

# HARRISON COUNTY GIRLS FASTPITCH SOFTBALL

## GENERAL RULES 2018

- 1 No Jewelry
- 2 No Metal Cleats
- 3 USA approved equipment
- 4 Helmets must have face masks. They also must be free of cracks. Chin straps are optional.
- 5 No dented bats.
- 6 Good Sportsmanship is required from all players, spectators, coaches and umpires at all times.
- 7 Game time is forfeit time.
- 8 Game will be called if one team is ahead by 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 innings, or 8 runs after 5 innings.
- 9 Home team provides the game softballs.
- 10 Batters/Runners need to use orange bag at first base, fielder uses white base for safety reasons and per USA rules.
- 11 Tournament host provides umpires and softballs for all tournament games.
- 12 5 divisions of play: Coach Pitch includes 1st-2nd grades, 3rd-4th grades, 5th-6th grades, 7th-8th grades and 9th-12th grades. It no longer matters if the player has a birthday after Jan 1 when registering for Harrison County Leagues. The grade level for the following school year will be what is used when determining playing level. Players can always play up a level, but not down. Town reps will need to request approval by the board if age divisions listed above can not be filled and you have players needing to play. We will look at the best options for that individual and proceed as needed.
- 13 Girls that are currently in the 8th grade must play in the 9-12th grade division for summer ball. A 6th Grader will play in the 7-8th grade level. ONLY exception if the girl going into 9th grade is age eligible for 14 under (age 14 as of January 1 of current year).
- 14 Home team provides home plate umpire and 1 base umpire, visiting team may place 1 base umpire on field if desired.
- 15 Double header games for high school and jr high games. Umpires for home plate and 1 base will be provided by the town that the game is played in. Visiting team may provide 1 base umpire if desired. Each team will provide 1 game ball each night.
- 16 Season game rules will not change for Tournament games.
- 17 Exception to tournament play: No time limit on championship game. The run rule will be in effect. If one team is ahead by the run rule after both teams have a chance to bat, then the game is over. Coach pitch will play 4 innings or 1 hour. 3-4th grade will play 4 innings or 1 hour 15 min, 5-6th grade will play 5 innings or 1 hour 15 mins, 7-8th grade will play 7 innings, 9-12th 7 innings.
- 18 No tied games. All games ending with a tie will use the international tie breaker rule. Team at bat will place their last batter of the previous inning on second base and then complete their turn at bat. After 3 outs, the home team places their last batter on second base and completes their turn at bat with until 3 outs or if they score more runs than the visiting team. If neither team is ahead, then continue another inning using the international tie breaker rule with the last batter on second base.
- 19 During the tournament, rain dates will be played the next day the field is available if a team is unable to play they will forfeit that game.
- 20 Tournament dates must be set by the 1st game so players can schedule around the tournament.
- 21 Tournament dates can't be changed once scheduled.
- 22 Tournaments need to be scheduled M-F since that is when the regular season is played. Tournament games will not be played on Sunday, regardless of a rainout.
- 23 Tournament cedes will be placed according to the win/loss record of reg season.

- 24 **Coaches (EXCEPTION Coach Pitch) need to call/text or email their games scores to the Harrison Co President after each game. If games are rescheduled, then that information needs to be provided.**
- 25 All teams must participate in the tournament in order to participate in the Harrison County League.
- 26 All age groups may take the field with at least 7 players. There will be NO SHORTHAND PENALTY for the elementary age divisions. Jr High and High School have to take 1 out if playing with 7 or 8 players. The out must be listed as the last player on the roster.
- 27 Players must wear the appropriate uniforms. Any player wearing a skirt must wear shorts under the skirt.
- 28 Only 1 set of bases and pitching rubbers are allowed on a playing field at all times because if it causes too much confusion for younger players. Coach pitch bases must be set at 45ft while all other divisions 60ft. If a pitching mound is permanent, it may be left where it is located.
- 29 Games cancelled for any reason other than the weather and unable to be rescheduled, the team needing to reschedule will take the forfeit. Please try to reschedule all games.
- 30 Mentally and physically handicapped girls may play down an age division. This will be up to each individual town to determine what age group a mentally/ physically handicapped child should play in while taking into consideration the safety of the other players on the team. The player will not move up until it is determined by their local board that she has advanced enough to do so safely.
- 31 The Harrison Co Board is to be notified of any mentally/physically handicapped child not playing in their respective age group.
- 32 TEAM ROSTERS ARE SET after rosters are turned in at county meeting. A player may not play on another Harrison Co team during the season or tournament. No player may be added to roster unless the team falls below 9 players in all divisions except Coach pitch and we will accept an addition if roster falls below 10. EXCEPTION: Jr High players that are already registered may play with the high school division if the high school team would have to play shorthanded.
- 33 If a player quits, then the coach needs to notify the president.
- 34 **If the roster falls below 10 players in Coach Pitch or 9 players in all other divisions, then the president needs to be notified to allow a player. Insurance must be paid for and the player must be registered before the player is eligible.**
- 35 All rosters must have at least 8 players when they are turned into county. The team will be allowed to play with 7 players but it can't be registered with less than 8.
- 36 Player can play in school district in which they attend or school district in which they reside. If towns are co-oped during fall ball season, those teams can co-op for summer league.
- 37 No one except players, coaches and umpires are allowed on the field during the game unless approved by the home plate umpire.
- 38 Anyone causing a disturbance/distraction to the game should be asked by the home plate umpire to leave immediately and the game will be stopped until the person has left the area.
- 39 All rules not specifically mentioned in the general or age specific rules will follow the USA Rule Book.
- 40 All players MUST have a birth certificate on file in order to be insured and played. Hospital certificates are NOT accepted.
- 41 All towns playing in our league must have USA Insurance.
- 42 Practice may start April 1st assuming all players on your team have turned in the information so your team may be registered. If your team is not registered, you can not practice.

# HARRISON COUNTY GIRLS FASTPITCH SOFTBALL

## JUNIOR HIGH RULES 2018

### Jr. High (Grades 7-8)

1. Time limit: 1 hour 30 minutes, or 7 innings. Play out the inning if the home team is not ahead.
2. Game time is forfeit time.
3. 60 ft Bases and 43 ft from Pitcher's Rubber to Home Plate (County league will use the format used by Jr. High MSHSAA)
4. Use a 12" ball. Home team will provide the game ball. Each team will provide a game ball for double headers.
5. Players grade level is determined to be the grade they will enter in the fall of 2017-18 school year. If a player is currently in the 6th grade, then she must play with the 7th-8th graders. If a girl is in the 8th grade, then she must play with the 9th-12th grade division, unless the girl going into 9th grade is age eligible for 14 under (must be age 14 as of January 1 of current year).
6. Up to nine (9) players on the field at one time.
7. A team must have at least 7 players to play. If playing with 7 or 8 players, then one out must be taken regardless if playing with 7 or 8 players. The out must be listed as the last batter on the roster.
8. At bat rules: three (3) outs.
9. Stealing is allowed on all bases, including home.
10. Catcher must catch the 3rd strike or the batter can run to 1st. After a dropped 3rd strike, if catcher throws the ball to 1st base before the runner reaches 1st base, then the batter is out. EXCEPTION: If 1st base is already occupied, then the batter may not advance to 1st base on a dropped 3rd strike.
11. Roster Batting will be optional. Coaches must decide whether or not to use roster batting before the game starts. Once the game starts, the batting format cannot be changed. If a team starts the game using a roster batting format, then they must finish the game with the same batting order. Also, if a team doesn't start with a roster batting format and later sees that it would benefit their team, they can NOT change to roster batting.
12. If a team roster bats and a player becomes injured, then the injured players turn at bat will be skipped without any penalty. However, the player may not return to the field if she missed her turn at bat.
13. A courtesy runner is allowed for the catcher after two (2) outs. The courtesy runner will be a player that is not currently in the batting lineup or the person that made the last out.
14. Game will be called if one team is ahead by 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 innings, or 8 runs after 5 innings.
15. Face mask is mandatory for all pitchers. It is not mandatory but is highly recommended for 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base players to wear a face mask.
16. Face masks must be on all helmets. Helmets with cracks are not allowed. Chin straps are optional.
17. Batters need to run to the orange base at 1st base for safety reasons.
18. Find your own umpires for home games. Home team will be responsible for home plate and one base. Visiting team will be responsible for one base umpire.
19. Tournament rules need to be the same rules that were played all season. EXCEPTION: The championship game of the tournament will not have a time limit, but the run limit will still be in effect. The Championship game will play 7 innings, or ended if a team is ahead by the run rule after both teams have batted. All other games of the tournament will have a time limit to keep on schedule.
20. During the tournament, rain dates will be played the next tournament day. Teams that do not show up for their game time will forfeit their game.
21. Tournament cedes will be placed according to the win/loss record during the regular season. **Scores will need to be reported on 1<sup>st</sup> game-ONLY**
22. ASA Rules will be used if not mentioned above. See ASA Rule book for any questions.