

2022 TRI-COUNTY MINOR SOFTBALL RULES

Each rule is in its own section.

1:1 Strictly enforced. A list of players with date of birth and proof, must be given to the executive by JUNE 1st. The town/ team may submit players of late registration by July 1st for rosters already submitted. As of July 15th, if proof of birth has not been submitted, the player will not play for the remainder of the season.

1:2 Approved players list must be available upon request at all play-off games and tournament games.

1:3 any team not submitted to the league after the scheduling meeting will have to contact the Tri County President. The Tri County President will use discretion fee of \$50.00. The entering center will be responsible for contacting the coaches to schedule games within **one week** of entering the organization. A list of the coaches is to be supplied by the Tri-County President.

PLAY-OFFS SECTION 2

2:1 Deadline for Play-offs

- 1) For play-off only regular season games to be over by the end of July.
- 2) Suggested play-off format series will be 2 out of 3.
- 3) All games to be concluded by August 31.
- 4) Any questions or concerns regarding set up contact the Executive.
- 5) All formats for tournaments/play-offs must be sent to coaches in your division and the Tri County President by July 1st.

2:2 each team will contact the conveyer with their age group game scores.

2:3 League standings will determine home field advantage for the play-offs. If teams are tied, Flip of coin will determine standings for play off reasons only. This will be done by the President. Games will then alternate between centers.

2:4 Play-offs must be made in a horizontal split method. The president will determine the standings from the regular season games. E.g. if 10 teams –the top 6 would play for an “A” championship and the bottom 4 will play for “B” championships.

SUSPENSIONS SECTION 3

3:1 if any team member is ejected by the umpire for any reason the **INCIDENT IS TO BE REPORTED IMMEDIATELY** to the Tri County Executive for decision of action as set out below. All bodies in the association shall follow the list of suspensions below. Tri county protest committee shall be the only persons to hand out suspensions. All suspensions shall be served in full and any player or coach not serving

suspensions in full, the team will forfeit all games that suspensions were to be served on. The player of coach must then serve the suspensions until they are complete.

MINIMUM SUSPENSION SCALE

ADDITIONAL GAMES

A) Ejection from a game-by-game or league official	+1
B) Unsportsmanlike Conduct	+1
C) Flagrant verbal abuse of game or league official	+4
D) Shoving/pushing/molesting of game or league official	+6
E) Striking game or league official	SUSPENION INDEFINITLEY
F) Flagrant verbal abuse or obscene gestures by opponent	+1
G) Shoving/pushing/molesting of opponent	+2
H) Physically Striking opponent	+4

PROTEST SECTION 4

4:1 a 24 hour “cool down” period is required before any contact is made with the Tri County Executive. If you choose to pro test, an email/written letter is to be sent to the Tri County Executive. Any contact by phone prior to sending the initial email will be declined.

4:2 any protest shall be presented to the Tri County Exceptive in writing within (3) three business days of the time of the organ of protest with the fee of \$100.00 dollars. If the protesting team wins the protest they will receive a refund of \$100.00 dollars. If they lost the protest it will be deposited into the Tri-County Softball Association bank account.

RULE CHANGES SECTION 5

5:1 NO Rule changes will be made at the schedule meeting

UMPIRE SECTION 6

6:1 for the regular schedule, the home team will supply both umpires and for the play-off games. For a series deciding game, each team will supply a carded umpire.

6:2 One (1) carded umpire is needed at all games in the regular season.

6:3 Umpires must be at least one (1) category then the teams they are umpiring.

6:4 For U13 and up you must have two (2) carded umpires for play-offs and tournaments.

SAFETY AND EQUIPMENT SECTION 7

7:1 the home team will supply one (1) new ball and one (1) good ball approved by the umpire. Balls must be smooth and clean with inseam stitching. Exception U9 and below if coaches agree they may have a good used ball in regular play.

7:2 all catchers must wear an approved throat guard, mask and helmet as well as a chest protector, jock, Jill, shin pads as per softball Canada **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

7:3 all batters and runners must wear helmets fastened securely to the head by a strap fitted under the chin as per Softball Canada rules.

7:4 it is mandatory for all players U15 and under to wear a face guard on batting helmets.

7:5 any player being used for a first/third base coach must wear a batting helmet, as per Tri County Rules. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

PITCHING SECTION 8

8:1 Tri County will adopt softball Canada rules for pitching distances.

8:2 Fast pitch rule for 1998 simply put is that for all fast pitch categories require pitchers to have both feet on or in contact with the pitchers plate with the hips (no longer the shoulders) in line with first and third bases when taking the signal. When delivering the ball, the pitcher must push and drag the pivot foot away from the pitchers plate. Leaping is not permitted. The pitcher must have BOTH FEET in contact with but not off the side of the pitchers plate when taking the signal and when the pause is made.

8:3 Lead-offs will be allowed U13 and above when the ball crosses home plate. Lead offs for U15 and above is when the ball leaves the pitchers hand.

AGE CATEGORIES AND DISTANCE TABLES

Category	Age (prior to January 1st of the current year)	Ball	Pitching	Baselines	Fences Min - Max
Male					
Masters*	40 or over	30.5 cm (12")	14.0 m (46')	18.3 m (60')	68.6 m - 81.0 m (225' - 265')
* In Masters Men's Fast Pitch the minimum age limit will be 40 years of age in the year of the event.					
Men's		30.5 cm (12")	14.0 m (46')	18.3 m (60')	68.6 m - 81.0 m (225' - 265')
U23	Under 23	30.5 cm (12")	14.0 m (46')	18.3 m (60')	68.6 m - 81.0 m (225' - 265')
U20	Under 20	30.5 cm (12")	14.0 m (46')	18.3 m (60')	68.6 m - 81.0 m (225' - 265')
U17	Under 17	30.5 cm (12")	14.0 m (46')	18.3 m (60')	68.6 m - 81.0 m (225' - 265')
U15	Under 15	30.5 cm (12")	12.8 m (42')	18.3 m (60')	64.0 m - 76.2 m (210' - 250')
U13	Under 13	27.95 cm (11")	11.58 m (38')	16.76 m (55')	51.8 m - 68.6 m (170' - 225')
U11	Under 11	27.95 cm (11")	10.67 m (35')	13.7 m (45')	48.5 m - 68.6 m (160' - 225')
U9	Under 9	27.95 cm (11")	9.14 m (30')	13.7 m (45')	48.5 m - 68.6 m (160' - 225')
U7	Under 7	27.95 cm (11")	9.14 m (30')	13.7 m (45')	48.5 m - 68.6 m (160' - 225')
Female					
* In Masters Women's Fast Pitch the minimum age limit will be 35 years of age in the year of the event.					
Women's		30.5 cm (12")	13.1 m (43')	18.3 m (60')	67.1 m - 71.6 m (220' - 235')
U23	Under 23	30.5 cm (12")	13.1 m (43')	18.3 m (60')	61.0 m - 64.0 m (200' - 210')
U19	Under 19	30.5 cm (12")	13.1 m (43')	18.3 m (60')	61.0 m - 64.0 m (200' - 210')
U17	Under 17	30.5 cm (12")	13.1 m (43')	18.3 m (60')	54.9 m - 64.0 m (180' - 210')
U15	Under 15	30.5 cm (12")	12.2 m (40')	18.3 m (60')	51.8 m - 64.0 m (170' - 210')
U13	Under 13	27.95 cm (11")	11.58 m (38')	16.76 m (55')	48.5 m - 64.0 m (160' - 210')
U11	Under 11	27.95 cm (11")	10.67 m (35')	13.7 m (45')	45.7 m - 64.0 m (150' - 210')
U9	Under 9	27.95 cm (11")	9.14 m (30')	13.7 m (45')	45.7 m - 64.0 m (150' - 210')
U7	Under 7	27.95 cm (11")	9.14 m (30')	13.7 m (45')	45.7 m - 64.0 m (150' - 210')
Orthodox					
MALE		30.5 cm (12")	12.8 m (42')	18.3 m (60')	68.6 m - 81.0 m (225' - 265')
FEMALE		30.5 cm (12")	12.2 m (40')	18.3 m (60')	61.0 m - 64.0 m (200' - 210')
Mixed		30.5 cm (12")	12.8 m (42')	18.3 m (60')	68.6 m - 81.0 m (225' - 265')

Notes: Minor / Youth age categories refer to all categories up to U20 inclusive.

White or yellow balls are permitted with a max core of 47.

MALE AND FEMALE U13 SPECIAL RULES SECTION 9

9:1 U13 (boys & girls) WILL BE allowed to steal home.

9:2 U13 will play 3 OUTS or 5 RUNS to end the inning.

EXCEPT IN PLAY OFFS the last inning may be just three out (discussed before the game starts).

NOTE: once your team gets 5 runs no matter if the bases are loaded and your batter hits a home run and the player on third base is your 5th run and the inning is over.

9:3 In U13 (boys and girls) the batter is out on the third strike, regardless of whether the ball is caught, the ball remains alive. This means U15 and up (boys and girls) that the batter will become a base runner on the third strike if the catcher misses the ball.

SPECIAL TEAMS SECTION 10

10:1 the five (5) rune rule is in effect for all the teams with the exception of U9. The following applies: once your team gets 5 runs, even if more players cross the plate while completing the play (such as a home run) only a maximum of 5 runs will count for that inning. The last inning shall be an open inning with the inning being complete when 3 are out. The umpire is to announce the last inning when the appropriate time is left.

NEW STARTING AND FINISHING PLAY SECTION 11

11:1 a team (except for U11/U9) may start and finish the game with 7 players, but the missing players shall be automatic outs, they must enter the game as soon as they arrive. At this point this point they will no longer be considered automatic outs. If a player is ejected from a game, they will not be considered an automatic out unless they bring the team under the required number (9) players.

11:2 All teams will play games that are 7 innings or 1 HR 20 MIN time limit maximum in regular season and playoff games with the exception of Co-Ed Slow Pitch which will be 7 innings.

RAIN OUT GAME SECTION 12

12:1 Home team shall be responsible to re- schedule any rained out games and notify the visiting team within 10 days of the cancelled game. Time and Place to be agreed on.

12:2 RAINED OUT GAME. The game shall be called complete after 5 complete innings of play or 1 full hour of playing time as judged by the umpires. It is important to mark the starting time of the game.

FORFEIT OF A GAME SECTION 13

13:1 all games will begin within 15 minutes (15) of game time or the offending team shall forfeit the game. Games delayed because of weather or being held up by the proceeding game shall and will NOT result in a forfeit.

PLAYER AFFILIATION AND FORMING A TEAM SECTION 14

14:1 a team may use up to 2 overage by 1 year provided that the center does not have a team at their proper age level. A team with overage players may not have more than 12 players total (unless pre-approved on a case by case basis). The roster must be approved prior to the first game. The opposing team must be notified prior to the start of the game who the overage players are. All teams in the division will be notified by email from the president of who the over age players are. Only 1 of the overage players can play in the infield at any one time. The 2 overage players may switch from infield to outfield, as long as there is still one on the infield at any given time. The over age players may not play the positions of pitchers helper, Catcher or pitcher. NOTE: this rule does not apply to Co-Ed slow pitch as no overage players will be permitted.

14:2 Players being used from a lower category may play in a higher Category, for regular season play and also for playoffs. Coach of the higher category must get a copy of the lower category's roster to prove that player(s) is/are eligible to play in Tri County (rule 1).U15 boys could draw from U13 boys/girls. U15 girls should only draw from U13 girls.

14:3 No teams are to use affiliation of players horizontally. **THIS IS NOT ALLOWED.**

PLAYERS ON BENCH SECTION 15

15:1 all players dressed and on the bench must bat in order and be listed on the score sheet. Free substitutions in the field is permitted for the entire season including playoffs.

TEAMS IN A CATEGORY SECTION 16

16:1 if a category includes 10 or more team it will be split into 2 divines.

UNIFORM SECTION 17

17:1 Tri County Does not expect all centers to provide matching shirts, pants/caps and socks for all team members and coaches. Players are expected to have shirts in the of the same likeness in style and color. Pitchers cannot wear long sleeve white shirts under uniforms. Other colors are allowed.