

PARAGOULD YOUTH SOFTBALL
PLAYING RULES
12u

GENERAL RULES

1. All players must be 11 years old by January 1 and must not turn 13 before January 1 of the current season.
2. Metal cleats are not permitted in 12u and younger.
3. Crowd control is the responsibility of first, the coach, secondly, the umpires, and thirdly, the league president. Fans demonstrating disruptive behavior will be asked to leave. Police may be called in an effort to restore a family-friendly environment at Rotary Park.
4. Teams who cannot field a minimum of 8 players will forfeit.

12u

1. **Time Limit:** One hour (1:00) or six (6) innings, whichever comes first.
2. **Run Rule:** 11 after 4, 6 after 5.
3. **Runs per Inning:** Five (5) runs per half inning. Upon scoring the limited number of runs, the umpire will declare side out.
4. **Batting Order:** Teams may elect to bat nine (9), subject to the minimum play rule, or bat round robin and utilize free substitution on defense.
5. **Minimum Play Rule:** All players must play two (2) innings defensively and one at bat during the game.
6. **Defense:** Nine (9) defensive players. Teams may freely insert defensive players into their lineup if batting round robin.
7. **Contact Rule:** If a player attempting to reach home plate intentionally and maliciously runs into a defensive player in the area of home plate, the runner will be called out on the play and ejected from the game. The objective of this rule is to penalize the offensive team for deliberate, unwarranted, unsportsmanlike action by the runner for the obvious purpose of crashing the defensive player, rather than trying to reach home plate. Obviously, this is an umpire's judgement call.
8. **Pitching Position:** A pitcher may pitch nine (9) innings per week, running Monday through and including Sunday, excluding tournament play. One pitch equals one inning pitched. The pitching distance will be forty (40) feet from the front edge of the pitching rubber to the apex of home plate.
9. **Stealing:** When a pitcher is in contact with the pitching rubber in possession of the ball and the catcher is in the catcher's box ready to receive the delivery of the ball, base runners shall not leave their base(s) until the ball is released. Penalty: the runner shall be called out, ball will be declared dead and the pitch declared a no pitch.
10. **Infield Fly Rule:** Will be in effect.
11. **Bases:** Will be 60' apart.
12. **Ball:** 12" ball will be used.

Rainout information will be posted by 3:00pm on the day of inclement weather
www.facebook.com/paragouldyouthbaseball