

## 2019 Softball Bantam Rules

### The Field

- Bases will be 50 feet.
- Pitching mound will be 30 feet.
- Each team can field 10 players: 6 infielders and 4 outfielders.
- All players should play at least 3 innings on the field.
- If a ball is thrown into dead ball territory from the infield the runners are awarded the next base.
- If a ball is thrown into dead ball territory from the outfield, the runners are awarded two bases
- There is NO infield fly rule
- If 6 players are on the field, one player can play at the edge of the dirt.
- Time outs can only be called on the infield dirt
- Players must make their best effort to make the play before calling time out
- Arguing with umpires, coaches or other players will not be tolerated. The umpire will eject a player or coach they feel is being abusive. Ejected members must leave the field of play but may stay in the stands. If the umpire feels the ejected member is still being disruptive or attempting to coach from the sidelines, he/she may remove the coach from the field entirely.
- *Recommendation:* Coaches should consider rotating players to maximize experience in each position, i.e.: 2 infield innings, 1 outfield inning.

### Gameplay

- The game will be 5 innings with a 2-hour time limit on weekends.
- Play may be limited by darkness at the umpire's discretion and must end with a full inning.
- An inning cannot start 15 minutes before the time limit.
- An official game is one where 4 complete innings are played.
- ALL PLAYERS MUST BE IN FULL UNIFORM (JERSEY AND PANTS) TO PLAY.
- There is a run limit of 5 per inning except for the last inning. There is a limit of 2 walks.
- If a team is ahead by 15 runs or more after both teams have had 4 at bats, the game will end.
- A team must be able to field a minimum of 6 players.
- Once both teams have at least 6 players each the game must start.
- Borrowed players
  - o A team must field 6 players from its roster to avoid a forfeit (15 minutes after the game's scheduled start time).
  - o Additional players may be borrowed from the opposing team/another Bantam team.
  - o Borrowed players can only play in the outfield, and do not bat.
  - o Borrowed players from the opposing team can be rotated back to their team in exchange for other players (to allow everyone to hit and play for her own team).
  - o Borrowing players is not allowed in playoff / championship games.

### Pitching

- No windmill pitching is allowed.
- The pitcher must start with both feet on the pitching rubber.
- The pitcher must push off the pitching rubber with the pivot foot while releasing the ball.

### Batting

- Throwing the bat will not be tolerated.
- If a bat is violently thrown a player will receive a warning.
- If the player does it a second time they will be called out.
- If the thrown bat hits the catcher or umpire, the player will be called out.
- If a batter is hit by a pitch while attempting to get out of the way, she will be awarded first base.

### Base Running

- Base runners may lead after the pitch is released.
- No stealing.

- Runners may not attempt to barrel over the catcher. Failure to slide or give up may result in ejection.

**Ground Rules**

- No hanging jewelry will be allowed.
- There is no smoking on the field or in the spectator area.
- There are no pets allowed anywhere within ICYP.
- Violations to either of these rules can result in ejection from the field.
- For safety reasons teams are asked to walk around the field when arriving/departing so as not to disrupt other fields of play.