

KIMBERTON YOUTH ATHLETIC LEAGUE
Rules of Play
Softball – Major Division

I. BATTING:

- A. All rostered players present for the game shall bat in order, whether playing defensively or not.
- B. Players in this division will be permitted to bunt.
- C. A player that squares to bunt has two options; 1. Bunt the offered pitch or 2. Pull the bat back and take the offered pitch. Any player that squares to bunt, pulls back and swings at the pitch, will be ruled out and the play called dead. No runners may advance.
- D. Batters must wear approved protective headgear while at bat and on base as a base runner. Deliberate refusal to obtain and wear approved protected headgear while at bat or while on base will result in ejection from the game.
- E. Dropped third strike rule Applies in this division.

II. BASE RUNNING

- A. Players in this division will be permitted to steal on Release.
- B. Stealing of Home will be allowed
- C. In the event that a player does leave the base early, she can be called out.
- D. Head first sliding, into any base, is not permitted. A base runner attempting to slide into a base headfirst will be call out immediately, no exceptions. Runners may dive back to a base.
- E. Use of approved protective headgear while on base is a requirement. Refer to I.D. above.
- F. In order to prevent injuries and protect the defensive player attempting to make a play on a base runner, contact with the defensive player must be avoided by sliding and/or veering off to one side. If the base runner does not slide or make a valid effort to avoid contact with the defensive player, then the base runner will be call out immediately. Contact is defined as; if the base runner remains on their feet and makes, any type of contact with the defensive player holding the ball or while in the process of getting the ball, to apply a tag.
- G. **If contact is made, the umpire must warn both benches and must make a determination as the intent and severity of the contact. If in the judgment of the umpire, the act is determined to be flagrant, the base runner will be ejected from the game immediately. If the act is determined to be at the instruction of the manager or coach, the manager and coach will be ejected from the game immediately. Such an occurrence must be brought to the attention of the Executive Board of KYAL. The Executive Board will determine further suspension and or removal from the league.**

II. GAME

- A. A regulation game is 7 innings.
- B. Starting time for all games will be as scheduled.
- C. Games are limited to Two, (2) Hours
- D. A regulation game will end any time after 9:45pm, when the home team has completed their at bat, or drop dead at 10pm, by umpires clock.
- E. Infield fly rule is in effect at this level.
- F. The offensive team will only be permitted to score a maximum of five, (5), runs in any one-half inning. In the event the fifth, (5th), run scores and the ball is still in play, play will continue until the play is over. If more than five, (5), runs are

- scored, (i.e. 6 or 7), only five, (5) runs will count.
- G. Runs scored during uncompleted innings will not count. The final score will be that of the last complete inning. Tie games will be entered as a tie.
 - H. The home team will be responsible for the official scorebook.
 - I. The official scorebook must be available upon request of the Softball Commissioner, League President, Vice President or any member of the Executive Board.
 - J. Managers must make every effort to field a full roster, players from AAA division can be borrowed to fill a roster, However, they cannot be used to pitch.
 - K. Players must be in complete uniform provided by KYAL.

III. FIELDING

- A. A maximum of ten, (10), defensive players may be on the field at any one time, including a catcher.
- B. Each player present must play a minimum of three, (3), defensive innings.
Substitutions must be made by the third, (3rd), defensive inning.
- C. No player shall be removed from the game during a defensive half of the inning for any reason other than sickness or injury.
- D. If a player is not present to be entered into the game by the defensive half of the third inning, the player will not be eligible to play in that game. No penalty will be assessed.
- E. Any player neglected must play the entire next game. Failure to comply will result in the following action taken against the manager or his appointee:
 - 1. First offense, a three game suspension,
 - 2. Second offense, dismissal of the manager or his appointee,
 - 3. Both penalties will carry over to the next year if committed at the end of the season.

IV. PITCHING

- A. The maximum number of innings a pitcher can pitch is Seven (7) innings in two consecutive games. An inning pitched is defined as; any inning in which one, (1), pitch is delivered to the batter during game play. Pre-inning warm-up is not considered an inning.
- B. Pitching in any game which is not considered an official game will not be charged to the pitcher.
- C. Once a pitcher leaves the mound and another player delivers one, (1), pitch, the original pitcher may not return to the mound in the same game.
- D. (3), hit batters in one, (1), inning or (4), hit batters in one, (1), game requires that the pitcher must be removed from pitching.
- E. The pitching distance is 43 feet.
- F. A 12" softball will be used in this division.

V. EQUIPMENT

- A. Throwing of equipment is extremely dangerous and damaging to equipment and cannot be condoned. The throwing action will be an umpire's judgment call. The penalties will be as follows:
 - 1. Throwing or the bat while at bat:

First time, Batter gets a warning.

Anytime thereafter; the Batter is called out, dead ball rule applies.

2. Throwing of the batting helmets:

First time, Batter gets a warning.

Anytime thereafter, automatic ejection, no exception.

3. Throwing of any equipment by other players, coaches or managers in any area will result in immediate ejection.

- B. Any player preparing to play the position of catcher is required to wear approved protective headgear, catcher's mask, chest protector, and shin guards. If a player refuses to wear the above referenced protective equipment, they will not be permitted to play the position of catcher.
- C. Any player warming up a pitcher is required to wear the approved protective equipment listed above in V.B.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. There will be an Umpire schedule, Coaches are required to umpire other games within the Major Division.
- B. Coaches cannot umpire in their own game.
- C. Failure to umpire will be an automatic one game suspension.
- D. The umpire at his discretion can eject any person other than the manager who argues with the umpire immediately.
- E. All ejections/suspensions will be off the KYAL premises.
- F. Any ejection constitutes an automatic one game suspension. The Executive Board can assess additional time after review.
- G. Uniforms (pants and shirts) are to be collected after the last game.
- H. Shoes with metal cleats are not permitted.
- I. A team wishing to reschedule a game must do so 7 days prior to its original scheduled date. All requests must be in writing and approved by both teams. All requests will be given to either the League President or Girls Commissioner.
- K. No protest shall ever be permitted on a "Judgment Decision" by an umpire. All protest will be handled immediately by the protest person in charge before play resumes. Both teams must accept his/hers decision.
- L. Only the manager will hold discussions with an umpire. Anybody else who entered in a discussion with an umpire may be ejected from the game. The umpires discretion will apply. The ejection will result in a one game suspension.
- M. The official league Score Book will be the responsibility of the home team. The Score Book will be kept in the home teams dugout at all times. Failure to maintain the Score Book will be subject to a one game suspension of the Manager. The score book will be used to determine a players eligibility for Tournament Play.
- N. Picking order for the Draft will be determined by the Executive Board.

VII. Tournament Play

- A. Tournament team managers will be approved by the general membership.
- B. Tournament team players will be selected by a vote of the respective division managers. Managers shall not vote for their own players. Methodology and actual selection of the tournament team players will be reviewed and decided upon by the Softball Commissioner.
- C. To be eligible for tournament play, a player must play at least 6 regular season

games. (note: Players who are injured or sick accompanied by a Doctors Note will be excused.)

- D. Players not selected for the tournament team are eligible for the end of season All Star game. Each team will provide a list of 5 players to be on the All Star team.

Revised March 2012