

Gremlin League

1st, 2nd grade - Fabens Park Field 6

Teams:

- Team selection is done prior to the start of the league with attempts being made to divide the girls equally via age and ability.
- Coaches may be selected or assigned to keep the number of coaches/players per team equal (i.e. Each head coach may select one assistant coach; however, other assistant coaches will be divided equally among the teams).

Practice:

- Practice times will be selected by coaches
- Each team will practice at least once per week and up to two times per week prior to games. During games, practices should be limited to one per week if needed to work on skills or during long breaks between games due to scheduling and/or weather.
- Teams may scrimmage each other during the pre-season.

Uniforms:

- All players must wear their league issued shirt during all games. Encourage your girls to wear them at practice as it is very hard to see at times, depending on the angle of the sun, without a hat/visor on.
- Cleats are encouraged, but not mandatory. NO METAL CLEATS are allowed. • Pants are strongly encouraged to be worn. Pants MUST be worn if your players want to slide.

Games:

- This year (2022), 8 games are scheduled. All should be played unless canceled due to weather. If rain-outs occur, teams should reschedule games to ensure each team plays at least 8 games. If games need to be rescheduled, please contact the league president so the HBSP on-line calendar can be updated.
- Each game should be limited to 1.5 hours (90 minutes) of play, but an inning should be finished if it is started.
- Each game will have five innings with a sixth inning allowed (if time allows) in the event of a tie at the end of the 5th inning. If there is a tie at the end of the sixth inning, the game will be counted as a tie. A tie will be called at the end of the fifth inning if the game has already been longer than 1.5 hours (90 minutes).

Field Play:

- Up to Ten (10) players are allowed to play on the field at one time. (all are allowed to bat) While shifting of players toward and away from home plate is allowed based on the batters ability to hit, players should be positioned in the standard softball positions of 1st, 2nd, Short-Stop, 3rd, Pitcher, Catcher, Right field, Right center, Left field, Left center and Short fielder. A Short Fielder can either play right behind the second base or right in front of it.
- Fielders should NEVER be lined up to start play in a baseline.
- There should be an arched line extending from the right base line to the pitcher's circle and then from the pitcher's circle to the left base line. Fielders ARE NOT allowed to line up in front of this line prior to the pitch being thrown.
- Teams must have a minimum of six players on the field to play a game. If fewer than six players show up for a game, the game will be forfeited. Coaches may use their judgment on waiting ten minutes for additional players to show up before calling the game. In the event a game is forfeited, players should be divided between two equal teams so girls can still play a game.
- Girls should be rotated in playing positions on the field so by the end of the season they have played infield and outfield positions, on both sides of the field (i.e. don't put your best players at pitcher and 1st just to win games, teach all players how to play the positions).
- The infield fly rule will not be called.
- The catcher does not have to catch the third strike for there to be a strikeout.
- If a fielder catches a pop-fly that is outside the base lines, an out is called.
- Double and triple plays ARE allowed.
- Play WILL NOT stop until the ball is thrown into the pitcher's circle to the GIRL playing the pitcher's position. If the girl playing the pitcher's position does not catch the ball being thrown at her, play WILL STILL STOP if both of the following occur 1.) the girl playing the pitcher's position is attempting to field the ball, AND 2.) the ball hits the dirt inside the circle. If the ball is thrown over the head of the girl pitcher, play will not stop until someone throws the ball to her or she gets the ball and returns to the circle.
- Fielders ARE NOT allowed to run or bowl the ball into the pitcher's circle and hand the ball to the pitcher to avoid throwing the ball to the pitcher unless they are within a few feet. (i.e. same judgment that you would use on having a fielder throw a ball to a baseman or run it two steps and make the out).
- After a ball is hit, adult pitching coaches should make every attempt to get out of the way of play and should only ask for the ball from the opposing team after play has stopped.

Batting:

- All players on the team will be placed in a batting order. Players arriving late will be placed at the end of the batting order.
- Coaches may agree to skip a batter if the batter is missing due to the need to use the restroom. ● Coaches will pitch to their own teams.
- Coaches/girl pitchers must stand within the pitcher's circle while pitching. Coaches should pitch faster to the older/more experienced girls.
- For the first two (2) games of the season, all girls will be allowed five (7) strikes/swings for every inning of the game.
- Starting with the third (3rd) game of the season, the standard (5)-strike rule will apply to every girl for every inning of the game. Based on the agreement of both coaches, a girl who is struggling at bat may have 1 additional strike during a game during the 1st, 2nd and/or 3rd inning only. Once the girl gets a hit, she should return to being limited to three strikes.
- Girls should be taught NOT to swing at bad pitches (balls). However, since coaches are pitching to

their own players, walks and hit-by-pitches will not be awarded a base. If the coach is throwing strikes and the girl is not swinging, please tell her if the pitch is good and she does not swing, it will be called a strike. This is to ensure games do not drag on.

Scores:

- There will be a five (5) run limit per team for innings 1, 2 and 3 regardless of the score..

All others rules of softball will play, unless amended as above.

Coaches should make every attempt to work out discrepancies between themselves. There are no "protests" at this age level.

If you have issues that need to be addressed, please contact the league president, William Klinger beej48@gmail.com 419-602-0951.