

Twin Lakes Softball League Rules

Have fun & fellowship with other players

- Players:

- o Each team has at least 15 players on their roster with at least 5 women.

- o A minimum of 7 players from the team's roster are needed to have a legal game.

- ☒ You can add up to 3 players from other teams to make 10 players if you don't have 10 of your own players attending the game.

- ☒ If a team has less than 7 of its own players (5 minutes after scheduled start time) that team forfeits (score will be recorded as 7-0) & the game is a scrimmage.

- ☒ If both teams forfeit they will both get a loss & the score will be recorded as 0-0

- o At least 3 women must play defensive positions every inning.

- ☒ If only 2 women attend the game they must play defensive positions other than catcher.

- The missing woman's at bat will be a scheduled out somewhere in the line-up at the coaches choosing (the coach must inform the umpire of when they are taking the scheduled out).

- ☒ If only 1 woman attends the game she must play a defensive position other than catcher.

- The missing women's at bats will be scheduled outs somewhere in the line-up at the coaches choosing (the coach must inform the umpire of when they are taking the scheduled outs).

- Batting:

- o All Players bat (you cannot sub players in and out of the batting line-up).

- o Batters & base runners are required to wear a batter's helmet

- o At bat starts with a 1 ball 1 strike count

- o 3rd strike is an out and regardless of whether it's a:

- ☒ Foul ball (no grace foul ball)

- ☒ Swinging strike

- ☒ Called strike by the umpire.

- o Pinch Runner:

☒ If a runner is needed for the batter the runner will start at the back stop & run once the ball is hit.

☒ Pinch runner is last out.

o Bat ban:

☒ Every manager will have a copy of the bat ban.

☒ The bat ban is in place for safety.

☒ The team manager is responsible to ensure that the ban is enforced:

- 1st offense Violation/team: the at bat is an out & the opposing team will be awarded 1 run.
- 2nd & subsequent offense Violations/team: the player is ejected from the game & the bat used is confiscated until the conclusion of the season.

o Home Run Rule:

☒ Any one team can hit only 1 home more than its opposing team

☒ This will be managed by the umpire.

o Running the bases:

☒ Running to 1st base:

- If you are not intending to round 1st to go to second you must run through 1st on the orange side of 1st base.

☒ The base runner has the right of way only if they are not interfering with a fielder going after a ball for a play.

- If the base runner interferes they are out.

☒ Avoid contact at all costs. (We all have to go to work the next day)

- No sliding into a player to try and break up double plays.

☒ Commit Line after 3rd base:

- Once you pass the "Commit Line" you can not go back to 3rd; you are on a force to home

☒ No Leading off the base or stealing bases

- You must remain on base until the ball is hit
- Leaving the base early is an out.

☒ Veer Line:

- If you touch home plate you are out.
- You must take the veer line & cross the safe line to score.
- No Sliding at home.

Fielding:

o Interference:

☒ The fielder has the right of way when making a play on the ball.

- If the fielder has no play they must yield to the base runner.

o Female Batter:

☒ When a female is up to bat ALL outfielders must start behind the “Woman’s Line” in the outfield.

• If a female hits the ball in the air over the “Woman’s Line” it is considered a homerun regardless if it is caught by an outfielder behind the “Woman’s Line”. **homerun rule applies

• If an outfielder catches a ball hit by a female anywhere in front of the “Women’s Line” it is an out.

☒ The infield players (with the exception of the pitcher & catcher) must position themselves between the base path & the grass line for the outfield.

o Encroachment:

☒ Regardless of gender the player of any said defensive position must be allowed to attempt to make the “obvious” play.

If an out occurs as a result of encroachment it will be reversed.

☒ The Umpire will make the judgement call on encroachment.

• Pitching:

o Arc must be between 6ft & 16ft

☒ If the pitch is beyond the arc regulations & the umpire calls it illegal it will be recorded as a ball.

☒ The batter has the option to swing at an illegal pitch & the pitch will be considered legal.

o Pitcher must pitch from the pitcher’s plate.

☒ If pitcher does not pitch from the pitcher’s plate it will be recorded as a ball regardless if the batter swings at the ball & misses or gets a hit.

- Game Time:

- o Regular season league games are scheduled for 60 minutes.

- o If a tie occurs after regulation game time has expired the next inning will be a "Sudden death" inning

- ☐ The last out from the previous inning will start as a runner on 2nd & the batter will get up with 2 outs.

- ☐ If, after the "Sudden death" inning the score is tied, the game will be recorded as a tie.

Cursing/ inappropriate language:

You get one warning

2nd time you are ejected from the game.

The umpire has the final word. You cannot dispute or request the umpire to change the call.