

Lineup and Playing Time SMALL TOWN SUMMER REC LEAGUE **Players age before Sept. 1st of current year**

1. Teams will be allowed a maximum of 10 players in the field defensively.
2. Late arriving players can be added to the bottom of the batting order.
3. All players bat in consecutive order. No designated hitters. There is no maximum number of batters on a team.
4. A half-inning ends when three outs or ten batters, whichever comes first.
5. All players must play at least every other inning in the field defensively. Failure to do so will result in a forfeit.
6. The game will end after 4 ½ (home team ahead) or 5 innings if one team leads by 12 or more runs. The game will end after 5 ½ (home team ahead) or 6 innings if one team leads by 10 or more runs.
7. Pitchers will be limited to 6 innings in a week and 3 innings in a game. A week is defined as the last seven days including the present game day. Any innings pitched in make-up games will be counted in the week the games were originally scheduled. Note: 1 pitch constitutes an inning. A pitcher may return to the mound one time per game. The penalty for violating any of these pitching rules is forfeit.
8. No new half innings will begin after 1 hour and 30 minutes. The winner will be the team leading after the last complete inning played. If the last complete inning ended in a tie, revert to successive previous complete innings—whoever was leading is the winner. If the score is tied after every complete inning, the game is declared a tie. During tournaments, if the score is tied after every complete inning, play will continue until a winner is determined.
9. If there is another league game scheduled immediately following the game, the game ends at 1 hour and 45 minutes, even if the game is in the middle of an inning. For example, a game beginning at 6:00 will be called to an end at 7:45 if another league game is scheduled to begin at 8:00. The winner will be determined by reverting back to previous completed innings as described above.
10. Players can be called up from a lower division when a team is short players, but is not to play infield ahead of regular players and will bat last. (If players are needed, please contact league commissioner for assistance, if needed.) Players must be on a rec. team roster for the season. Players may NOT play down an age group.
NO TRAVEL PLAYERS allowed on rec teams. **added 2026**

Field Dimensions

Bases: 60 feet apart

Pitcher's Rubber: 35 feet from home plate (No Manual Pitching Machines, All Girl Pitch)

Softball: 11"

Game Rules

1. Official IESA softball rules apply with the exception of any local ground rules and the rules on this list. Bats included
2. The home team will provide game balls.
3. No longer using manual pitching machines/Coach pitch – **girl pitch only**.
4. Each team must supply a scorekeeper. Each scorekeeper is responsible for keeping the score of both teams. In the event that a disagreement cannot be resolved between the scorekeepers and the umpire, the home team's scorebook will be final.
5. No game may be protested. If the umpire makes a mistake on a rule from this list or the ASA rulebook, a coach may call timeout to explain the rule. The rule is the final word. But on judgment calls, the umpire's decision is final.
6. The strike zone will be from the top of the shoulders to the bottom of the knees, and 4 inches inside and outside of the plate.
7. Runners can steal any base except home.
8. The batter is out on a dropped third strike, runners may not advance.
9. No infield fly rule will be called. Runners cannot advance once the pitcher has the ball in the infield (as defined as inside the baselines)
10. Pitchers will be allowed a maximum of 5 warm-up pitches between innings.
11. Courtesy runner is allowed in all divisions (must be last batted out for the pitcher, injured player or catcher only).
12. All teams must email the roster (last name and first letter of first name – J. Smith) at the time they send in team numbers. This must be done by the end of May.

Safety

1. Catchers must wear protective gear (mask, chest protector & shin guards) when behind the plate, during warm up as well as during the game.
2. Batters must wear an approved batting helmet. Chin-straps and face guards are required.
3. No metal cleats/spikes are allowed.
4. With the onset of severe weather, the coaches and umpires will call the game. Please take this matter serious and err on the side of caution. If lightning or thunder occurs, the game must be postponed at least for 30 minutes after the last sighting of lightning or hearing of thunder. Postponements should not exceed one hour, if so then the game should be called.

5. Offensive players must slide or avoid contact with a defensive player and remain in the base path when plays are made at the bases.
6. Pitchers must wear protective face mask. All infield players must wear a fielders mask.

Competition and Awards

1. Scorebooks will be kept for games.
2. Division standings will not be kept and no awards will be given for division standings.

Special Tournament Rules

1. Teams will be seeded randomly for the tournament. Double-elimination.
2. Maximum of only two games scheduled per day per team in the tournament bracket.
3. Pitchers will have an unlimited number of innings pitched in a tournament.
4. All players bat in consecutive order. No designated hitters. If a team is batting less than 10 players, batters number 9 and/or 10 are outs. There is no maximum to the number of batters on a team.
5. A half-inning ends with three outs or ten batters, whichever comes first. There is no batter limit from the 5th inning on, must get three outs. Innings started will be completed regardless of time limit. The Championship Game will be played in its entirety – no time limit.
6. Individual player awards will be awarded for first and second place in the tournament.
7. Speed up rule applies – one foot must always be in the batter's box. One warning per team will be given. The next offender will be called out.
8. Any roster changes, the added player must appear on a league roster from that season.
9. The championship game will be one and done and not based on wins or losses.
No Time Limit for the Championship game.
10. Teams playing in tournaments must submit a \$25 fee to play in said tournament. Tournament host will contact league directors for payment.