear a helmet with mask, chest protector, and shin guards, and a cup if appropriate(boys) while in the catcher's position.
  - c. Open substitution is permitted.
  - d. A pitcher may pitch only 3 innings in one game. One pitch is considered an inning.
  - e. Balks will not be called.
  - f. The manager/coach must go to the mound and discuss control with the pitcher if two batters are hit in the same  $\frac{1}{2}$  inning. If a third batter is hit in the same  $\frac{1}{2}$  inning, the pitcher must be replaced and will not return to the mound for that game.
  - g. Players must play a minimum of one inning in the infield and one in the outfield within the first 3 innings per game (this will be enforced). **A team warning will be given for first offense and Head coach/manager suspended for the second.** Exception: The end of year tournament will hold no restrictions on position play, other than pitching requirements (see 5e).
6. **Offense:**
  - a. Batters will bat according to the batting roster in a continuous order.
  - b. Bunting is allowed.
  - c. No lead off from bases permitted. Runners can steal 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> once the ball crosses home plate. If the runner leaves the base before the ball crosses the plate, they will be called out. This is the umpire's judgement call.
  - d. All base runners are **encouraged** to slide into 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or home if a play is being made at that base.
  - e. If a batter is walked, he must stop at first base and may not advance to another base unless a play is being made on another player.
  - f. The runner cannot steal home on a pitched ball. If a play is made on a base runner (thrown ball), the runner may attempt to advance, however the third base runner shall not advance unless the play is being made at third base, or it is a "live ball". The pitcher who attempts to run at the third base runner is **NOT** considered a play. If you steal home by error, the runner is out. Runners at 3<sup>rd</sup> cannot steal home on a wild pitch.
  - g. A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher only with two outs left.
7. A team must have 7 players to start a game and must forfeit if unable to start within the scheduled starting time. A coach may only bring up a player/s to fill 9 players. Any players playing up for a team must play defense in the outfield and be placed at the bottom of the batting line-up.
8. The game will be stopped at the end of the 4th inning if a team is leading by 10 or more runs or 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  if home team is ahead.
9. Games may be suspended due to the weather. A game is considered complete after 4 innings, 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  if home team is ahead.
10. The game will be stopped at the after the 4<sup>th</sup> inning if a team is leading by 10 or more runs, or 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  if the home team is ahead.
11. The maximum runs allowed per half inning is 6. Only in the 6<sup>th</sup> inning may a team score unlimited runs.
12. There will be no team standings.
13. No participation trophies are given, only tournament trophies.
14. NO CHATTER
15. OHSAA rules apply unless indicated above

## Major Division Rules

1. Each team will consist of one manager, two coaches, and 13 players.
2. **Time limits are 2 hours. No new inning will start after 1 hour & 45 minutes.** Games will start at the scheduled time unless delayed by weather.
3. Offensive coaches are to be present at 1st and 3rd base, all other coaches will remain in the dugout.
4. Umpires will meet the coaches at the plate **before** the game starts to announce game time.
5. **Defense:**
  - a. Positions will consist of a pitcher, catcher, first, second, short stop, third baseman and 3 outfielders. The rest of the team will be in the dugout.
  - b. All catchers must wear a helmet with mask, chest protector, shin guards, and a cup if appropriate(boys) while in the catcher's position.
  - c. Infield fly rule will be enforced at umpire's discretion.
  - d. Open substitutions allowed.
  - e. A pitcher may pitch only 3 innings in one game.
  - f. Balks will be called. A warning will be given for the first offense per pitcher.
  - g. The manager/coach must go to the mound and discuss control with the pitcher if two batters are hit in the same  $\frac{1}{2}$  inning. If a third batter is hit in the same  $\frac{1}{2}$  inning, the pitcher must be replaced and will not return to the mound for that game.
  - h. Players must play a minimum of one inning in the infield and one in the outfield within the first 3 innings per game (this will be enforced). **A team warning will be given for first offense and Head Coach/manager suspended for the second.** Exception: The end of year tournament will hold no restrictions on position play, other than pitching requirements (see 5e).
6. **Offense:**
  - a. Batters will bat according to the batting roster in a continuous order.
  - b. Bunting is allowed.
  - c. Dropped third strikes, the batter can make an attempt at first base, if there are less than two outs and first base is unoccupied at the time of the pitch; or if there are two outs, the batter can make an attempt at first base on a dropped third strike, whether the base is occupied or not. **Occupied means that the runner was on first base at the time of the pitch. (If a runner is stealing 2<sup>nd</sup> when the pitch is thrown, the batter will be out as the base was occupied at the pitch).** Runners on first and second may advance at their own risk.
  - d. All base runners are **encouraged** to slide into 2nd, 3rd will need to slide at home if a play is being made at that base.
  - e. Play at home plate on a passed ball if the batter doesn't get out of the box, batter is out and the runner must go back to the base, and the run doesn't count.
  - f. A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher only with two outs left.
7. A team must have 7 players to start a game and must forfeit if unable to start within the scheduled starting time. A coach may only bring up a player/s to fill 9 players. Any players playing up for a team must play defense in the outfield and be placed at the bottom of the batting line-up.
8. Games may be suspended due to the weather. A game is considered complete after 4 innings, or 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  if home team is ahead.
9. The game will be stopped after the 4<sup>th</sup> inning if a team is leading by 10 or more runs, or 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  if the home team is ahead.
10. The maximum runs allowed per half inning is 6. Only in the 6<sup>th</sup> inning may a team score unlimited runs.
11. There will be no team standings.
12. NO CHATTER
13. OHSAA rules apply unless indicated above

## E-Majors Division Rules

Each team will consist of one manager, two coaches, and 12 players.

14. **Time limits are 2 hours. No new inning will start after 1 hour & 45 minutes.** Games will start at the scheduled time unless delayed by weather.
15. Offensive coaches are to be present at 1st and 3rd base, all other coaches will remain in the dugout.
16. Umpires will meet the coaches at the plate **before** the game starts to announce game time.
17. **Defense:**
  - a. Positions will consist of a pitcher, catcher, first, second, short stop, third baseman and 3 outfielders. The rest of the team will be in the dugout.
  - b. All catchers must wear a helmet with mask, chest protector shin guards, and a cup if appropriate(boys) while in the catcher's position.
  - c. Infield fly rule will be enforced at umpire's discretion.
  - d. Open substitutions allowed.
  - e. A pitcher may pitch only 3 innings in one game.
  - f. Balks will be called. A warning will be given for the first offense per pitcher.
  - g. The manager/coach must go to the mound and discuss control with the pitcher if two batters are hit in the same ½ inning. If a third batter is hit in the same ½ inning, the pitcher must be replaced and will not return to the mound for that game.
  - h. Players must play a minimum of one inning in the infield and one in the outfield within the first 3 innings per game (this will be enforced). **A team warning will be given for first offense and Head Coach/manager suspended for the second.** Exception: The end of year tournament will hold no restrictions on position play, other than pitching requirements (see 5e).
18. **Offense:**
  - a. Batters will bat according to the batting roster in a continuous order.
  - b. Bunting is allowed.
  - c. All base runners are **encouraged** to slide into 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> will need to slide at home if a play is being made at that base.
  - d. Dropped third strikes, the batter can make an attempt at first base, if there are less than two outs and first base is unoccupied at the time of the pitch; or if there are two outs, the batter can make an attempt at first base on a dropped third strike, whether the base is occupied or not. **Occupied means that the runner was on first base at the time of the pitch. (If a runner is stealing 2<sup>nd</sup> when the pitch is thrown, the batter will be out as the base was occupied at the pitch).** Runners on first and second may advance at their own risk.
  - e. Play at home plate on a passed ball if the batter doesn't get out of the box, batter is out and the runner must go back to the base, and the run doesn't count.
  - f. A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher only with two outs left.
19. A team must have 7 players to start a game and must forfeit if unable to start within the scheduled starting time. A coach may only bring up a player/s to fill 9 players. Any players playing up for a team must play defense in the outfield and be placed at the bottom of the batting line-up.
20. Games may be suspended due to the weather. A game is considered complete after 4 innings, or 3 ½ if home team is ahead.
21. The game will be stopped after the 4<sup>th</sup> inning if a team is leading by 10 or more runs, or 3 ½ if the home team is ahead.
22. The maximum runs allowed per half inning is 6. Only in the 6<sup>th</sup> inning may a team score unlimited runs.
23. There will be no team standings.
24. NO CHATTER
25. OHSAA rules apply unless indicated above

## Softball Coach Pitch Division Rules

1. Each team consists of one manager, two coaches and a maximum of 12 players.
2. **Time limit is 1 hour & 30 minutes. No new inning will start after 1 hour & 15 minutes.** Games will start at the scheduled time unless delayed by weather.
3. Three offensive and one defensive coach are allowed on the field during the game
4. Umpires will meet coaches at the plate **before** the game starts to announce game time.
5. **Defense:**
  - a. Positions will consist of pitcher, catcher, first, second, short stop, third and 4 outfielders in an umbrella formation. The remaining players will be in the dugout. Players are to play their position.
  - b. Infield and outfield are separated by grass, outfielders play in the grass, infielders in the dirt.
  - c. All catchers **must** wear a helmet with a mask, chest protector, and shin guards while in the catcher's position, all pitchers **must** wear face mask.
  - d. The pitcher(player) be 35' from plate when the coach pitches the ball from 35' The player may be no more than 3' from either side of the 35' plate, but not in front of.
  - e. Offensive and defensive outs will count in this division.
  - f. Infield fly rule will not be enforced.
  - g. Open substitution is permitted.
  - h. The defense must remain in the infield, and no more than 3' in front of the bases, until the ball is hit. Players must remain in the outfield grass to throw to the infield, they cannot run it in. **All players are to play their positions.**
  - i. **The ball must be in the pitcher's possession in the mound area and the lead runner must be stopped before time out is granted. (Only the umpire can grant time out)**
  - j. An overthrow to first base will be considered a live ball and, the player may only advance **ONE BASE** at their discretion.
  - k. Players must play a minimum of one inning in the infield and one in the outfield within the first 3 innings per game (this will be enforced). **A team warning will be given for first offense and Head Coach/manager suspended for the second.** Exception: The end of year tournament will hold no restrictions on position play.
6. **Offense:**
  - a. Batters will bat according to the batting roster in continuous order.
  - b. Each batter must take a full swing. The ball must travel 10' to be considered a fair ball. There will be no walks.
  - c. Bunting is not allowed.
  - d. No lead off from bases or steals permitted. If the runner leaves the base before the ball is hit, they will be called out.
  - e. An overthrow to first base will be a live ball. The runner can advance **ONE BASE**. If already on base, the runner can advance two bases on the hit. (If runner on 1<sup>st</sup> at time of hit, they can advance to third, If on 2<sup>nd</sup> at time of hit, they can score.)
  - f. All base runners are **encouraged** to slide into 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or home if a play is being made at that base. Pants are required.
  - g. There will be a maximum of 6 pitches to each batter, or 3 swings. If the sixth pitch is foul tipped, the batter stays at bat. Should a player strike out, it counts as an out against the offense.
  - h. If a batted ball inadvertently hits the designated pitcher(coach) it shall be ruled a dead ball and the batter hits again.
  - i. The designated pitcher(coach) will not be allowed to instruct the base runners after the ball is hit and must try to stay out of the field of play, making sure not to interfere with the ball, runner or fielder.
7. A team must have 7 players to start a game and must forfeit if unable to start within the scheduled starting time. A coach may only bring up a player/s to fill 9 players. Any players playing up for a team must play defense in the outfield and be placed at the bottom of the batting line-up.
8. Games may be suspended due to the weather. A game is considered complete after 4 innings, 3 ½ if home team is ahead.
9. The game will be stopped at the after the 4th inning if a team is leading by 10 or more runs, or 3 ½ if the home team is ahead
10. The maximum runs allowed per half inning is 6. Only in the 6<sup>th</sup> inning may a team score unlimited runs.
11. There will be no team standings.
12. Only official softball bats with 1.20 stamps are permitted
13. OHSAA rules apply unless indicated above

## Softball Major Division Rules

1. Each team will consist of one manager, two coaches, and a maximum of 12 players.
2. **Time limit is 2 hours. No new inning will start after 1 hour & 45 minutes.** Games will start at the scheduled time unless delayed by weather.
3. Offensive coaches are to be present at 1st and 3rd base, all other coaches will remain in the dugout.
4. Umpires will meet coaches at the plate **before** the game starts to announce game time.
5. **Defense:**
  - a. Positions will consist of a pitcher, catcher, first, second, short stop, third baseman and 4 outfielders in an umbrella formation. The rest of the team will be in the dugout.
  - b. All catchers **must** wear a helmet with a mask, chest protector, and shin guards while in the catcher's position. All pitchers **must** wear face masks.
  - c. Infield fly rule will be enforced at the umpire's discretion.
  - d. Open substitution is permitted.
  - e. A pitcher may pitch only 4 innings in one game. One pitch is considered an inning.
  - f. A dropped ball in the windup is considered a no pitch.
  - g. The pitcher shall pitch from 40' and **Both feet must be on the ground within or partially within the 24-inch length of the pitcher's plate.**
  - h. **Prior to pitching, the pitcher must take a position with shoulders in line with first and third base with the ball in the glove or pitching hand, and with the hands separated.**
  - i. **The pitcher must have one foot on the pitcher's rubber and the second foot behind the rubber, and can only take one step forward while pitching. The ball must be thrown underhand. Both hands must be on the ball at the start of the pitch.**
  - j. The manager/coach must go to the mound and discuss control with the pitcher if two batters are hit in the same ½ inning. If a third batter is hit in the same ½ inning, the pitcher must be replaced and will not return to the mound for that game.
  - k. The pitcher's circle will be 10' in diameter. When the pitcher has at least one foot inside of the circle and possession of the ball at the same time, the ball is considered dead.
  - l. Players must play a minimum of one inning in the infield and one in the outfield within the first 3 innings per game (this will be enforced). **A team warning suspended for the second will be given for first offense and Head coach/manager.** Exception: The end of year tournament will hold no restrictions on position play, other than pitching requirements (see 5e).
6. **Offense:**
  - a. Batters will bat according to the batting roster in a continuous order.
  - b. Bunting is allowed.
  - c. No lead off from bases permitted. Runners can steal 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> once the ball crosses home plate. If the runner leaves the base before the ball crosses the plate, they will be called out. This is the umpire's judgement call.
  - d. All base runners are **encouraged** to slide into 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or home if a play is being made at that base. Pants are required.
  - e. Dropped third strikes, the batter can make an attempt at first base, if there are less than two outs and first base is unoccupied at the time of the pitch; or if there are two outs, the batter can make an attempt at first base on a dropped third strike, whether the base is occupied or not. **Occupied means that the runner was one first base at the time of the pitch. (If a runner is stealing 2<sup>nd</sup> when the pitch is thrown, the batter will be out as the base was occupied at the pitch).** Runners on first and second may advance at their own risk.
  - f. If a batter is walked, the player must stop at first base and may not advance to another base unless a play is being made on another player.
  - g. Play at home plate on a passed ball if the batter doesn't get out of the box, batter is out and must go back to the base, and the run doesn't count.
  - h. A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher only with two outs left.
7. A team must have 7 players to start a game and must forfeit if unable to start within the scheduled starting time. A coach may only bring up a player/s to fill 9 players. Any players playing up for a team must play defense in the outfield and be placed at the bottom of the batting line-up.
8. The game will be stopped at the end of the 4th inning if a team is leading by 10 or more runs or 3 ½ if home team is ahead.
9. Games may be suspended due to the weather. A game is considered complete after 4 innings, 3 ½ if home team is ahead.
10. The game will be stopped at the after the 4<sup>th</sup> inning if a team is leading by 10 or more runs, or 3 ½ if the home team is ahead.
11. The maximum runs allowed per half inning is 6. Only in the 6<sup>th</sup> inning may a team score unlimited runs.
12. Only official softball bats with 1.20 stamps are permitted. There will be no team standings.
13. NO CHATTER / OHSAA rules apply unless indicated above