

2022 Frederick County Girls Softball League

12 & UNDER (12U) RULES

Revised January 10, 2022 (no changes, see General rule change at bottom)

1. A regulation game for 12U is seven (7) innings. A complete game consists of five (5) full innings or four and one-half (4 1/2) innings, if the home team is ahead, or when the 2-hour time limit rule has been reached. Games will have a two (2) hour time limit but once an inning starts, you must complete that inning in full, unless the home team is ahead. (see General Rules A-5). If an inning starts and home team does not get to finish, and visitors are ahead, they don't necessarily win. Game reverts back to the previously completed inning. No new inning will start if the time limit expired at the time of the last out of the previous inning. An inning started prior to the time limit will be completed. The time limit or darkness (without a weather delay) constitutes a complete game regardless of the number of innings played. International Tie Breaker Rule for 12U will be used if after seven (7) innings game is tied and two (2) hour time limit isn't reached (see General Rules A-5).
2. 15 run rule is in effect after five (5) full innings or 4 and ½ if home team is ahead.
3. If pitchers hit any three (3) batters in one inning where 1st base is awarded, they must be removed for that inning as pitcher. If pitcher hits a total of five (5) batters where first base is awarded, they will be removed from the pitching position for the remainder of the game.
4. Pitchers are allowed to use "slingshot" or "windmill" delivery styles
5. Players have to play six (6) defensive outs. The batting order will consist of all players at the game, and will run in a continuous order,
(General Rules 9-D ALL players must play a minimum of 2 innings in the field (12U and 15U). This rule is suspended in the event of injury, sickness, or disciplinary action taken by the coach (before or during the game), or unless the game is shortened due to time rule or 15 run rule.
6. An inning will end in any one of the following ways:
 - a. When three (3) outs are made.
 - b. When five (5) runs are scored in that inning. (Innings 1 – 5 only, suspended in the 6th and 7th innings).
7. If a batter is hit by a pitched ball regardless of whether the ball hits the ground first, it is a dead ball and the batter is awarded first base.

8. Outfielders need to be ten (10) feet behind the base line when the pitch is being delivered.
9. When running to a base, players may not head first slide. Players may head first dive back into a base that has been passed. But after runner starts to run to the next base and decides they want to go back to the previous base to avoid being put out they can slide head first into their previous base. This is to avoid injury (General Rules (D-7)).
10. Face masks are required on all helmets. (General Rule C-3)
11. No Metal Cleats. Plastic or Rubber only. (General Rule C-7)

General rule update as of 1/10/2022

* * Travel softball players, a travel softball player is defined as any player registered with USSSA and that plays C level or above. No FCGSL team shall have more than 6 travel players on their team. Travel players shall not pitch more than 2 innings per FCGSL game, and a maximum of 4 innings pitched by all travel players on any one team in any one game.