

# 2016 DIOCESAN-WIDE SOFTBALL and COOPERATIVE GAME RULES

## *Revised June 2016*

### **About the Team:**

A team will consist of up to 20 players on the team roster, and up to 15 players may be on the batting roster per game, 10 (ten) players on the field with an additional 5 players who can be on the batting order. A minimum of 30% of the players on a batting roster must be currently in grades 6 through 8 (ages 11-14) example: if you have 12 people on your team, 4 of them must be of jr. high age (you can have more than this percentage but not less). The maximum age for a player is 18 as long as he/she is enrolled in high school. The team must have 5 girls and 5 boys or a minimum of 6 girls, and 4 boys on the field at all times. The team must have a minimum of 3 junior high players on the field at all times. All fielders have to bat, not all batters have to field. Teams may borrow players from one another, but no player may play in more than 4 softball games. Violation of this rule disqualifies a team from standings.

**THIS IS A MUST!!!** All teams participating must bring a roster of all their players stating their ages and grade in school. This roster must be signed by the parish moderator or coach. If a parish has two teams, the coaches who register two teams must ensure that they have two complete teams. Games cannot be put on hold to wait for a member from their other team to finish a game so that he can play in the second game. There must be two rosters one for each team. Forms A and B must be submitted for all players as well as form D s for all coaches and all adults must be Safe Environment approved.

### **About the Softball Games:** ASA Rules will apply with the following modifications:

- Games are 50 minutes in length or 7 innings whichever comes first. In addition, if at the end of an inning one team is ahead by 15 runs, the games will be called.
- There is a hard limit of 5 runs per inning. After 5 runs, teams will switch.
- Batting order must be boy, girl, boy, girl.
- Batters begin with a 1 ball/1 strike count. If extra innings are necessary, the count becomes 3/2.
- When the batter has 2 strikes, the second foul ball will be called a strike, and the batter will be out.
- When pinch hitting, a girl must bat for a girl and a boy for a boy.
- No type of metal cleat or spike will be allowed, but all players must wear shoes.
- No bunting, stealing, or leading off.
- A runner on base may not leave the base until the batter makes contact with the ball.
- No running on dropped 3rd strike..
- Infield fly rule is in effect.
- Catchers must wear a protective face mask.
- Sliding is allowed at home plate only. The runner will be called out for sliding at other bases.
- Base runners must tag up on caught fly ball to advance to the next base.
- Pitcher's rubber is 50 feet from the plate. To allow for greater reaction time should a ball be hit toward the pitcher, the pitcher has the option of pitching from up to 6 feet behind the pitching rubber. All movement by the pitcher must be in a forward motion.
- Pitches must reach at least 6 ft. in height and drop through the strike zone.
- Batters will not throw bats after striking at or hitting the ball. The umpire will give one warning and call the batter out after that.
- Profanity on the part of any player, coach, or spectator directed toward anyone or anything will result in immediate expulsion of that person from the playing premises. **NO WARNING.**
- Score book must be kept by each team.
- When walking a male batter, the batter advances only to first base. The following female may choose to walk or to bat. Only when she chooses to walk does the previous batter advance to second base.
- **CALLS MAY NOT BE APPEALED.**

**About the Cooperative Games:**

- Will be played in mixed parish teams.
- Every parish team member may play the coop games but a maximum of 12 persons per parish will be able to get points for their parish team (using the personal point card that each person will receive the day of the tournament and games).
- Parish team members may only play coop games during their scheduled times.
- Adult leaders or coaches may participate in the Coop games.
- If a participant loses their personal point card their team will not be able to count those points.

**Championship Game Format**

**First and second place winners will be selected by a championship game of two undefeated teams. Third and fourth place winners will be selected based on points accrued from wins, loses and participation in the scheduled cooperative games. Points will be awarded in the manner noted below under Point System**

**POINT SYSTEM**

**EXAMPLE: PARISH A**

PARISH A - ST. ANDREW	Softball: 9, 3, 6		
Member 1	Off times: 2, 5		
Coop Games:	10:00-10:50 <input type="checkbox"/>	11:00-11:50 <input type="checkbox"/>	1:00-1:50 <input type="checkbox"/>

Only 12 cards will be handed out per team.

Coop Games Participate = 2 pts. per participant.  
= 24 points maximum per opportunity (for a 12 person team) per team

Softball Game: Win = The total number of points scored by your team + 24 points  
Lose = The total number of points scored by your team+12 points

**Team A** - 0-3 in softball = Game 1 they scored 2 points; Game 2 they scored 4 points; game 3 they scored 1 point; now add 12 points for each loss for a total of **43 points**  
12 participants in cooperative games in all 3 sessions = **72 points**  
**Team A Total points = 115**

**Team B** - 3-0 in softball = Game 1 they scored 5 points; Game 2 they scored 6 points; and game 3 they scored 4 points; then add 24 points for each win for a total of **87 points**.  
10 participants in cooperative games in all 3 sessions = **60 points**.  
**Team A Total Points = 147**

Individuals from your group may participate at any time during the day in the cooperative games (providing there is space for them in addition to the scheduled teams) but they can only get their card punched by participating at the specific time indicated on the card.

For more information, please contact Ed Lozano at 817.455.1006 or Jason Spoolstra at 817.945.355