



## 2018 Bantam Softball



# BANTAM "B" LEAGUE RULES

CURRENT AS OF 4/20/2018

### GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Games 1 and 2 will be six (6) innings, and all coach pitch. Games 3 through 8 will be five (5) innings, and the first (2) innings will be kid-pitch. The remainder of the games will be five (5) innings, with three (3) innings of kid-pitch the first (3) innings. A sixth inning may be played if time allows and agreed to by both coaches, however the score is capped at the completion of the 5<sup>th</sup> inning. Three (3) outs per half inning, with teams consisting of at least (10) or a maximum of twelve (12) players.
2. A game is considered official at the completion of four (4) innings, 3<sup>1/2</sup> if the home team is winning. You may not start a new inning 15 minutes before the next scheduled game is due to start.
3. Five (5) runs maximum per team per inning.
4. All team members present will bat in rotation. This batting order will be given to the opposing team member prior to the start of the game. Any team member showing up after the batting orders are exchanged will be added to the bottom of the order. Ten players play the field. Max of 4 play the outfield if 10 play the field.
5. All players must play a minimum of three (3) complete defensive innings by the end of the fifth inning. They need not be consecutive innings. **No player may play the same position more than two (2) innings per game.** All players must play a minimum of one (1) inning in the infield and one (1) inning in the outfield by the fourth inning. **Short centerfielder MUST PLAY IN OUTFIELD GRASS. All players will sit out once before any player sits twice. Failure to comply: 1<sup>st</sup> Managerial offense will be given a warning, 2<sup>nd</sup> offense will result in 1 game suspension, 3<sup>rd</sup> offence, Manager Privileges will be revoked.**
6. The home team is required to do the following:
  - a) Get the bases from the equipment room.

- b) Set up the pitching rubber 30 feet from home plate
- c) Line the field including markers between bases (as necessary)
- d) Clean Dugout after Game
- e) Rake the field after the game.
- f) Return the bases and pitching rubber to the equipment room (Only if the last game of the day)
- g) Supplies the Ump.
- h) Pick up garbage around bleachers.

7. The Visiting Team is required to do the following:

- a) Clean Dugout after the game.
- b) Empty Garbage Cans into dumpster and return cans to their respective locations
- c) Pick up garbage around bleachers

8. Failure of the team to complete their duties could result in the forfeiture of their next win. Team Parent and or Manager reserve the right to withhold treat tickets until Parents fulfill their duties.

# **PLAYING RULES**

## **UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT**

1. Any player may wear no jewelry at any time during practice or games. This includes earrings, watches, rings, bracelets, and neckties of any material. Religious or medical metals may be worn but must be taped to the body.
2. Refusal by any player to comply with this policy will result in immediate removal of the player by the manager. Umpires and league officials will remove any player(s) not complying, without warning, once the game has started.
3. A player will not be allowed to play without a complete uniform, which includes a shirt, pants, and socks. Shirts must be tucked in during the entire game. This will be strictly enforced! Cleats are strongly encouraged for all players.
4. Catchers must wear protective equipment including chest protector, helmet, shin guards, and mask with throat protector.
5. Player's personal helmet must have mask.

## **MANAGERS/COACHES**

1. The league president reserves the right to approve all managers and coaches.
2. Only the manager or appointed coach will be allowed to become involved in a discussion with the umpire. Such discussions should be conducted away from the players and always in a courteous manner.
3. Only the manager or the approved coaches will be allowed in the coaches' boxes.
4. Youth coaches are allowed and must be within the guidelines of the Homewood Baseball League by-laws. Everyone must be 16 years old to coach.
5. Defensive field coaches should stay in the outfield grass. The coach shall not interfere with play, but may instruct players before, during and after the ball is in play. All other members of the team must be in the dugout.
6. Managers will be responsible for maintaining an accurate scoring of the game. Periodically check with the other manager to make sure your books agree. The home team will be responsible for making sure the correct score is on the scoreboard.

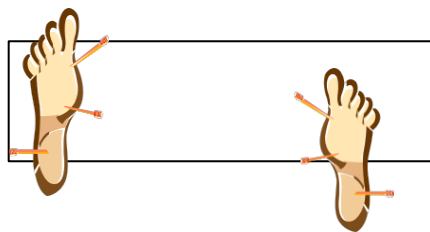
## PITCHING

1. In the Bantam B league, the coach or manager will pitch to his or her team from the softball mound or from an area in front of the mound that is agreed upon by both teams. Managers should indicate on their lineup given to the opposing manager which players they will be moving up to pitch to. **The defensive player (pitcher) must stand with one foot on the mound or on the dirt of the mound next to or behind the pitching rubber.**
2. If the manager or coach unintentionally fields a batted ball while pitching, the batter will be awarded first (1<sup>st</sup>) base. If the manager or coach is hit with a batted ball while pitching, it will be considered a live ball.
3. The manager, coach or designated adult will pitch to the players. Each player will have a continued count. The coach will pitch until the player, with the umpire calling balls and strikes, either puts the ball into play or strikes out. If the batter fouls off the pitch with 2 strikes they stay “alive” and hit until either they hit it fair or strike out. There are no walks.
4. The player who is in position of pitcher will not be allowed to run in front of the adult pitcher until the ball **has been batted**.
5. The following pitching rule is to be used for all games. In games 1 & 2 the games will be entirely coach pitch, and will be scheduled for 6 innings. In games 3 through 8 a player of any age shall pitch the first (2) innings of the game, games are scheduled for 5

innings. In the remainder of the games a player of any age will pitch the first three (3) innings and the games will be scheduled for 5 innings. Pitchers will pitch according to Bantam A rules.

- a) The pitching rubber is 30 feet from the point of home plate. That is 11 feet in front of the little league pitching rubber. There is a plug to secure the mound.
- b) The pitch will be a standard softball fast-pitch delivery starting with two feet on the mound. See example below.
- c) **If a batter receives four balls, a coach or designated adult will pitch until the player either hits the ball in play or strikes out.**
- d) No pitchers will be allowed to wear a yellow long sleeve shirt or have any other foreign articles on either arm while pitching. The pitcher cannot use a white/yellow glove or a glove with white/yellow piping while pitching.
- e) If a pitcher hits **two batters in one inning**, and in the umpires' judgment, the batter attempts to avoid getting hit, the pitcher will be removed from pitching for the rest of the game. Only direct hits, not bounced, are considered. Batting team manager may override this rule. If batter does not attempt to avoid being hit the pitch will be called a ball.
- f) **A pitcher is allowed to pitch only one inning per game until game 9. From game 9 until the completion of the playoffs a pitcher may pitch two innings. One pitch is considered an inning for these purposes.**  
No limit on the # of innings per week.
- g) 5 run maximum per inning is still in effect.

(Right handed pitcher)



Pitching mound

## **BATTING**

1. No bunting is allowed. A bunt is defined as not taking a full or complete swing. Chopping is considered the same as a bunt. This will result in a dead ball out.
2. Any bat not provided by the league must be inspected and approved by a league official. Possession of an unapproved bat in the dugout may result in forfeiture of the bat for the 1<sup>st</sup> offense, 2<sup>nd</sup> offense player will be benched.
3. Players should show safety when dropping the bat. The umpire will warn the player

once. The second time she will be called out. The umpire will also inform both managers, who will record it in the scorebook.

4. Any batted ball landing in the dirt directly in front of home plate will be considered a fair ball unless it rolls foul. The ball does not need to reach the infield grass.
5. Any player who hits the ball, without defensive assistance (touching) to the outfield grass may advance to second base, at her own risk. If a tag is made before reaching second, the batter is out. If no tag is made, the runner is safe. All base runners must advance, if necessary to allow the batter to take a second base. Runners on base when a double is hit may advance two bases.

### **BASE RUNNING**

1. A base runner must attempt to slide into a base (except first) if the defensive player has the ball and/or a play is about to occur as judged by the umpire. The runner is OUT if she does not attempt to slide and contact is made with the fielder with the ball.
2. No stealing. No leadoff. A base runner may not break for the next base until the ball is put into play by the batter. If the runner leaves the base before the ball is hit, the play is dead and the runner is OUT.
3. In the judgment of the umpire, when the pitcher (girl pitcher not coach)/ has the ball on or near the mound (usually within a 10 foot circle of the mound), the base runner must be halfway to the next base to be awarded that base. If she is not halfway, the runner must return to the previous base. Again this is completely the judgment of the umpire.
4. Runners may not advance on an overthrown ball to any base, including first base.
5. In a situation where there are two outs, and the catcher for the next inning is on base, a pinch runner may be used. Has to be the player that made the last out.

### **Miscellaneous**

1. No protests are allowed. Umpire and or Commissioner on duty are responsible for any disputes. A commissioner may not overrule an UMP call.
2. Infield fly rule will **not** apply.
3. At the Managers discretion a game ball may be awarded at the completion of each game win or lose. The game ball is to not be used as a punishment tool.

4. For safety reasons, no defensive infielder may play on the infield grass until after the pitcher has released the ball.
5. A team must have a minimum of seven (7) players to play. If a team is short-handed, the opposing team will provide outfielders. (**6 yr old girls from Rookie B players may be used, but the league president must approve all call-ups**). If the substitute player(s) is from the opposing team, that player(s) will be the player(s) who made that last out(s) when batting. All substitute players from another team must play in an outfield position (right field, center field or left field). Call-ups from Rookie B are not required to play the infield.
6. All call-ups must play a minimum of 2 innings regardless of the # of players present but are not required to play the infield. Please contact league President or dedicated commissioner for call-ups.
7. There are two (2) minutes between innings starting with the last out of the previous inning. The umpire/commissioner will be responsible for enforcing the time limit.
8. A team member may be benched (not allowed to play) for disciplinary reasons.
9. A player will be benched if the parent or guardian does not fulfill their voluntary obligations. This will continue until the parent or guardian fulfills their commitment. Only league president can discipline player in this case.
10. Dugouts and surrounding areas must be cleaned by players before receiving treat tickets. Commissioner on duty will enforce this.
11. **GAME BALL POLICY:** Managers reserve the right to award a game ball to a player at the conclusion of a game. No player will be awarded more than 1 game ball. Managers may not use the game ball as a tool of punishment. Such as, withholding the awarding of the ball because of a lost game. The game ball assignments will only be used for positive purposes. Once you assign the game ball, you must assign at the conclusion of every game until all girls have received it one time.
12. A player, manager, coach or spectator will be ejected from the game and be suspended for a minimum of two additional games for any of the following:
  - a) Unsportsmanlike conduct
  - b) Physical or verbal abuse of any kind to an umpire, manager, or player
  - c) Throwing of equipment

- d) Foul language
- e) Failure to shake hands after the game

**All ejections will be reported to the league president for additional action**

**\*\* Official Babe Ruth softball rules, not modified by the above, will be followed \*\***