

2023 DISTRICT 24 SOFTBALL INTERLEAGUE TEEN SOFTBALL By-Laws

1. There will be a joint committee that will govern the program. The committee will be made up of one (1) current Board Member from each participating league. Henceforth, this committee will be known as the **"Softball Interleague"** Committee. The District Staff members, that will oversee this committee for the CA24 District Administrator, Pamela White (pwhite02@msn.com) are Sam McDonald (sammiemcdonald@verizon.net) and Julian Bernal (jul057@yahoo.com).
2. The CA24 District Staff will handle all protests **and** all disciplinary issues for the 2023 Softball Interleague season.
3. CA-24 will provide Participation Medallions to all Softball Interleague player participants.
4. All playing rules will be strictly enforced by the **"2023 Official Regulations and Playing Rules for All Divisions of Little League Softball"**.
5. Managers and coaches (inclusive of temporary managers/coaches that are filling in) will NOT be allowed to wear open-toed shoes.
6. The **designated game site** will supply at least **one** (1) umpire for all games. **EXCEPTION:** The Farm division is non-competitive, and an umpire will not have to be provided.
7. All teams will have a MINIMUM of twelve (12) players on their roster unless they have a waiver from District Administrator, Pamela White.
8. **Home team** will provide the Official Scorekeeper for each game. The **host league** will supply the official scoresheet. The Official Scorekeeper will be placed behind home plate, as close to the home plate umpire as possible. The scorekeeper's area will be considered the same as the closed dugout. Scorekeepers will not allow themselves to be distracted, as not to follow the events of the game.
9. **At the conclusion of the game**, the official scoresheet will be signed by the home plate umpire **and** both managers. The official scoresheet will be **retained** by the host league for the remainder of the current season, in order to help resolve any disputes that may arise.
10. The **WINNING** team will email the final scores/game results to Julian Bernal (jul057@yahoo.com) WITHIN 24 HOURS of their team's scheduled game time.
11. **If injury or illness occurs**, it must be logged on the official score sheet and the manager must submit a written report, via email, to a member of the **District Staff** (Pamela White, Sam McDonald, and Julian Bernal) **within 24 hours**.
12. **In case of an ejection or protest**, managers and all umpires must submit an incident report via email to a member of the **District Staff within 24 hours**. **The District Staff will meet** remotely in a timely manner to resolve the incident or protest.
13. Each team will supply one (1) new neon-yellow 12-inch softball for each game, more if necessary. Remaining softballs will be distributed evenly to each team at the end of the game.

14. The **host league** will be responsible for field preparation.
15. Each team will ELECTRONICALLY submit approved regular season rosters (to include all approved managers and coaches), to Pamela White (pwhite02@msn.com). Your league President may submit a copy of the 2023 roster spreadsheet.
16. **Rule 3.09:** This would aid in efforts to improve the pace of play by allowing adult coaches to warm up pitchers for regular season only.

Note: Managers or coaches are permitted to warm up a pitcher at home plate or in the bullpen or elsewhere at any time including in-game warm-up, pre-game warm-up, and in other instances. They may also stand by to observe a pitcher during warm-up in the bullpen.

17. Recording devices will not be allowed to be used to record any part of any game without prior approval of the District Administrator.

18. **Softball (All Divisions except Senior Division) – TOURNAMENT RULE 9 – MANDATORY PLAY:** Replaces the previous tournament mandatory play rule with a continuous batting order requirement for all divisions of tournament play except for the Senior Division.

MANDATORY PLAY – CONTINUOUS BATTING ORDER: 8- to 10-Year-Old, 9- to 11-Year-Old, Little League, Intermediate (50-70) Division, and Junior League: All Tournament Teams must adopt a policy of a continuous batting order that will include all players on the team affidavit present at the start of the game, to appear in the batting order. Each player is required to bat in his/her respective spot in the batting order.

Softball:

- a. [Tournament Rule 4 (c)]: A pitcher remaining in the game, but moving to a different position, can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game, but only once in the same inning as he/she was removed. A pitcher may be withdrawn from the game, offensively or defensively, and return as pitcher once per inning provided the return does not violate the substitution, visits per pitcher, or mandatory play rule(s).
 - b. Penalty: See Rule 10(f) .
 - c. If a player is injured, becomes ill, or must leave the game site after the start of the game, the team will skip over him/her when his/her time at bat comes up without penalty. If the injured, ill, or absent player returns, he/she is merely inserted into their original spot in the batting order and the game continues. Also, if a player arrives later to a game site, if the manager chooses to enter him/her in the lineup (see Rule 4.01 NOTE 2), he/she would be added to the end of the current lineup.
 - d. An improper batter will be considered as batting out of turn (see Rule 6.07).
 - e. If a player is unable to complete a plate appearance due to injury, illness or ejection, the next batter in the lineup shall take his/her place at the plate and assume the count of the original batter.
 - f. If a batter becomes a runner by reaching base safely and is unable to run the bases due to injury, illness, or ejection, he/she shall be replaced by the player who recorded the last out or with a Courtesy Runner if applicable (see Tournament Rule 3 (d) Courtesy Runner).
 - g. There is no exception to this rule. This rule does not apply to Senior Divisions of play.
19. **TOURNAMENT RULE 3 (d, Baseball; e, Softball) – Special Pinch Runner/Courtesy Runner:** Updates the previous tournament special pinch runner rule to apply for Senior Division only, while providing a courtesy runner option for all other divisions of tournament play.
 - d. **Junior League: COURTESY RUNNER:** A tournament team may permit a “courtesy runner” for the catcher and/or pitcher of record when there are two (2) outs. Utilizing continuous batting order, the courtesy runner may be in the team’s batting order and must be the player in the batting order who made the last out.
 - d. **Senior Division:** Twice a game but not more than one time per inning, a team may utilize a player who is not in the batting order as a special pinch-runner for any offensive player. A player may only be removed for a special pinch-runner one time during a game. The player for whom the pinch-runner runs is not subject to

removal from the lineup. If the pinch-runner remains in the game as a substitute defensive or offensive player, the player may not be used again as a pinch-runner while in the batting order. However, if removed for another substitute that player or any player not in the line-up, is again eligible to be used as a pinch-runner.

20. Games may begin and continue play with [8] players on a team. Teams will not be charged an out for the 9th player and will skip over the ninth position without penalty.

21. For the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th innings, an inning will be determined by three (3) outs or five (5) runs, whichever occurs first. After the 4th inning, an inning will be determined by three (3) outs.

22. **TIME LIMIT:** No new inning will begin after two (2) hours. If an inning begins **prior** to the time limit, that inning will be completed. Time will be kept by the home plate umpire. Game ending by time limit will count as a regulation game for the 2023 season. **NOTE: In the event of a tie**, the game will stand and will not be broken at a later date. Each team will be awarded ½ point.

23. Substitutions (Rule 3.03) will apply.

24. **DOUBLEHEADERS:** Games will not exceed five (5) innings. There will be a fifteen (15) minute break between games, with the second (2nd) game starting when the umpire announces “Play Ball”. **Mandatory play (Regulation IV (i)) is in effect. NOTE: RUN RULE is in effect**

25. **RUN RULE:** If after four (4) innings, three and one-half (3 ½) if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of fifteen (15) runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs shall concede the victory to the opponent. If after five (5) innings, four and one-half (4 ½) if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of ten (10) runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs shall concede the victory to the opponent. If after six (6) innings, five and one-half (5 ½) if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of eight (8) runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs shall concede the victory to the opponent.

26. There will be a “**no-game**” called if the game cannot begin fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled start time. All “**no-games**” will be referred to the **District Staff** (Pamela White, Sam McDonald, or Julian Bernal).

27. **ABILITY TO FIELD A TEAM:** Managers will notify their league representative, who will in turn notify either Pamela White, Sam McDonald, or Julian Bernal, at the first indication that they cannot field a team for any of their scheduled games **at least thirty (30) hours prior to the scheduled game start time. NOTE: Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of the game and/or suspension of the manager by the District Staff.**

28. Make up games, if there is time during the regular season, may only be scheduled by the **District Staff**, not to exclude Sundays. Games will be made up at the first available time and field.

29. Any amendments to these “**Junior / Senior By-Laws**” must be reviewed by the “**Softball Interleague**” Committee and will require a majority vote to be adopted.

30. ONLY the **District Staff** (Pamela White, Sam McDonald, and Julian Bernal) will handle all protests and any disciplinary action that must be taken.

- a. The ejection of a player, manager or coach will result in an **automatic** and a **mandatory** minimum one (1) game suspension. **The suspended manager, coach, or player may NOT be present at the next physically played game and will not be able to participate in interleague play until their one-game penalty has been served.** All ejections will be reviewed by the **District Staff** and if it is a repeated offense, a more severe penalty may be applied.

- b. Any physical or verbal altercation between player, manager, coach, umpire, or spectator will require disciplinary action, not to exclude expulsion from the Softball Interleague.
31. Failure to comply with any Junior/Senior Little League Rules/Regulations or the listed Softball Interleague Teen By-Laws will be subject to review and possible disciplinary action by the **District Staff**.

District Staff Contact Information:

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