

NEW GUIDELINES FOR YOUTH GROUP LEAGUE SOFTBALL

Who can play-Middle School and High School Youth **Coaches**-21 or older

Home Team responsibilities-Begin and end with prayer. Coaches and teams should introduce themselves and go over basic rules. Exchange batting order and share team players if one team is low. Check field for safety hazards and make sure bases are in place-65' between bases. They should also provide the game ball and home plate umpire.

Visiting Team responsibilities-Provide field umpires. (see below)

Both Teams-Provide their own players with snacks and drinks. Should have a permission slip for every player, if not, they DO NOT PLAY. Should have a safety kit, bats and list of guidelines with them.

Basic Game Rules-All players are on batting order-try to mix up girls and guys if possible. Try to make sure every player plays at least 2 innings in the field during each game. Play 2 hours-this could be 4-7 innings. Switch teams when you have 3 outs or 10 runs. **Pitching rules**-Each team provides their own pitcher to pitch to their own team and pitcher cannot interfere with ball once hit. Pitch until batter hits ball-this is a hitting league, we do not call strikes and balls.

Cancellation Guidelines-If you do not have enough players (less than 5) please call the other team 2 days prior to game. If weather is not cooperating, call 2 hours prior to game. COACHES MUST CONTACT EACH OTHER AND THEN FAN INFO OUT TO THEIR PLAYERS. DO NOT CALL YOUTH MINISTER.

Unsportsmanlike conduct-Do Not Leave Base until ball is hit. Do Not throw bat when hitting, this is an automatic OUT. Batters must stay in same order throughout the game and everyone bats. No Bunting or Chopping. No arguing with umpires or foul language from players, parents or coaches. No smoking, drinking or drugs allowed by anyone.

Forfeit-1/2 hour after scheduled game time.

Mercy-when other team is 20 or more runs ahead-this is up to teams.

Clothing-No short shorts (finger to bottom of shorts test), No sleeveless shirts. Players must wear closed toe shoes, no spikes.