Youth Softball 8U Rules Revised 3/4/2019

- USSSA rules will be followed unless otherwise stated.
- 2. Time limit for all games will be 60 minutes or 6 innings.
- 3. This is a coach pitch league. Only one ball will be in play.
- 4. If a player's age is in question, the parent or legal guardian must submit the birth certificate to the Conway Parks and Recreation Department. The player is not allowed to play until this requirement is met. If found that the player is playing in the wrong league, the player will be suspended for the remainder of the season.
- 5. Players will get 5 pitches or 3 swings to put the ball in fair play. A batter cannot be called out on fouls unless it is on the 5th pitch.
- 6. Fair Ball Arc: There shall be a 20 foot arc drawn from the 1st baseline to the 3rd baseline in front of home plate. Any ball that does not reach the fair ball arc will be called foul.
- 7. Pitcher's Line: The coach can pitch anywhere between the outside center of the foul ball arc and the center of the pitching circle.
- 8. The pitching coach's body cannot go past the line. The pitcher must pitch underhand.
- 9. The pitching coach shall position himself/herself as not to be an obstruction to the defensive team on any possible play once the ball has been hit. If a batted ball hits the pitching coach, it is a dead ball with everyone advancing one base. The player in the pitching position may not line up in front of the coach pitching the ball.
- 10. Every player present will bat. Any player arriving after the start of the game will be added at the end of the batting order.
- 11. No player may sit out for more than one inning during the game, unless a physical or emotional problem occurs.
- 12. A team will be permitted to play regardless of how many players they have available. If a team has only 8 players, they will be required to take an OUT in the 9th batting position. If a team has fewer than 8 players, the game will be played. However, it will be listed as loss for the team with less than 8 players.
- 13. There will be only 1 pitcher position in this league.
- 14. If a player is injured or falls ill during the game and has to leave, no out will be recorded unless it leaves your lineup with less than 9 batters. Once the player is out, she cannot return to the lineup.
- 15. There is no stealing or leading off in this league.
- 16. A base runner will only be allowed 1 extra base on a missed played ball to any base. The runner is still advancing to the next base at her own risk. If the fielder then attempts to get the runner out, the runner has the right to as many bases as allowed by the defensive team.
- 17. A catcher must be behind the plate, inside the catcher's box, and in catching position. The catcher is responsible for retrieving the ball at all times.
- 18. Coin Flip will determine home and visitor.
- 19. The dropped third strike rule does not apply.
- 20. No jewelry allowed unless health related and then it must be taped down.
- 21. There will be NO extra inning play for this age group.
- 22. There is a 6 run maximum or 3 outs per inning.
- 23. Run Rule -After 4 completed innings, if a team is up by 13 or more runs the game will be called.
- 24. There is no Infield Fly Rule
- 25. Catchers may be pinch ran for by the player making the last out, if there are two outs. Catcher must have caught the previous inning.
- 26. Once a player has thrown a ball towards the pitching circle with an attempt to stop the play, it is then the judgment of the umpire to where the play is to be called dead. There will be a line halfway between first and second, second and third, and third and home. This line will help assist the umpire in making a consistent judgement call on whether the runner has crossed the line and advanced or must go back to the previous base.
- 27. When a player attempts to throw the ball to the pitcher or the pitcher runs the ball inside the circle with no intent to advance the play further, the umpire will then call "time" and declare the ball dead.
- 28. Any non-pitching infielder is allowed one full step in front of the baseline.
- 29. No metal cleats allowed.
- 30. Only the batter and the on deck batter are allowed outside the dugout on offense.
- 31. Slide rule is in effect. Umpire has the discretion to call someone out for not sliding. This is a judgment call and will be final.

 Only the head coach can approach the umpire about a call in a respectful manner. The coach that does the coin toss is considered the head coach for that
- game.

 32. If at any time there is a ruling call that is questioned, not a judgment call, and cannot be resolved, the head coach may ask respectfully for the umpire to
- see if the UIC/parks employee is available to resolve this issue.
- 33. For tie games in tournament play, the last batter will start the inning on second base.
- 34. The league program manager will pause games if lightening is detected within 10 miles of the facility. After 30 minutes, the manager will make a final call to resume games or postpone each game.
- 35. At no point should anyone but the head coach or umpire approach the score keeper about the score. Parents, spectators, or other coaches do not need to be at the score stand. If there is an issue, the head coach needs to take it to the umpire.
- 36. We will not tolerate foul language or abusive behavior towards the kids, umpires, scorekeepers, or any employee of the parks and recreation. First offense will result in ejection from the field.
- 37. If ejected from a game for a player or coach that person must exit to the parking lot.
- 38. Players are only allowed to warm up in the warm up area. They do not need to be warming up on the sides of the dugouts or along the sidewalks.
- 39. No soft toss allowed in the fence.
- 40. All City of Conway parks are tobacco-free facilities. No drinking allowed in the park.
- 41. No dogs allowed.
- 42. Parks and Recreation will provide an official scorekeeper.
- 43. Please have your line-up turned in to the scorekeeper 10 minutes before game time.
- 44. Parks and Recreation reserves the right to change rules as needed.
- 45. The rainout line is 501.513.3591, For viewing of schedules, scores, and standing visit us at www.conwayparks.com