

# **JUNIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE OF NASSAU**

## **GIRLS SOFTBALL –GROUND RULES**

**EFFECTIVE : JANUARY 1,2020**

**PLAYING RULES IN JBLN GIRLS SOFTBALL WILL BE GOVERNED BY THE STANDARD PLAYING RULES OF THE BAHAMAS SOFTBALL FEDERATION OR THE NEW PROVIDENCE SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION.**

**THIS RULE SHEET IS INTENDED TO REGULARISE PLAYERS AND ELIGIBILITY AS WELL AS TO ESTABLISH GROUND RULES .**

### **1. Age of Players**

Players are ineligible if their Twenty First (21) Birthday falls before August 31 of the current season.

### **2. Coaching Staff**

Each team will be allowed to have One Head Coach and One Assistant Coach.

### **3. Regulation Game**

A Regulation Game will be **Seven (7) Innings**.The game will be official if Four (4) Full innings are completed. (3 ½ Innings if the home team is ahead.)

There will be a **2 Hour Time Limit** on games.No inning can start after the Time Limit has expired.

### **4. Mercy Rule**

If a team is ahead by Ten (10) Runs or more after 4 Innings (3 ½ Innings if the home team is ahead OR Seven (7) Runs after 5 Innings (4 ½ Innings if the home team is ahead)– the game will be awarded to the team that is winning under the Mercy Rule.

## **5. Must Play Rule**

All Players present for the game must play no less than Two (2) Consecutive Innings Defensively and One At Bat.

Should a player not play defensively in a game that she is rostered, that player must start the next scheduled game. Failure to comply with the Must Play Rule will result in the Forfeiture of BOTH games in which the infractions occurred.

If a player who is present and in uniform for the game does not play for physical reasons or is being disciplined by the team, the situation must be reported to the Chief Umpire and the Opposing Head Coach prior to the start of the game.

## **6. The Coaches**

The offensive team is allowed Two (2) Base Coaches on the field during it's time at bat – one at First Base and One at Third Base. The Coaches shall not leave the dug-out until the pitcher has completed his warm up pitches.

Base Coaches shall :

- (1) Be an adult coach or eligible players in uniform.
- (2) Remain in the Coaches Boxes at all times.
- (3) Talk to members of their team only.
- (4) An offending Base Coach shall be moved by the umpire if necessary.

## **7. Rosters**

A Team will consist of Twelve (12) Players. Rosters may vary year to year depending on Registration but no more than Thirteen (13) Players will be allowed on a team.

## **8. The Regular Season**

The Team with the most wins during the Regular Season will be declared The Pennant Winner.

## **9. Play-Offs and Championship Series**

The Play-Off Format will be as follows :

- 1) The Pennant winner will receive a bye into the Three (3) Game Championship Series.
- 2) The Third Place Team will play the Second Place Team in a One Game Elimination. The Winner of this game will advance to play the Pennant Winner in the Championship series.
- 3) The Time Limit Rule will be waived for the Play-Offs.

## **10. Equipment**

Balls must be TPF47-375 Compression-CBS 12” Leather Core – Yellow.

Bats may not exceed 42 Inches and no more than Two & Five Eights Inches in Diameter.

Bats must be Aluminium and be Little League or Pony Baseball Approved.

Composite Barrel Bats will not be allowed.

Wooden Bats will not be allowed.

Masks, Helmets and Protective Gear must be worn by all Catchers.

Batters must wear protective helmets while batting or on base.

## **11. Chain Link Fences**

Any Batted or Thrown Ball which is lodged in a Chain Link Fence will be considered a Dead Ball.

- 1) A Batted Ball lodged in an Outfield Fence – Ground Rule Double.
- 2) A Ball thrown by a Defensive Player that is lodged in a Perimeter Fence Will be declared dead and the runner (s) will automatically advance to the next base. A runner having rounded Third Base and if the ball is lodged in the Back Stop Fence or Padding will be allowed to score. A Runner ON Third Base will NOT be allowed to score if a Wild Pitch results in a lodged ball in the Back Stop Fence.

## 12. Field Dimensions :

Pitching Rubber to Home Plate	43 Feet
Bases	60 Feet
Outfield Fences -	220 Feet

Field Boundary Cones will be set at 220 Feet.

Any Batted Ball that goes through the cones will be considered a Ground Rule Double.  
Any Batted Ball that goes over the cones will be considered a Home Run.  
Any Ball thrown by a defensive player that goes through the cones will result in a one base advance for the runner.

## 13. Game Eligibility

A Player arriving after the game has started, may be substituted in to the Line Up at any time provided that the **THIRD** Inning has **NOT** been completed and immediate notification is made to the Umpire and the Opposing Head Coach.

A Player arriving **AFTER** the Third Inning has been completed will not be eligible to play in that game.

## 14. Forfeited Game

Games may be started with a Minimum of Eight (8) Players and must be started on time according to the scheduled start time.

Should a team not have the required Eight (8) Players to start the game, the Umpire will allow a Grace Period of Ten (10) Minutes.

After the Grace Period has expired and the team has not fielded Eight (8) players, the Umpire will award the game to the opposing team under forfeiture.

## 15. Uniform Dress Code

All Players and Coaches are required to wear the issued Team Uniform including Jerseys, Hats and Pants.

Coaches are allowed to wear short pants.

All Shirts of Players and Coaches must be tucked neatly inside the pants at all times during the game.

## **16. Player or Coach Ejection**

If the Umpire finds it necessary to eject a **Manager, Coach, Player or Spectator**.the person ejected shall leave the field immediately and take no further part in the game. He or She must leave the Baseball Complex and may not sit in the stands or remain on premises.

Any person ejected from the game will also be suspended for the Team's next scheduled game and may not be in attendance at the game or game site