NOVICE RULES

2026

1. UNLIMITED SUBSTITUTIONS – EVERYONE BATS
2. ALL PLAYERS MUST WEAR A HELMET WITH A CAGE AND CHIN STRAP
3. USE 11" SOFTBALL
4. PITCHERS MUST WEAR A PROTECTIVE FACE MASK
5. GAMES ARE 90 MINUTES OR UP TO 7 INNINGS
6. NO NEW INNINGS AFTER 80 MINUTES
7. UNLIMITED RUNS IN THE LAST INNING. LAST INNING TO BE DETERMINED BEFORE THE INNING STARTS
8. BATTER IS **NOT** OUT ON A DROPPED BALL THIRD STRIKE
9. RUNNER IS OUT IF THE BATTER HITS THEM WITH A BATTED BALL
10. INFIELD FLY RULE IS IN EFFECT
11. RUNNER IS SAFE IF FIELDER INTERFERS WITH THEM ON BASELINE UNLESS FIELDING A BALL
12. BASEMAN (INCLUDING BACK CATCHER) CAN'T BLOCK THE BASE WITHOUT THE BALL OR RUNNER IS SAFE. RUNNER MUST CONCEDE OR SLIDE IF BASEMAN HAS THE BALL.
13. MAX. 5 RUNS PER INNING WITH EXCEPTION TO RULE 7.
14. IF THE 5^{TH} RUN IS SCORED BY A STEAL, THE BATTER BATS FIRST IN THE NEXT INNING
15. STEALING IS ALLOWED WHEN THE BALL LEAVES THE PITCHERS HAND
16. STEALING HOME IS ALLOWED
17. USE 60' BASE PATH
18. 10 PLAYERS ON THE FIELD AT A TIME (6 INFIELD AND 4 OUTFIELD)
19. PLEASE DO NOT YELL AT THE UMPIRES. IF YOU THINK THEY MADE THE WRONG CALL ON A RULE, ASK FOR "TIME" AND APPROACH THEM QUIETLY AND CALMLY. REMEMBER THAT YOU CAN'T QUESTION A JUDGEMENT CALL: WHETHER A PITCH WAS A BALL OR STRIKE, FAIR OR FOUL OR SAFE OR OUT
20. HOME TEAM MUST PUT THE BASES BACK IN THE EQIPMENT BOX. THE BASE PLUGS MUST ALSO BE REINSERTED IN THE GROUND