



## 2022 Summer League Rules

There will be the following divisions:

1. 8u
2. 10u Travel, 10u Gold, 10u Silver
3. 12u Travel, 12u Gold, 12u Silver
4. 14u Travel, 14u Gold, 14u Silver
5. High School Division

- Teams must be 70% community based except for 8u and travel teams. Exceptions must be approved by the league Director.
- Umpires will be assigned by the league without any cost to each team.
- League tournament will be held at a time and location to be determined.
- League fee will be \$60.00 per team. All teams will be USA sanctioned.
- Coaches must be USA background check for current year and Safe Sports completion.
- League games will start May 9th for 8U, 10U & 12U Divisions.
- League games will start “when teams become available” for the 14U and HS divisions. If 14U teams do not have any high school age players, they may start as early as there are other teams available.

### Game Days:

8U	Tuesday and Thursday
10U Silver and Gold	Monday and Wednesday
12U Silver	Tuesday and Thursday
12U Gold	Monday and Wednesday
14U Gold and Silver	Tuesday and Thursday
All Travel Divisions	Wednesday
High School Division	Tuesday

*The game days are “planned” and flexible. Teams may request alternate days. If it doesn’t work for you, let us know what does.*

The league homepage is <https://nwotripleplay.com/summer-league>

- You will find everything you need to know about the league by referencing the home page. A link to the Rules, Schedules, Standings, and to verify your Scores.
- Everything you need to know will be found there. You can send a link to your parents so they can follow along.

1. Game start time is at the first pitch warm-up.
2. Time limit for games is 90 minutes.. No new inning may start after the time limit. If tied, the international tie-breaker will be used. Ties will NOT be allowed except at 8 & 10u. 8u & 10u will only have one extra inning of ITB and can end in a tie.
3. Each team will bat the entire line up, with 3 outs per inning. Freedom of defensive substitution is allowed. Only three outfielders are allowed on defense in all divisions except 8u and 10u Silver (8U and 10U Silver may use four outfielders).
  - An out will not occur if a team falls below nine batters in the line up due to injury or illness.
  - Travel Teams may only bat nine and/or use the DP/Flex for the end of year tournament.
  - The outfield is defined as the area beyond the bases. Does NOT have to be on the grass.
4. If a team does not have enough players on defense, the offensive team will rotate players in to play defense so the game may be played.
5. The pitching distance for 14u is 43 feet, 12u is 40 feet, 10u is 35 feet, & 8U is 30 feet.
6. Courtesy runners are allowed for pitchers and catchers. Courtesy runners must be the last batted out, even if it was the previous inning. If the last batted out is the pitcher or catcher of record, then skip to the previous batted out.
7. Each team will provide a USA or USSSA certified game ball, new or good quality used ball.
  - 8U & 10U - The ball size will be 11”
  - 12U, 14U & High School - the ball size will be 12”
8. USA mercy rule—15 after three, 12 after four or 8 after five innings,
9. Seven innings is a full game.
10. No Tournament/Travel players will be rostered on a Silver division team (exceptions approved by the league director).
11. All players who are participating in the end of year tournament must have participated in more than 50% of the team’s league games.

### **12. 10U Silver & 12U Silver Divisions**

- Will have a six run rule per inning. If a team is losing, they may tie the score and score an additional six runs. These rules are in effect even if they are playing a gold team and will be in effect for both teams.
- Runners may lead off at the release of the pitch and steal any base including home plate. They may only steal one base per pitch, no advancing on overthrows for steals. They are subject to being put out if they do advance. The ball is still alive until they are on a base and then will be returned back to their legal base.
- There is no advancing on a dropped 3rd strike.
- The infield fly rule is not in effect.
- There is a “No Three Consecutive Walk” rule. This means if there are two consecutive walks (hit by pitch counts as a walk for this purpose), the 3rd batter cannot walk. If the 3rd batter is hit by pitch, she will advance to her base and the next batter cannot walk. After four balls, the offensive coach comes in to pitch the remaining strikes. The umpire will call the coach's pitch as a strike or a ball. After the 3rd batter, there needs to be two more consecutive walks before the coach pitches again. If pitchers are struggling, you do not have to wait for the 4th ball for the coach to come in to pitch.

### **13. 8U Division**

- Will have a six run rule per inning. If a team is losing, they may tie the score and score an additional six runs. These rules are in effect even if they are playing a gold team and will be in effect for both teams.
- No Stealing
- No bunting when coach pitch.
- There is no advancing on a dropped 3rd strike.
- The infield fly rule is not in effect.
- Base runners must be at the halfway line between bases when the ball is in the pitcher circle to be able to advance to next base.... Or they must return to the last base touched. If the lead runner is not past the halfway point and the trailing runner is, both runners would have to go back, assuming that the trailing runner and lead runner would be on the same base.

### **14. 10U Gold, 10U Travel, 12U Gold, 12U Travel, 14U All, High School Division,**

All USA Softball Rules will apply.



15. Each team will provide a USA or USSSA certified game ball, new or good quality used ball.
  - 8U & 10U - The ball size will be 11”
  - 12U, 14U & High School - the ball size will be 12”
16. There are no protests. Ruling by the umpires is final. A conference between the coaches and umpires may be requested and shall not last longer than 5 mins.
17. Except for the above rules, the league will be following USA Rules.
18. Players may be disciplined for just cause and the coach may sit them out part of a game for disciplinary reasons. The league may expel a player by the Summer Ball Commissioner. No refunds will be given. Reasons for expulsions may include but not limited to, fighting, gross profanity and false information on their registration forms.
19. Coaches may be disciplined for not adhering to the principles of the league and conduct that is unbecoming of a coach. This may be for on or off field activities.
20. Players are required to stay on or near their bench during game times and not interact with spectators. They are required to get permission from their coach to leave this area. Players are required to notify their coach if they are going to be late or miss games. There is no penalty if they make proper notification.
21. Rain delays or cancellations will be decided by the home team coach. The coach will notify by text or calling the other opposing teams and the umpires.
22. Any abuse of umpires by players, coaches or fans will not be tolerated. Immediate forfeit by the offending team is possible. This does not mean that you cannot question rules or calls, just do it in a civil manner. There is never an excuse to question balls or strikes.

Any questions, contact:

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