SOFTBALL

Ages: 14, 15, 16, and 17 years old by July 31 of the current year

Length of Games: 7 innings or time

Dimensions: bases 60', foul line 190', centerfield 200', pitcher's plate 43', pitchers circle 8' radius **Bat Sizes**: 34" or under. Bats must have ASA 2000 or 2004 stamp, USA Softball Certified Stamp. All personal bats must be approved by the commissioner.

Balls: 12" Softball

Playing Rules

- 1. NFHS Softball rules, with the exceptions and variations of FJBC rules and regulations listed below.
- 2. Games start at 6:00 pm and end at 7:50 pm. The 1st siren will sound at 7:50 pm. No new inning will begin after 7:50 pm. The 2nd siren will sound at 8:10 pm. All play stops at 8:10 pm. If the final inning of the game is not completed by 8:10 pm the score will revert back to the score from the end of the previous inning.
- 3. An inning (except 7th inning) ends and a new inning starts the moment 3 outs are made or 5 runs have scored. The 7th inning ends after the visiting team completes its half of the inning and the home team is ahead or the 7th inning is completed.
- 4. Each team will field 9 players, but not less than 8.
- 5. All players will bat the entire game; the batting order cannot be changed.
- 6. The Open Substitution/re-entry rule applies. No player may sit out more than 2 consecutive innings.
- 7. Batters will wear a helmet with a facemask approved by the league.
- 8. If a home run is hit over the fence all runners preceding the batter will count even if more than 5 runs score. There are unlimited runs in the 7th inning.
- 9. Prior to starting the delivery (pitch), the pitcher shall take a position with the pivot foot in contact with the pitcher's plate. The non-pivot foot in contact with or behind the pitcher's plate. Both feet must be on the ground, within or partially within the 24-inch length of the pitcher's plate.
- 10. The circle rule will apply. See "Circle Rule" handout.
- 11. There is a 4-inning limit to the number of innings a pitcher may pitch per game. 1 pitch by a player will be considered an inning pitched
- 12. If a pitcher hits 3 batters in one inning or 4 batters in one game, they will be relieved of that position for the remainder of the game.
- 13. The third strike rule: hot plate is in effect.
- 14. Home can be stolen.
- 15. The infield fly rule does apply.
- 16. Base runners cannot leave the base until the pitcher releases the ball. If the runner leaves early, the runner is out.
- 17. All runners must slide to avoid contact in all close plays. (Umpire judgment)
- 18. No Jewelry.
- 19. Steel cleats are allowed.
- 20. No pregnant players. See Official Rules & Policies, Section VI.

Disclaimer: All players, coaches and spectators must follow all Federal, State, Local and FJBC Covid 19 guidelines. ALL EQUIPMENT MUST BE TURNED IN ON TEAMS LAST GAME