**2024 Prep Girls Rules**

**Harlan/Hoagland/Monroeville/Woodburn,New Haven**

1. This is a Coach Pitch League.

1. Baselines shall be sixty (60) feet.

1. Pitching distance from home plate to pitching rubber shall be (35ft). Pitching circle will be a sixteen (16) foot diameter circle. Both pitcher’s feet must remain in the circle for the duration of the pitch. We want to train players to watch the ball all the way to the plate. If the coach -pitcher does step outside of the circle with any part of the foot, the play is dead, but the pitch does count as one of the 6 pitches for that batter.

1. The game will consist of six (6) innings or 1 hour and 15-minute time limit, whichever comes first. No inning to start after that time. Games can end in a tie. If the score is tied at the end of regulation play, no extra innings will be played.

1. Field ten (10) players with a minimum of eight (8) players. Standard call up rules apply. Coaches may fill roster with T-Ball participants with parental permission. In the event that a team has only 8 or 9 players, coaches may opt out of having to field a catcher.

1. Outfielders start in the outfield. Cannot be extra infielders.

1. Every player must play at least every other defensive inning.

1. Use 10” flex ball softballs. “RIF blue dot”

1. Three outs or ten (10) batters per inning. When the 10th batter is coming to bat, that coach shall notify the opposing team’s coach that it is their last batter for that inning. If the announcement is not made, the batter is declared out. Play stops as soon as an out is made or as soon as the player pitcher has control of the ball and at least one foot in the pitcher circle. If a runner is advancing towards home during the 10th batter of the inning, their run will only count if they have crossed the plate before an out was made or the ball is in control of the pitcher in the pitcher circle. A batted ball back to the pitcher and the pitcher does not make a play attempt, all forced runners will get to advance one base. \*\*\*\*2023 Revision\*\*\*\*
2. All players in attendance must be in the batting line up.

1. Each batter gets (6) pitches, with (3) strikes as an out. The last pitch must be swung at or the batter is out, unless foul tip. Batter will continue to bat until she is out or on base.

1. No Bunting, walks, stealing, headfirst slides or lead offs.

1. For purposes of encouraging concentration on the bases, runners may leave the base after the ball crosses the plate. Players will be warned for leading off or leaving early the first time, players will be out on second offense.

1. A batted ball must pass the 10’ line to be allowed. Fair balls hit inside the arc or roll back into the arc will not be counted as a strike but will count as a pitch.
2. On overthrows to first base all but the batter may advance (1) base. This is to encourage teaching the play at 1st base.

1. A batted ball to the pitcher in the circle is a live ball for making a play at first or any other base of the pitcher’s choice.

1. Play stops when the player-pitcher has control of the ball with one foot inside the circle on balls hit/fielded in the infield. On balls fielded in the outfield play stops once an infield position player has control of the ball within the baselines. Runner(s) not past the halfway point (30ft) to the next base, must return without being put out.(2024 Revision) Coaches will make the decision for each play and are encouraged to coach their players with the spirit of the game as the priority.

*Example: A coach should not send a runner from 1st to 2nd while the shortstop has the ball with the sole purpose of inducing an overthrown ball, the spirit of the game would tell you play is dead. There is only one base on an overthrown ball. The runner(s) may advance only one base at their own risk, after that the play will be called dead. There can only be 1 overthrown ball a play.*

1. Infield fly rules do not apply.

1. If the coach-pitcher is unintentionally contacted with a batted ball, the play is dead (NO PLAY), and the batter is awarded first base. All unforced runner(s) remain at their base.

1. A batter will be warned for throwing the bat. The second infraction will result in the batter being declared out and all runners being returned to their previous bases.

1. Age determination: Age as of the 1st of Jan prior to opening day for girls.

 Prep girls ages: (5) with approval of board, (6) & (7), (8) tryout for Minor Girls.

1. Home team coach is responsible for setting up the field and providing someone to work the scoreboard and tearing down the field. This includes raking around bases and low spots.

1. First and second place tournament trophies (or other awards) only, will be awarded. (2019 Revised) Division standings are based on the following: teams overall record, head-to-head record, defensive runs allowed, offensive runs allowed. Coaches are responsible for reporting game scores to the division representative or “rep”. The division rep will gather and maintain standings for tournament seeding. (2019 Revision). These standings are only against teams in that division (Harlan/Woodburn and Hoagland/Monroeville/New Haven). Tournament will be by divisions with the two division champions playing each other for the league championship. Home team will be determined by a coin flip. \*\*\*\*2023 Revision\*\*\*\*

1. If a sick or injured player leaves the game and a substitute is not available, that position in the batting order will be skipped without penalty. There will not be an out counted against the team.

1. No coach’s options on these rules. \*\*\* Coaches who agree to override any

 general rule or league rule will result in an automatic forfeit \*\*\* (2022 Revision)

26. Facemasks are mandatory for the player-pitchers to wear. Facemasks are encouraged for all infield players. (2019 Revised)