



# Northern Illinois Softball Association

## 6U Division (4 to 6 years old)

### **OBJECTIVE**

- 1) The goal of this division is to teach fundamentals of throwing, catching, hitting, and creating a team environment, while making it as fun as possible!

### **THE PLAYERS**

- 1) Please try to keep rosters between 6 and 8 players when possible
- 2) All players should play in the field each inning.
- 3) Girls should rotate around to play multiple positions. The catcher position is not needed. A coach should help collect balls when using coach pitch.
- 4) Continuous batting order will be used. Everyone bats. Each team should bat through the batting order one time each inning.

### **THE GAME**

- 1) A 10" compression softball should be used. "New" game balls are not necessary.
- 2) The home team should supply a batting tee to be used by both teams during the game.
- 3) A game shall last approximately 1 hour. It is at the discretion of the coaches to decide the end of the game. (Typically, around 3 innings)
- 4) The batter has the choice of using the batting tee, or coach pitch. When opting for coach pitch, the batter should get 5 pitches from the coach. If there is no hit after the 5 pitches, the batter should use the batting tee to complete the at bat. All players should try to get to coach pitch by the end of the season.
- 5) Bases are 60' apart.
- 6) Defensive coaches are encouraged to be on the field for instruction.
- 7) There is no need to have an umpire present. Outs should not be called, and all players should be allowed to run the bases.

### **PITCHING**

- 1) The front of the pitcher's rubber shall be 30 feet from the back tip of home plate, however, if the coach feels the need to move forward for some hitters, that is ok.
- 2) There will be no walks.

### **BASE RUNNING**

- 1) Players will go one base at a time on each at bat until the last batter. That batter, and all runners on bases, will continue around to home plate.
- 2) No extra bases on overthrows or passed balls
- 3) Stealing is not allowed but the base runner may take a leadoff after the pitch crosses the plate.

### **SAFETY**

- 1) ALL defensive players are required to wear a facemask.
- 2) Batting helmets are required to have a full facemask.
- 3) On deck hitter must be at the batter's back and in the circle.
- 4) All girls must remain behind the fence when not batting for their own safety.