

Greater Champaign County Girls Softball League Rules for Girls 12U Softball (2018 Season) Age 11-12 Girls

Sportsmanship

No negative cheering will be tolerated. The league has adopted the motto “Cheer for Your Team, Not Against the Other Team.” Coaches will be expected to enforce appropriate cheering.

Player Qualifications

1. Players cannot be 13 years old before January 1st to play A league.
2. A player must be listed on the team roster turned in to the league to play in a game before league play begins.
3. A player should play for the town of their school district unless provision otherwise is made and agreed to in advance by the league board.

Equipment & Field Prep

1. It is highly recommended that every player wear a defensive face shield and pitchers must wear a defensive face shield and a heart guard. Each league team’s organizing body will make the final ruling on this for their players.
2. All batters and base runners must wear a batting helmet with face mask while inside the fence line of the playing field.
3. The catcher will wear full protective gear which includes a mask, chest protector, and shin guards.
4. Any player or coach who is bleeding or has an open wound shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment has been administered and clothing with blood has been removed.
5. A 12-inch hard optic yellow softball will be used at all times—ASA or NFHS or NSA raised seam.
6. Bases will be set at 60 feet. The pitching rubber will be 40 ft. from the back triangle of home plate to the front of the pitching rubber.
7. The batter’s box is 6 inches off the plate and 7 feet in length and 3 feet in width (softball is different from a baseball batter box). From the back corner of home plate (not the triangle) the batter’s box measure 4 feet forward and 3 feet back.
8. There will be a circle with a radius of 8 ft. around the pitcher’s rubber.
9. The home team will supply the plate and base umpires at their cost. An umpire must be a minimum of 16 years old. Every attempt should be made to have an ASA, NSA, or IHSA patched umpire behind the plate at each game but it is not mandatory.

Rules (NSA Rules will be in effect with the following adaptations, exceptions, and clarifications.)

1. A game consists of 6 innings, but is considered an official game after 4 complete innings (in cases of inclement weather). An inning may not begin after the 1 hour 45 minute time limit. If tied after the end of regulation, the game is considered a “tie” and ends.
2. All teams may field 10 players in the field. The 10th player will be an outfield rover, who must start somewhere behind the baseline as well as all outfielders.

3. A team must have 8 players to start the game at the agreed upon game time or a forfeit will be declared, if started with 8 then the 9th and 10th player positions will be not be outs.
4. If a team starts with 10 players then loses one due to injury, the team may substitute for the injured player. If there is no substitute then the open position in the batting order will NOT be an out. However, if a player is ejected then the vacated spot WILL become an automatic out each time at bat.
5. All teams must bat their entire roster. If a player leaves or is injured and cannot bat, their place in the batting order will be skipped and will not be an out. Late arriving players are placed at the end of the batting order.
6. All players must play at least 2 innings in the field.
7. All innings consist of 3 outs or a 6 run limit except for the 6th inning when a team can score an unlimited number of runs. If time runs out and there is no 6th inning, there is no unlimited scoring inning.
8. Pitchers are allowed either one minute or 5 warm up pitches at the start of each inning or when a new pitcher enters the game.
9. The next inning will begin where you left off in your batting order the previous inning.
10. The team on offense may use a courtesy runner for the pitcher and catcher. The runner must be the player who made the last batted out, unless the last out was the pitcher or catcher, whereas the courtesy runner would be the player making the previous out.
11. There is no dropped third strike rule.
12. Base stealing is allowed (including home). The runner may leave the base upon release of the pitch. It is the umpire's call if the runner leaves early.
13. Bunting is allowed.
14. A 15 run rule will apply after 4 innings and a 10 run rule will apply after 5 innings. There will be a six run cap in every inning except the 6th inning where there is no cap. If time does not permit for a 6th inning, then there is no unlimited run inning.
15. If there is a play at a base other than 1st base, the runner must avoid contact. It will be at the umpire's judgment to call the base-runner out for not avoiding contact.
16. Batting out of order will be an out, if the opposing team catches it when it occurs and brings it to the attention of the umpire before the next batter receives a pitch.
17. The first time a bat is thrown, the umpire will issue a warning to both teams. The second time a bat is thrown by any player on either team, the batter is out and the play is called dead. Only one warning will be issued per game.
18. If a regular season game is tied after 6 innings or the allotted time period, the game will end in a tie.

Tournament Rules

1. A final tournament roster must be provided to the league commissioner prior to the date listed under year specific information. A player must be on both rosters to be eligible to play in the tournament at the end of the year. A player may only appear on one tournament roster and may not play for more than one team in the tournament.
2. All girls must play at least 2 full defensive innings in tournament games and coaches will bat the entire roster the entire game.
3. There is no time limit in the tournament games.
4. Tournament games must either play all 6 innings or end due to the run rule (15 runs after 4 or 10 runs after 5) and the game cannot end in a tie. The NSA international tie breaker will be employed for tournament games tied at the end of six innings.

5. Each team should play every team in the league at least once during the regular season. Each game that a team fails to play within their division will count as a loss for seeding purposes. The league will use a formula based seeding format where each league win in the regular season will count as 2 pts. And each tie as 1 Pt. Each team will take their total number of points and divide it by the number of games played and that will be the seeding score. The top seed is the team with the highest seeding score and so forth down the line.
6. Play-in games will be played at the higher seeded team's home field. The host team will be responsible for paying for the umpires and will receive the concession stand proceeds if a concession stand is offered by the home team. The umpire fees will be reimbursed by the league at the conclusion of the tournament.
7. For all 12U league tournament games (including play-in games), an adult ASA, IHSA, or NSA umpire must be behind the plate. A patched umpire of at least 16 years old must be on the bases.
8. The league is responsible for providing individual league championship medals and team trophies for 1st-4th place in the league tournament. Each team is required to pay a \$150 entry fee at the scheduling meeting to play in the league tournament.
9. The higher seeded team is the home team and will occupy the third base dugout.

2018 Specific Information

1. League has 7 teams
2. Tournament will be played on June 25-29 (rain date is July 2) at the St. Joe Rec Plex. Tournament first round games may be played at the higher seed home field.
3. Tournament fee of \$150 is due at the coaches scheduling meeting on April 10, 2018 (make checks payable to "Greater Champaign County Girls Softball League")
4. Team Roster must be turned in to the League Rep by **May 15**. Roster will include the following: player's full name, address, and date of birth.
5. Tournament Roster must be turned in to the League Rep by **June 12**. Roster will include the following: player's full name, address, and date of birth.