

Northern KY Fast Pitch League

Softball Rules 4th/5th and 6th – 8th Grades

- 1) Playing field for all ages:
 - Base distance 60ft
 - Pitching distance 40ft
- 2) Equipment:
 - a. Official yellow ball with raised seems
 - b. 12 inch ball will be used for all ages
- 3) Bat:
 - a. Official Fast Pitch softball Only
- 4) Players:
 - a. Each team may play a game with a minimum of 8 players. Normal KHSAA rules will apply regarding fielding.
- 5) Batting:
 - a. A continuous batting order may be used upon both coaches agreement. If all players bat this MUST be used by both teams, if a team decides not to use the continuous batting order than the KHSAA rules will govern.
- 6) Playing:
 - a. A player must play at least 1 full inning in a 6 inning game. This consists a full inning of playing in the field and batting.
- 7) Free substitution:
 - a. Substitutes may re-enter the game as well as starters.
- 8) Pitching:
 - a. The pitcher must start with both feet on the pitching rubber. The pitcher can step backwards of the rubber, but must keep one foot on the rubber until the ball is delivered. Must have a forward motion to deliver the pitch. No arc on the pitch. Pitchers get to warm up at the umpires discretion.
- 9) Stealing:
 - a. Same as KHSAA rules. Unlimited.
- 10) Leading off:

- a. A base runner must keep in contact with the base until a legally pitched ball leaves the pitchers hand. Leaving early may result in the pitch being declared a dead ball and the runner being called out.

11) Bunting:

- a. Same as KHSAA rules

12) Drop 3rd strike J tri ke rule:

- a. The batter is out, but base-runners may advance.

13) Maximum batters per inning:

- a. NO maximum
- b.

14) Maximum runs per inning rule:

- a. NO maximum runs will apply, sportsmanship is **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED**.

15) The following game run rules will apply:

- a. If a team is ahead by **15** runs after 4 innings or 10 runs after 5 innings it is to be considered a complete game. If the visiting team is ahead in either the 4th or 5th inning and exceeds the run limit the inning with continue until the home team has batted.

16) Double header games:

- a. If a game is part of a double header than the each game will be played as a Sinning game. This rule is due to possible lack of daylight.

17) Coaches: the only coaches on the field are the **1st** and 3rd base coaches when batting. All base coaches MUST be adults.

18) Courtesy Runner:

- a. May be used for the catcher and picture when either is on base.

19) Tie game:

- a. Extra innings will determine a winner up to a maximum of 4 additional innings, if a team has not won in the additional 4 innings than the game will be considered a tie.
- b. The only time that this will not apply will be in tournament play.

20) Game postponement or cancellation of a started contest:

- a. KHSAA rules will apply

21) Game rules & guidelines:

- a. Score must be kept. The home team is the official scorer
- b. Infield fly rules apply
- c. The games will run no longer than 1 A hours.
- d. 8 players must be present to begin a game or the game will be a forfeit.
- e. Catchers must be used always.
- f. Three outfielders are to be used
- g. A player removed for injury will not be counted as an out each time they were to appear in the batting order. If a player gets to the game late they must be added to the end of the lineup.
- h. When the defensive player had the ball, the base runner must slide into the base when a play is being made to tag the runner. When sliding into the base, the runner must remain down until the umpire signals time, unless the ball has gotten away from the fielder.
- i. NO throwing of bats: one warning to be given, a second offense will result in an out being called and could result in dismissal from the game.
- j. The double safety base must be used for 1st base at all times!
- k. No metal spikes
- l. No jewelry
- m. Face mask must be worn on all helmets.

22) Ejection:

- a. If any member of the coaching staff or player is ejected from a game, there will be a mandatory suspension of 1 game. If there is 2nd ejection, the coach or player will be suspended for the remainder of the season and must enter an appeal with the league to become reinstated for the following season.
- b. The Head Coach is also responsible for any parent issues. If at any time a parent is asked to be removed from the premises the Head Coach MUST notify the league director. If any type of Law Enforcement is required to remove that parent, that person will be permanently being banned from attending future games until an appeal is held with league officials.