



# Varsity 16-inch Softball Rules & Regulations

# 2009 16 INCH SOFTBALL

## CONTEST LIMITATIONS/NON-CONFERENCE SCHEDULING

- A. All scheduled non-league games must be submitted to, and approved by the director prior to the season. If the director does not sanction specific non-league contests, teams are prohibited from participating in such contest.

## DUTIES OF THE HOME TEAM MANAGEMENT

The coach of the home team is responsible for setting up the field prior to the game. The home team will have the field first for 15 minutes of pre-game practice time. The visiting team will take the field for pre-game practice (15 minutes) after the home team.

The home team will furnish 1 new 16 inch softball at the beginning of the game. Softballs used during game will be returned to the home team. Softballs supplied by the Chicago Public Schools may be used.

The home team will provide approved bases according to National Federation of High Schools Rule 1, Section 3, Article 1. Bases should be canvas, rubber, or synthetic material. Under no condition will the game be played with stone bases.

Unfavorable field condition should be reported to the 16 inch Softball Coordinator.

Coaches must report scores to Department of Sports Administration the next day. Eligibility sheets properly filled in must be submitted to the Softball Coordinator the day following the playing of the game. Remarks regarding umpires should be written on the back of the eligibility sheet.

## PLAYING RULES

- A. All high school students meeting the eligibility requirements of the Chicago Public High Schools Athletic Association are eligible for competition.
- B. The National Federation of High School Softball Rules will govern league play with certain adjusted Chicago Public High School Rule Interpretations.
- C. Any of the ten starting players may withdraw and re-enter once, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever he's in the line-up.

- D. Each game will consist of seven (7) innings.
- E. All game dates will be played on Mon., Tues., and Wed., unless changes are approved, by the Softball Coordinator.
- F. A double header (two games) will be played on each scheduled date. Each team will be the home team for one game. Remember the home team pays the umpire.
- G. The 16 Inch softball season will begin September 8, 2009.
- H. All bases are 60 feet, and the pitchers mound is 38 feet from home plate.
- I. A base runner may advance (from first base to second base only) if played upon by the pitcher.
- J. All batters will begin each bat with a 1 ball 1 strike count. (the 1 and 1 rule)
- K. A two strike foul will be considered a strike out.
- L. The infield fly rule will be in effect: If 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> base or all 3 bases are occupied with less than two outs, the batter will be automatically called out, and the runners may advance at their own risk.
- M. Each team is allowed 25 players on their roster.

#### FORFEIT

- A. In the event any team withdraws from the league, that team forfeits all games remaining on their schedule. Two forfeits will cause forfeiture of coaches' pay.
- B. Coaches shall make every effort to be on time to a scheduled contest. If team and faculty representatives are not ready to play within thirty minutes of the scheduled time of the contest, the host school must contact the Softball Coordinator.

#### TIES

(Refer to tiebreakers listed under 2009 city championship playoff format)

If multiple teams remain tied and the upper position cannot be determined, a drawing will be held. Representatives of each involved team will draw numbers under the supervision of the Director of the Chicago Public High Schools Athletic Association. The team drawing the lowest number will be the winner of the draw. Other positions will be determined according to numbers drawn (lowest to highest, with lower numbers getting the higher position).

## CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYOFFS

- A. A total of **32** teams will be seeded for the championship playoffs according to their regular season records.
- B. All teams reaching the city playoffs will play a seven (7) inning game, or as many innings necessary to determine a winner.
- C. The home team will be responsible for setting up the field.
- D. Any game that is called off before five (5) innings are completed will be considered a suspended game and will be resumed from the point it was cancelled. All playoff field selections will be made by the Director or his representative.

## PRACTICE PERIOD

All games are scheduled to start at 3:45 p.m. and not later than 4:00 p.m. Games will start immediately after both teams have the field for 10 minutes of practice time.

In league play, each game shall go (7) seven innings. In case of a tie, teams will play as many innings necessary to determine a winner. The 10 run slaughter rule will be enforced if a team has a 10 run advantage after 4 ½ innings or any time thereafter (losing team must bat in the 5<sup>th</sup>).

Coaches or faculty members may coach on the bases. Both bases (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) may be manned by the coaches or faculty members.

All unnecessary field conferences should be eliminated. Attention is directed to rule 3, Section 3, Article 1 of the National Federation of Softball Rules.

One (1) umpire will be used for games. The fee will be **\$55.00** per game. A second umpire will be added during the playoff rounds.

Umpires fees during the Semifinal and Championship rounds will be **\$60.00** per umpire.

In case both teams and the umpire are present and the game is called off for any reason, the home team is responsible for the fees of the umpires.

All games should be umpired by certified softball officials.

Central Office will assign all officials for regular season and playoff games.

## SECTIONS

Teams will be divided into 8 sections (North, South, West, and Central) with a red and blue section in each of the four divisions.

Playoff seeding will be determined by the sectional standings at the end of the regular season.

Games shall be played as scheduled. Under no circumstances shall games be cancelled without the approval of the Softball Coordinator, unless weather conditions such as rain, etc. interfere. Penalty for violation of this provision will be a double forfeit.

Teams will play league games within their respective sections until the playoffs begin.

Games will be played at neutral sites, and the home team will be designated.

## LINE-UP CARDS

Coaches must prepare and present line up cards to the umpire and to the opposing team's coach.

Starting lineup uniform numbers and positions are to be indicated on the card. All possible substitutes for that game should also be listed either on the front or back of the line-up card with the same information that is listed for the starters.

When changes are made by either coach, the umpire and the opposing team coach are to be notified.

Entries and re-entries are to be indicated in the proper space provided on the line-up score card.

The proper listing for the DH is below or to the right of the player he is hitting for.

## ENTRY AND RE-ENTRY

Whenever a player enters the game for the first time, that player will retain that batting order number in the lineup for the duration of the game. Any substitute entering the game in a specific batting order position will retain that batting order number.

An original lineup player may re-enter at any time providing that the player occupies his original batting order position.

Pitcher removal and re-entry is governed by the re entry into the same batting order.

Players with the same batting order number cannot be in the lineup at the same time. This applies offensively and defensively.

### INTERPRETATIONS

All situations concerning clarification and interpretations of rules are to be directed to the Softball Coordinator.

National Federation of High Schools 16 Inch Softball Rules shall be in effect.

*The softball committee shall be responsible for all entry classifications.*

### MAKE-UPS

Failure to make up postponed games results in a double forfeit.

### CENTRAL OFFICE SHEETS

Central Office Record sheets must be submitted to the Softball Coordinator by August 29, 2009.

### REPORTING SCORES

Call in scores to Eddie Curry at 773-535-3808 or fax to 773-624-4504 following your game. This will allow us to report them to the newspaper and print the standings weekly.