

NILES PARK DISTRICT
FALL SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS
Going into 1st – 2nd Grade Fall of 2024

1. GAMES

- A) 6 inning game.
- B) 3 outs, 5 runs or once through the batting order ends an inning.
- C) Last inning will be unlimited runs scored. Both coaches and the umpire must state which is the last inning before the 1st pitch of that inning as the time limit may come into effect.
- D) All games will have a 2 hour time limit.

2. BASES

50 Feet

3. LEAD OFFS OR STEALING

No stealing or leadoffs.

4. ADVANCING HOME

Runners can only advance home on a batted ball.

5. SLAUGHTER RULE

No slaughter rule. Games will be played until time limit occurs.

6. DROP THIRD STRIKES

No

7. INFIELD FLY

No

8. BUNTING

- A) Bunting and fake bunting is allowed.
- B) Fake bunting and swinging is not allowed. The batter will be called out.

9. OVERTHROWS

No advancing on overthrows to any base.

10. BATTING ORDER:

A continuous batting order will be used. All players attending the game must be in the batting order. Players arriving late must be added to the end of the batting order.

11. PLAYING TIME

Every player must play in at least 3 of the 6 innings. No player can sit out 2 consecutive innings and no player can sit out twice before everyone has sat out once.

12. BEGINNING A GAME

A game may begin with 7 players. When any additional player arrives they will be added to the bottom of the order.

13. PLAYERS ON FIELD

10 players on the field. The 10th player **must begin in the outfield grass** prior to the pitcher's delivery. Once the pitch is released they may move to any part of the field.

14. PITCHING RULES

- A) A fielding mask must be worn by the girl playing the pitching position.
- B) Coaches pitch from 32 ft mound.
- C) The coach will have a maximum of 5 pitches to their own batters. If a girl fouls off a ball with 2 strikes she can continue her at-bat until she strikes out or puts the ball into play.

If a coach decides to let a girl pitch then:

- A) If only one team wants a girl to pitch then she would pitch to her own batters. If both teams have girls pitch then they would pitch to the opposing team.
- B) Max of 2 innings per girl.
- C) 32 feet
- D) If a girl pitches there are no walks. Once ball 4 is thrown the coach will come in and pitch. The count remains 3-0, 3-1 or 3-2. The coach has a max of 3 pitches until the batter puts the ball into play or strikes out.

15. DEAD BALL

The play will be called dead once the ball is in possession of an infielder in the infield.

NILES PARK DISTRICT
FALL SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS
Going into 3rd- 4th Grade Fall of 2024

1. GAMES

- A) 6 inning game.
- B) 3 outs or 5 runs ends an inning.
- C) Last inning will be unlimited runs scored. Both coaches and the umpire must state which is the last inning before the 1st pitch of that inning as the time limit may come into effect.
- D) All games will have a 2-hour time limit. If a game is called mid inning at the 2 hour mark, the score will revert back to the last complete inning.

2. BASES

60 Feet

3. LEAD OFFS OR STEALING

No stealing. Lead-offs are allowed any time after the ball crosses home plate.

4. ADVANCING HOME

Runners can only advance home on a batted ball or bases loaded HBP.

5. SLAUGHTER RULE

10 runs after 4 complete innings

6. DROP THIRD STRIKES

No

7. INFIELD FLY

No

8. BUNTING

A) Bunting and fake bunting is allowed.

B) Fake bunting and swinging is not allowed. The batter will be called out

9. OVERTHROWS

On infield plays when a throw is made to first base, the batter may not advance to second. In addition, runners may not advance on an overthrow to any base.

10. BATTING ORDER:

A continuous batting order will be used. All players attending the game must be in the batting order.

Players arriving late must be added to the end of the batting order.

11. PLAYING TIME

Every player must play in at least 3 of the 6 innings. No player can sit out 2 consecutive innings and no player can sit out twice before everyone has sat out once.

12. BEGINNING A GAME

A game may begin with 7 players. When any additional player arrives they will be added to the bottom of the order.

13. PLAYERS ON FIELD

10 players on the field. The 10th player **must begin in the outfield grass** prior to the pitcher's delivery.

Once the pitch is released any player may move to any part of the field.

14. FIELDING MASKS

Any girl playing an infield position must wear a defensive fielding mask.

15. PITCHING RULES

A) Max of 3 innings per game (**2 innings for Travel Pitchers**). One pitch constitutes an inning pitched.

A pitcher does NOT have to pitch in consecutive innings in the game. A pitcher taken out during an inning may NOT return that inning.

B) Pitching distance is 35 feet.

C) If a pitcher hits (2) batters in one inning she must be removed as a pitcher for the rest of that inning. If a girl hits (3) batters over the course of the game, she'll be removed as pitcher for the rest of the game.

D) If a batter is hit by any pitch including a ball that bounces, they will be awarded 1st base. If a ball rolls and hits a player or the batter makes no attempt to get out of the way they will not be awarded 1st base. If a girl makes little or no attempt to get out of the way the umpire will call it a ball and his decision in not to be argued.

E) *Coach Pitch* – After ball 4 the coach will come into pitch. The strike count remains the same and the batter has a max of 3 pitches to put the ball into play or strike out. If the batter fouls off the 3rd pitch or any pitch thereafter the at-bat will continue. The girl pitcher must be within 3-4ft. of the coach pitching.

16. DEAD BALL

The play will be called dead when the pitcher has control of the ball within the baselines in the infield.

Umpire has final decision on where the runners were at the time of the dead ball and if they can advance to next base or go back to previous base.

NILES PARK DISTRICT
FALL SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS

Going into (5th/6th) & (7th/8th) Grade Fall of 2024

- 1. GAMES** A) 6 inning game.
B) 3 outs or 5 runs ends an inning.
C) Last inning will be unlimited runs scored. Both coaches and the umpire must state which is the last inning before the 1st pitch of the top of that inning as the time limit may come into effect.
D) All games will have a 2 hour drop dead time limit. If a game is called mid inning at the 2-hour mark, the score will revert back to the last complete inning.
- 2. BASES** 60 Feet
- 3. LEAD OFFS & STEALING** **For 5th/6th Grade** a) Stealing is allowed for 2nd and 3rd base only.
b) No runners can advance on an overthrow on a steal.
c) Lead-offs are allowed any time after the ball crosses home plate.
For 7th/8th Grade a) Any base after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.
- 4. SLAUGHTER RULE** 10 runs after 4 complete innings
- 5. DROP THIRD STRIKES** **5th/6th Grade – NO and 7th/8th Grade - YES**
- 6. INFELD FLY** **5th/6th Grade – NO and 7th/8th Grade – YES**
- 7. BUNTING** A) Bunting and fake bunting is allowed.
B) Fake bunting and swinging is not allowed. The batter will be called out.
- 8. OVERTHROWS** **5th/6th Grade -** One base allowed on overthrows to any base except for overthrow on steal attempts.
7th/8th Grade - Runners can advance as many bases as they wish at their own risk.
- 9. BATTING ORDER:** A continuous batting order will be used. All players attending the game must be in the batting order. Players arriving late and before the top of the 4th inning must be added to the end of the batting order.
- 10. PLAYING TIME** Every player must play in at least 3 of the 6 innings. No player can sit out 2 consecutive innings and no player can sit out twice before everyone has sat out once.
- 11. BEGINNING A GAME** A game may begin with 7 players. When any additional player arrives they will be added to the bottom of the order as long as they arrive before the first pitch of the 4th inning.
- 12. PLAYERS ON FIELD** 9 players on the field.
- 13. FIELDING MASKS** Any girl playing an infield position must wear a defensive fielding mask.
- 14. PITCHING RULES** A) **5th/6th Grade – 3 innings max (2 innings for Travel Pitchers) and 7th/8th Grade – 4 innings max (3 innings for Travel Pitchers).**
B) One pitch constitutes an inning pitched.
C) A pitcher does NOT have to pitch in consecutive innings in the game.
D) A pitcher taken out during an inning may NOT return that inning.
E) Pitching distance is 40ft. for **5th/6th Grade** and 43ft. for **7th/8th Grade**
F) If a pitcher hits (2) batters in one inning she must be removed as a pitcher for the rest of that inning. If a girl hits (3) batters over the course of the game, she'll be removed as pitcher for the rest of the game. A ball that bounces and hits a batter will not count towards her 2 allowed per inning or 3 per game.
G) If a batter is hit by any pitch including a ball that bounces, they will be awarded 1st base. If a girl makes little or no attempt to get out of the way the umpire will call it a ball and his decision in not to be argued.
- 15. DEAD BALL** The play will be called dead once the ball is in the pitcher circle. If a circle is not present on the field, the umpire will use his discretion as to when the ball is in the vicinity of where the circle would be.