SECTION X
GIRLS' SOFTBALL

A. GENERAL RULE CHANGES

PeeWee, Minor, Major/Sr Softball - 1:30 and cannot start another inning after 1:15.

Fall Ball Only – Girls participating in Fall ball may only play the same position for two innings in a game.

1. **Game called due to time expiring:**
   For time purposes, an inning starts when the 3rd out is recorded in the bottom of an inning. Not when visiting team is in its defensive positions, waiting for 1st pitch of the inning.
2. **Batting through lineup rule will be:**
   Batting through lineup rule will be superceded to the below rule in PeeWee and Minor Softball Only:
   Runs per Inning: A maximum of 6 runs can be scored each inning for each team.
   Run Rule: If either team is behind and cannot catch up or go ahead, the game shall be over immediately.
   The RUN RULE awards a win to a team that has a 12 runs lead after 3 completed innings or 2 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead, 10 runs after 4 completed inning or 3 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead, 8 runs lead after 5 completed innings or 4 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead. ***From USSSA Rulebook***

3. **Batting lineup:**
   All players must be in batting lineup. All players must bat. Any player arriving after game has started, and their batting position has been skipped, MUST be inserted at the bottom of the batting lineup.
4. **Injured or sick player:**
   Players injured during game, or get sick during game, MAY be skipped in batting lineup, without an automatic out given. If player is skipped in lineup, without out taken, that player may not re-enter game either on offense or defense. Coach can elect to take an out, to keep option of player re-entering game. The Coach's decision must be announced to the opposing coaches, umpires, and scorekeepers.
5. **Slinging bat:**
   Any team that has a player sling a bat, will receive one warning from an umpire. Each offense after warning has been given, with be an automatic out, and treated as a dead ball and runners may not advance.
6. **Slide rule will be: No Slide Rule 1/09 – Sliding is encouraged on any close plays.**
7. **Regular season games:**
   Softball regular season schedule will consist of 14-18 games.
8. **Safety bases at 1B:**
   Safety bases are to be installed on all softball fields. These safety bases are a double width base, one half is white, which is to be installed in fair territory, and the other half is orange or red, which is installed in foul territory. Batter/runner

is to touch the orange portion, and the defensive player is to touch the white portion. One batter/runner has safely reached 1B, runner then touches the white portion.

9. **Courtesy runner rule will be: Refer to USSSA Rule Book**
10. **Stealing bases:**
    Stealing bases is only allowed in Minor only.
    Only one base per pitch is allowed to be stolen in Minor League.
    Minor-runner may leave base when pitch crosses homeplate.
11. **Minimum playing time per player.**
    In all leagues players must play at least two defensive innings.
    No Infield fly rule in PeeWee and Minor SB.

B. PEEWEE RULE ADDITIONS

1. Pee Wee girls will coach pitch all season.

2. Once the lead runner is stopped, the play is ruled dead. Runners halfway or closer to the next base will be awarded that base. Runners less than halfway between the bases will have to return to the last base passed. When lead runner's progress is halted, time is to be called. Other base runners will be sent to base they are closest to, when time is called. Halfway line will determine to which base.

3. Outfielders may not tag out a base runner. This is same as T-Ball rule.

4. Maximum Pitches: Please refer to USSSA Rule Book

5. Pitcher (parent/coach) must leave the pitching circle as soon as the pitch is hit into fair territory. Pitcher must not interfere with defensive player's attempt to attain an out.1st offense warning, 2nd offense and after, it is a dead ball and an out.

6. If pitcher (coach) is hit by batted ball, dead ball is to be declared, batter remains and runners do not advance. Pitch count remains the same.

7. Outfielders must be positioned in the grass. Outfielders can not make an out on a runner advancing, either by tagging runner, or by tagging the base in a force situation.

8. Pee Wee girls participating in Fall ball must play a different position every two innings.

9. A Batter/Runner may only earn 1 base on an overthrown ball to 1st base from an infielder into foul territory. On an overthrown ball, all runners may attempt to reach the next base, but with liability and may be tagged out. A ball that is hit in the outfield is live until the lead runner is stopped.

Reason: This rule change is to encourage coaches to teach fundamental infield play on defense by making a THROW to bases in an attempt to stop the lead runner and not to teach kids to run after the lead runner or hold the ball to prevent an error and possibility of a runner advancing bases on a routine infield play.

C. MINOR RULE ADDITIONS

1. Stealing will be allowed for full season. Runner may advance only 1 base on each steal attempt.
2. Stealing home is allowed on a passed ball and if a catcher/IF makes a throwing attempt to pick off a runner at 3rd base with the thrown ball reaching the OF grass.
   A Delayed Steal from 3rd base will not be allowed.

D. PITCHING RULES

1. Senior League Players will be pitching from 43 feet.
2. Major League Players will be pitching from 40 feet.
3. Minor League Players will be pitching from 35 feet.
4. PeeWee Coaches will be pitching from 35 feet.
5. Tball Coaches will be pitching from 22 feet.

E. PEEWEE, MINOR, MAJOR & SENIOR DRAFT RULES

1. Players will be drafted in an open draft.
2. Softball director or a member of the softball committee will be present at all drafts, or drafts will not take place.
3. All trades will be completed before leaving the draft room with no exceptions.
4. A separate pitchers pool will be compiled in minor (if possible), major, and senior leagues. Players from the pitchers pool will be drafted at the beginning of the draft.
5. Teams with established pitcher, may not select a pitcher during the round pitchers are drafted. Established pitcher is determined by vote of league coaches. Every effort should be made to insure competitive balance in each league with pitchers.
6. High school players coming in at midseason will be drafted will the draft order being determined by the reverse order of the standings. The last team will have the first pick and so on down the line. In the event of a tie, draft picks will be by blind draw.

F. TRAVEL TEAMS

1. All travel team coaches must inform Softball director of each tournament their team intends to participate in. This should include: where, dates, what association, class, and tournament director's name and phone number. Our teams will participate in Class A, B, or C. Most should be Class B & C. Failure to inform SB Director of tournament information can result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal as travel team coach.
2. All travel team head and assistant coaches must be approved by the coaches selection team.
3. All coaches wanting to be a considered for travel team coach, must inform SB director in writing by a date TBA. This information will be submitted on a form provided by park.

4. Tryouts for travel teams will be at the park, on date TBA.

****FOR ANY RULE NOT COVERED IN THE AFOREMENTIONED SECTIONS, PLEASE REFER TO THE OFFICIAL USSSA RULE BOOK.**