

2009 Lake Norman Sports Softball Association 10u Rules

PURPOSE:

- A. To sponsor and develop a complete athletic program for the many rather than the few, with major emphasis on teaching sportsmanship, competition, and teamwork.
- B. To develop physically fit children who will grow to be good, clean, healthy adults.
- C. To develop individual competencies for our youth through the practice of individual skills to develop a child's ability to understand how to work as part of a team.
- D. To teach the fundamentals and the rules of the game.

Age Requirements: See attached Babe Ruth Softball Age Chart

1. There will be a maximum of 15 girls per team

2. Equipment:

- A. Tennis shoes or rubber molded cleats. No metal spikes allowed.
- B. A protective helmet with face mask must be worn by all batters at the plate, base runners, players on deck and player coaches.
- C. Catchers must wear complete protective equipment including helmet, mask, throat protector, chest protector and shin guards.
- D. An 11" softball with a ball COR of .470 or under and a ball compression of 375 lbs. or under will be used.

3. Playing Rules: The Stumpy Creek Softball Association will adopt the Babe Ruth Softball playing rules with modifications as described below.

- A. A regulation game consists of 6 innings (turns at bat) or 1 hour 15 minutes. A new inning will not be started after 1 hour and 10 minutes of a game is completed.
- B. An inning will consist of 3 outs or 10 batters.
- C. 12 run rule game – game ends when a team is 12 runs ahead after 4 complete innings or 3 ½ innings if home team is ahead.
- D. It is a regulation game if terminated by the umpire or league supervisor on account of darkness, rain, or other causes which prevent further play, provided 4 innings have been played or the home team is leading after the visiting team has completed 4 at bats.
- E. Only players on official roster, team manager, recognized coaches, one bat boy and a scorekeeper will be allowed in the dugout. All players when not participating will remain in the dugout. One player may be in the on deck circle. Managers should enforce this rule strictly for safety.
- F. The whole game will be kid pitch.
- G. The umpire will call time out when an attempted play is completed or the pitcher has control of the ball at the pitchers mound.

- H. Base Stealing – only ONE base can be stolen after the ball crosses the plate and you CANNOT steal home. NO LEAD can be taken.
- I. Only one base may be taken on an overthrow. This base must be made by the runner, not automatic.
- J. Contact Rule- If a runner attempting to reach home plate intentionally and maliciously runs into a defensive player in the area of home plate, she will be called out on the play. The objective of this rule is to penalize the offensive team for deliberate, unwarranted, unsportsmanlike action by the runner for the obvious purpose of crashing the defensive player, rather than trying to reach home plate. Obviously, this is an umpire's judgement call.
- K. A defensive player is not allowed to block home plate if she does not have the ball in her possession. Once she has the ball she may move into position to make the tag or play at home plate.
- L. The coach of the participating team must present the official scorekeeper with a complete line-up card 10 minutes before start of game.
- M. Game time is forfeit time. Games will be allowed to start with 8 players.
- N. There will be no unsportsmanlike conduct, profane language, smoking, or tobacco on the field or in the dug out. Managers shall be responsible for their players. Any unsportsmanlike conduct by any player will result in her ejection from the field.
- O. 10 Players are allowed to play defense at one time. The 10th player is an additional outfielder.
- P. All players present at a game must be included in the batting order. Players arriving late for a game must be added to the bottom of the batting order.
- Q. A player will be allowed to sit only 1 consecutive inning on defense. If possible, substitutions should be made for players who have not previously sat out during the game.
- R. Any runner or batter who intentionally removes or throws her protective helmet may be called out after a warning has been issued. It will be the umpire's judgment in all cases.
- S. Speed – up rules: courtesy runner for the catcher anytime on base; mandatory for the catcher with 2 outs. Runner must be the player who made the last official out.
- T. A batter shall be called out when: a third strike (in flight) is not caught, provided a runner occupies first base at the time of the pitch and there are less than 2 outs.
Note: if there are 2 outs or if no runner occupies first base, the batter is not out unless the third strike is caught. The batter is entitled to try to reach first base before being tagged out or thrown out.
- U. Two defensive coaches will be allowed to stand in foul territory, 10 yards **beyond** first and third base.

Note: If at anytime an unforeseen problem develops, any rule may be modified, changed or added to better the Stumpy Creek Softball Association.