

2017 Intertown Softball Rules – 10U Div.

I. General League Considerations

1. The Rules Committee shall be the sole decision makers of any grievances. The Committee shall consist of one divisional director from Dighton, Freetown, Lakeville, Middleboro, Rehoboth, and Raynham.
2. Meetings shall be held as often as deemed necessary by the Rules Committee.
3. Team rosters shall consist of name and birth date for all players, and should be available for review if requested. All managers name and contact info shall be provided to the League Administrator prior to the start of the season.
4. 10U players must not reach age 11 by January 1.
5. 10U teams shall consist of 10-18 players. There is a 10 player minimum. The roster may be increased throughout the season, not to exceed 18 players.
6. At least one coach or manager from each team shall be over 20 years of age.
7. All players must participate in 50% of their regular season games to be eligible playoffs. Any player appearing in less than 50% must get Intertown League approval in order to eligible playoffs.
8. No player shall play for more than one town. No player shall play for more than one team within the same division. Players from younger divisions may play “up” or fill in, but must play on their rostered team during the playoffs.
9. Playoff format:
 - All teams will participate in playoffs.
 - Teams will be seeded based on a blind draw.
 - Playoff format will be a single elimination tournament style format; played on the final weekend of the Rec Season.
 - One town will host the playoffs. That town will be determined by all directors at the beginning of the season.
 - Before a team is entered into blind draw, each team must confirm they are able to field a team for the playoff weekend. If they are not, that team will not be entered into Brackets. Once they are entered, if they are unable to field a team, they must forfeit and are eliminated from playoffs.
10. Host town provides trophies for the age group they are hosting that year. Host director presents trophies immediately following the championship game. Each player should receive an individual trophy. Trophies should be awarded to the 1st and 2nd place teams. As well, the Championship Cup will be presented to the winning team. The Cup will remain with the winning team for the full off season. It is the responsibility of that team to add their team plate to the Cup. As well, they need to return the Cup prior to the playoff weekend the following season.

II. Game Scheduling and Forfeits

11. Monday begins the scheduled week and Sunday ends the week.
12. Home teams must supply a certified umpire. If there is no official umpire, both coaches can the play the game with an umpire agreed to by both coaches or reschedule the game. J.O. umpires are acceptable for 10U.
13. The home team must make the decision on rainouts. Decisions are to be made by 4:00 pm or 2 hours prior to the game's scheduled starting time. The first call must go to the umpire coordinator (Paul Bell (508) 982-6530) so that he/she can notify the umpire scheduler. The next call must go to the opposing team coach and then the town director.
14. Any team not being able to field enough players or not wanting to play on the scheduled date of a game will forfeit the game. If both coaches agree that the game cannot be played because of hardship, they can reschedule the game. It is the home team's responsibility to reschedule the game.
15. Any rescheduled game must be played by the second Sunday following the original game date. Any team not being able to field enough players or not wanting to play on the rescheduled date will forfeit the game. Home team must give the opposing team a choice of two dates for the make-up game. If a date cannot be agreed upon, then the away team must take a forfeit.
16. Home team is the official score keeper and the umpire should sign the book.
17. All Scores must be reported on the league website by the winning team within 24 hours of each game's completion. Please be accurate with scores.

III. General Procedures

18. The Current USA Softball rule book shall be the official rules for all contests except as modified in these rules. During the regular season coaches/umpires are encouraged to instruct the players regarding USA pitching rules. However during the playoffs, all USA pitching rules will be strictly enforced.
19. A protest must adhere to the rules as outlined in the USA Softball Rule Book. In addition, it must be presented to the Rules Committee within 24 hours of the alleged infraction. Protest shall be heard by the Rules Committee within 10 days.
20. Any coach, manager, or player who is thrown out of a game, cannot participate in their team's next played game.
21. Base path shall be 60'. Pitching mounds shall be 35'.

22. The 11" (optic yellow) ball will be used. Home team provides 2 new game balls per game. During playoffs, each team provides 1 per game played.
23. All players must wear helmets with face guard while batting, running bases, and coaching bases. Accidental loss of helmet will not justify calling the runner out.
24. The following are to be enforced by COACHES:
 - A. Team is neatly attired.
 - B. No jewelry will be allowed (except for medic alert).
 - C. No metal cleats are allowed.
 - D. No Cheering against any player or team. No screaming at or when a pitcher is about to deliver her pitch.

IV. Game Length

25. All games shall start at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted on the master schedule or unless an alternate starting time has been mutually agreed to by both managers involved.
26. No inning shall start **1 hr 45 min** after the official starting time which is designated as the time of the first pitch. The home plate umpire's watch is the official time. Home team should get the official start time from the umpire and record it in the score book.
27. The number of innings constituting a game for 10U is 6 innings. A game called by the Umpire shall be regulation if 3 innings have been played, or if the home team is ahead after 2 ½ innings. In the event of a game being called by the umpire due to weather or darkness, the final score will revert back to the last FULL inning.
28. 10U Division has a 4 run per inning rule with unlimited scoring being allowed in the 6th or final inning only. If the visiting team is ahead by more than 12 runs in the last inning, they will be declared the winner and may only bat around once in that final inning. The home team gets its last at-bat, but has been declared as the losing team. (Regular Season only). Both teams and the ump must agree on what the last inning shall be before the inning starts and that inning becomes unlimited runs.
29. Once the 4th run of the offensive ½ of an inning comes across home plate, the inning ends
30. Play-off games ending in a tie will begin the 7th inning, and all subsequent innings, using the USA Softball "International Tie Breaker" rule.

V. Team Lineups and Substitutions

31. In the 10U division teams may play with seven players in the regular season only. If a team plays the game with less than nine players there will be no out recorded when the number eight or nine spots in the batting order come up.
32. 10U Division may use four outfielders.
33. A pitcher may pitch 3 innings in a game. If extra innings is necessary; each pitcher gets an additional inning added to their eligibility. Same rules apply to playoffs.
34. Free defensive substitution is allowed but all players must play a minimum of 6 defensive outs in a complete game.
35. A continuous batting order shall be used. Any player showing up late goes to the bottom of the order. If after three innings, a player has not been inserted into the lineup, they will not be allowed to pitch in the game.
36. In the event of an injury or illness requiring the removal of a player from the game (if the player is unable to return to the game), no out will be recorded when her turn is reached in the batting order.
37. A courtesy runner will be allowed to run for the pitcher and catcher. The last out made will be the designated runner.

VI. Additional Rules of Play

38. There shall be bunting and leftie slapping allowed in the 10U Division. There is NO slashing (squaring to bunt but then bringing the bat back to hit) allowed. An attempt to slash bunt will result in an automatic strike. A second infraction on the same batter will result in an out.
39. The infield fly rule shall **NOT** be called in the 10U Division.
40. The dropped 3rd strike rule shall **NOT** be called in the 10U Division.
41. The stealing of second and third base is allowed. Only one base, per runner-per pitch, can be stolen at a time regardless of any defensive errors. The runner at third is considered “frozen” at third base and may **NOT** run home while a defensive play on the runner stealing second is being made. This means runners on 1st and 2nd base may both steal 2nd and 3rd base, respectively, on the same pitch.
42. If a pitcher walks 4 consecutive batters in a row, the coach has the discretion to allow the batting team’s coach to come in and pitch the remainder of the inning. The pitcher he or she is replacing stays to play the defense for the position. Once the inning is over, that pitcher may come back in and pitch as long as she has not reached her 3 inning limit per game. The decision to have a coach pitch must be agreed upon by both teams.