

Updated 3-5-2025

## **JUNIORS (12U) & MINORS (15U) Rules**

**Juniors- 11 and 12 year olds. (13 year olds if they turned 13 after January 1st of the current year)**

**Minors- 13, 14, and 15 year olds. (16 year olds if they turned 16 after January 1st of the current year)**

**\*\*Season runs from January 1 to December 31 of the current year. Players that will move to a higher division the following spring are encouraged to play up in the fall, but can be allowed to play in the same division as necessary\*\***

**\*\*USSSA rules to be followed with the exception of the rule modifications listed below.\*\***

<https://www.ussa.com/fastpitch/fastpitch-rules-legal-information><sup>[CL1]</sup>

### **FIELD SETUP (See diagram at end of rules)**

1. The bases for Junior(12u) and Minor(15u) level are at 60 feet
2. The pitching distance is 40' for Juniors and 43' Minors and is determined from the back point of home plate to the front of the pitching plate.
3. The circle is 16 feet in diameter.

### **Playing Equipment**

4. Juniors and Minors play with a 12" optic yellow softball with a 0.47 core and 375 lb compression.
5. Bats must be stamped with the USSSA certification seal.
6. All helmets must be equipped with a facemask that is approved by the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment and must be worn properly.
7. No steel cleats.
8. All players must be wearing their respective team uniforms to participate in a game. A minimal team uniform shall be defined as a set of matching shirts with numbers on the backs
9. Field masks are required for all fielders.

### **Game Rules**

10. Each game shall consist of seven innings or a one and one-half hour time limit, whichever comes first. Any game called due to time limit will be considered a complete game. Once an inning has started, it must be completed regardless of the time limitation.
11. In all divisions, the offensive team shall be limited to seven (7) runs or three (3) outs per inning, whichever comes first.

12. A team roster consisting of players first and last name and number and official batting order shall be presented before the start of each game, to the coach of the opposing team.
13. Managers, coaches and team members shall conduct themselves at all times while on the field or at the game site with propriety. (The use of profanity, alcohol or tobacco at the game site or in the presence of the players shall be considered as misconduct.
14. All teams shall have at least one responsible adult (not a player coach) at each game played.
15. The home team shall provide all umpires. YOU MUST USE AT MINIMUM 1 CERTIFIED USSSA UMPIRE.
16. 1 USSSA certified umpire 18+ is required for tournaments. 2 are required for semi championship and championship games
17. Teams shall field no more than nine (9) players for the Junior and Minor divisions with no fewer than seven. As long as seven players can be fielded, there shall be no forfeit or rescheduling of the game. Teams fielding less than nine (9) players will not be penalized with outs at the empty spots in the batting order. There is no maximum number of players that can be on a team, only a max number of fielders, and all players on the team shall be listed on the batting order.
18. Alternate Rule:
  - During Regular Season – Teams can use alternates to bring the team up to 10 players. Alternates have to be added to the bottom of the batting order and play in the outfield.
  - During Tournament Play – Teams only can use alternates if they cannot field 7 players. Alternates can only fill the roster up to 7 players, and they have to be added to the bottom of the batting order and play in the outfield.
19. All players will be listed on the batting order and will bat in that order. Any late arrivals to the game will be added to the end of the roster (batting order). There is free substitution on defense. Any player skipped will set out 6 consecutive outs.
20. There will be no pinch or courtesy runners in this league. If a base runner is injured, the player who made the last out may be substituted for the injured player.
21. Infield fly rule applies
22. All play will stop upon injury to player.
23. If batter is injured during the current game she can be skipped as a batter without taking an out.
24. An official game: Juniors is four (4) innings, Minors is five (5) innings if called for weather (which is determined at the discretion of the umpire). If the home team is ahead in the bottom: of the fourth (4th) inning for Juniors, of the fifth (5th) inning for Minors it is official.
25. The go ahead rule is as follows:
  - 12 after 3
  - 10 after 4
  - 8 after 5
26. Regular season games will end in a tie if the time limit is up and the home team has batted. The tie breaker rule will only be in effect for tournament play and will be as follows:

- The last batter from the previous inning will go to second base and become a base runner. The next person in the line-up will bat and will continue to go through the line-up until three outs or seven runs have been scored. The opposing team will do the same until one team goes up by at least one run. You do NOT start with any outs.

### Code of Conduct

27. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of themselves, other coaches, their players and the spectators.
28. Any coach, assistant coach, umpire or attendee that is ejected will be reported and documented to their respective boards. If you fail to appear before the Board any child you are associated with will not be allowed to play until you have appeared before the board.
29. The home plate umpire has the final decision regarding all rules and plays.

