

CHELMSFORD GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE- U18 Division Rules

All Divisions – Standard Policies

INJURIES: Any player who has suffered an injury or has a pre-existing injury and is under the care of a physician will not be allowed to participate in any Game or Practice until a Physician's note is provided to the Head Coach and Division Manager.

Games must start promptly at the designated time (15 minute grace); no inning starts after one (1) hour and forty –five (45) minutes from the umpire designated start time of the game. All games must be a minimum of five (5) full innings for the game to be considered an official game. Regulation game is seven (7) innings. No Protests allowed.

Each player must be in uniform to play games. The uniform consists of shirt, socks, and pants. Shirts must be tucked in so that the umpire can accurately call balls and strikes. No forfeits permitted and a team can borrow defensive players from the opposing team and may play with only an infield if necessary. First option is to use the liberal pull-up policy.

Facemasks must be worn by every pitcher, first baseman, and third baseman. It is also strongly suggested, but not mandatory, that all fielders wear facemasks.

Players must play the infield as well as the outfield. No player can sit on the bench for two consecutive innings. Each player must sit once before any player can sit a second time.

All player eligibility questions are to be resolved prior to the start of the game.

Home teams sit on the 1st base side and will be responsible for placing the bases before the game and placing them in the storage container at the field after the game is complete. BOTH teams will provide one (1) game ball to the umpire prior to the start of the game.

Rainouts will be re-scheduled. The decision to play or not will be made 1 ½ hours prior to game time and will be posted on the league website. Coaches please tell players/parents to check the website to see if a game has been rained out. Rainouts will be re-scheduled and Sundays might be needed depending on the number of rainouts.

Practices are scheduled by the Coaches for the season.–Coaches should create a practice schedule at the beginning of the season and email the scheduling director to schedule practices. Any additional practice request should be emailed to the scheduling director. The scheduling director will assign practice fields based on availability and reserves the right to reschedule or relocate practices in the event that the field is needed for a game.

No equipment outside of the team bench. No one, except the coach, base coaches (team members or coaches) and the on-deck batter will be allowed outside the bench. Players who are coaching at a base must wear a helmet.

Umpires will be USA adult umpires. Remember that they will make mistakes. However, do not argue about rules with the umpire. Have a quiet discussion on the ruling with the umpire between innings or call your division manager. If there is a problem with the umpiring please email the league immediately with name of the umpire, the game location, and the date/time of the game.

Teams are seeded and go into a single elimination Playoff after regular season play. Scores must be recorded after each game by the coach on the website.

Keep a copy of these policies in your scorebook. Talk the policies and the Rules of the Game out with the other coaches and the umpires before the game.

Game Rule Exceptions:

USA U18 Rules and Regulation apply except as noted.

- Roster: CGSL assigned Rosters and CGSL Player Pull-up Policy must be followed.
- Batting: A continuous batting order will be used by all teams.
- Bats: Composite bats are allowed.
- Scoring: All USA Run Rules are suspended. An inning will end when 4 runs have been scored or 3 outs have been made with the exception of the 7th inning where there is no limit on runs scored. This rule applies only to the 7th inning and may not be applied to any other inning for any reason (darkness, time limit, etc.) There will be no continuation scoring, a maximum of 4 runs will be scored in innings 1 to 6.
- Fielders: Nine (9) fielders will be allowed on the field. The outfield players may not enter the infield until the ball is put into play by the batter, the catcher has the ball after a pitch, or the ball is otherwise live and in play.
- Pitching: A pitcher can pitch a limit of 7 innings in the first 2 games of the week (week starts on Sunday). After game 2 of that week there is no limit. Extra innings do not count towards the inning count for the pitcher.

Pitching: Distance 43 feet

Ball: 12"