

# ORION/ OXFORD YOUTH FAST PITCH

## POINTS OF EMPHASIS

The USA Softball rules will serve as the playing rules for the OGSL except as amended within this document. Exception: High School Pitching Rule is in effect.

- Only players, managers, coaches, and umpires are permitted on the field or in the dugout during a game.
- ALL coaches must wear the uniform shirt provided to be in the dugout. This ensures that all coaches have been checked and are registered coaches or assistants.
- All bats must be stamped with ASA or USA Softball certification and clearly read 'Official Softball'.
- All teams will play the same number of players.
  - 10u- 10 players on defense. (unless team only has 9 players)
  - 12u- 10 players on defense. (unless team only has 9 players)
- The defensive team is allowed unlimited substitutions. This includes the pitcher.
- Defensive fielding face masks are required for all positions and all levels of softball.
- Batting helmets must have a permanently affixed face mask. They must be worn while batting and running the bases.
- No bunting.
- A half inning consists of 3 outs, or 5 runs scored.
- Catchers must wear full equipment (including helmets) for all games and when warming up the pitcher. This includes a helmet with throat protection.
- Coaches will not chase the ball that gets past the catcher. Coach them how to stop the ball.
- For the sake of safety, the on-deck batter has the right to use either on-deck circle or any safe area down either baseline.
- Ball 4 procedure-
  - 10u- after ball 4- coach from the offensive team will come on the field and pitch not more than 5 pitches to the batter. The number of strikes stay the same and pitches by the coach can be called strikes.
  - 12u- after ball 4 the batter is awarded first base.

- End of the play runner advancement.
  - 10u- Once the ball is possessed on the infield all runners will hold the base achieved or continue to the next base if halfway there. No continued advancement once the ball is possessed. Time will be called by the umpire when they deem the play dead.
  - 12u- Once the ball is possessed on the infield, all runners may continue to advance (without stopping) at their own risk. If a runner continues to advance once the ball is in the pitcher's possession in the circle, see the lookback rule in the USA Softball rules book. Time will be called by the umpire when they deem the play dead.
- No stealing or advancing on a passed ball. Runners can leave the base on the release of the pitch but cannot advance until the ball is put into play. All leadoffs on the pitch are at the runner's risk, and they can be thrown out.
- Hit Batter- if the pitch hits the batter in the air the batter is awarded 1<sup>st</sup> base. If the pitch bounces into the batter, the batter is awarded a ball, and they continue their turn at bat.
- No sliding is permitted. Runners must make an effort to avoid any and all contact.
- Time limits-
  - 10u- no new inning after 70 minutes with drop dead at 80 minutes.
  - 12u- no new inning after 75 minutes with drop dead at 85 minutes.