



## EAST DEKALB GIRLS FASTPITCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE Eight (8) and Under Rules

### 1. CLASSIFICATIONS

Eight and Under Division: Consists of girls ages 8 years old and under. Age 8 and under but not reaching 9 prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.

### 2. EQUIPMENT

All equipment must be ASA approved

11 Inch yellow .47 cord ball

Bats: Official ASA approved bats

Bases: ASA approved safety bases, including a double bag at first base will be used. A game is subject to protest if the first base on the playing field is not equipped with an ASA approved double safety base. Safety bases are recommended but not required for the remaining bases.

Helmets: All batting helmets shall be equipped with a securely fastened chin strap and NOCSAE approved face mask guard.

### 3. UNIFORMS

All jerseys shall be in the same color with numbers of the same color on the back

Uniforms per ASA guidelines

### 4. NUMBER OF PLAYERS

A team consists of 10 players. Game can be played with nine players. If a team is played with eight players the ninth spot is an automatic out.

### 5. POSITION OF PLAYERS

Six infield positions: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> base, shortstop, pitcher & catcher

Four outfield positions: Right field, Right center, Left center & Left field

The outfielders must be positioned a minimum of 10 feet from bases or on the grass if applicable

## 6. UMPIRES

Only ASA certified umpires must be used to call the game.  
One umpire shall be provided for all league games

## 7. FIELD DIMENSIONS

Bases 45 feet  
Pitching mound 35 feet with an 8ft radius circle

## 8. STARTING OF GAME – TIME LIMITS

Only the visiting team will have a 15-minute grace period for the 6:30pm game on Monday through Friday. There is no grace period for weekends and 8:15pm games. The plate umpire shall determine the official starting time.

Game duration: One (1) hour 15 minutes (Open inning may be called after one (1) hour).

## 9. NO JEWELRY IS ALLOWED.

**MANAGERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THEIR COACHES, PLAYERS AND SPECTATORS AT ALL TIMES. IF CONFLICT ARISES MANAGER/COACH MUST REPORT TO THEIR LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVE. A RESOLUTION MEETING WILL BE HELD WITH OFFICERS OF THE EAST DEKALB GIRLS FASTPITCH ASSOCIATION AT A LATER DATE. “THIS GAME IS FOR THE CHILDREN, LET THEM ENJOY IT.”**

## 10. PLAYING RULES

- A. Batters will be pitched to by a manager/coach serving as the “pitcher” of the game.
- B. Batters will be limited to five (5) pitches and/or three (3) swings. If the fifth pitch and/or third swing result in a foul ball, the batter gets additional pitches as long as they continue to hit foul balls.
- C. The batting order shall consist of all the players on the team roster. All team members must play a minimum of *two consecutive innings on defense*.
- D. The manager/coach “pitcher” must have both feet inside the circle until the pitch leaves his hand.
- E. One manager/coach can be in the field when his team is on defense.

- F. Infield flies and dropped third strike rules will not be in effect.
- G. After the ball is pitched, the “pitcher” (manager/coach) may not give instructions to the batter and/or base runners unless the “pitcher” leaves the playing field.
- H. If in the umpire's judgment the “pitcher” (manager/coach) interferes with the batted ball or interfered with the play, the batter will be called out and each runners will return to their previously held base.
- I. A base runner will be called out if she leaves the base before the ball is hit.
- J. No bunting or stealing allowed.
- K. Base runners may not advance after the ball is in the pitcher’s control and the pitcher has both feet in the pitcher’s circle. ***The field must be lined with halfway hash marks between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and home plate.***

“May not advance” should be understood to mean a base runner must advance/retreat to the nearest base (halfway hash marks will help the umpire determine the proper base for the runner to occupy). Any conflicts in runner placement on the bases will be decided by the placement of the runner closest to reaching home plate. For example, if a runner has rounded third but has not reached the halfway mark to home plate and another runner is on the way to third and is past the halfway mark to third, there is a conflict. Both runners cannot be on third. In this case the runner already around third is closest to home and will be returned to third base. The runner heading to third will have to return to second base since third base is already occupied, even though that runner was past the halfway mark to third base.

- L. If the pitcher while in the circle throws the ball to another fielder or leaves the circle (i.e. to chase a runner), the base runners may advance at their own risk.
- M. If a ground ball is hit to the pitcher and the pitcher makes no defensive play (i.e. stays in the circle in control of the ball), the base runners may advance one base and the batter goes to first base.
- N. Teams will be limited to four (4) runs per offensive inning for the first four- (4) innings. Innings five (5) and six (6) will be eight (8) runs limited innings (if time permits). At the end of one hour and fifteen minutes of playing time the umpire will declare the current inning to be the last inning.
- O. The umpire shall use his/her discretion to declare an OPEN inning earlier than the fifth inning, after 1 hour of play. At least one OPEN inning must be played

in order for the game to be complete. If a team is ahead by ten (10) or more runs after five (5) innings (4 1/2 if the home team is ahead) the game shall be declared over.

- P. A player will be declared ineligible for the season if it is determined that the player is listed on more than one roster either within the association, or outside of the association. In addition, the team will forfeit all games in which the ineligible player participated.
- Q. If scores for a game is not reported as proscribed at the current season's EDGFSA Rules Meeting, both teams will forfeit the game.
- R. At the beginning of each game, the coaches of both the visiting and home team must present the EDGFSA affidavit/roster book. If a coach fails to produce the EDGFSA affidavit/roster book at the beginning of the game, the umpire must annotate in both teams' scorebook that book was not present for the offending team.
- S. If a team fails to produce the EDGFSA affidavit/roster book at the beginning of the game, that game will result in an administrative forfeit by the league.
- T. If a game needs to be rescheduled and a park or team is being uncooperative about rescheduling the game, the park that is attempting to reschedule the game must notify the President of EDGFSA within 72 hours in order to resolve the rescheduling conflict. If the President of EDGFSA cannot resolve the rescheduling problem, the uncooperative team/park will forfeit the game and the opposing team will be awarded a win by forfeit.
- U. If a game is still tied at the end of a regulation game, it shall be recorded as a tie.

revised: 10/6/2005