Gretna Youth
Softball and Baseball
Association

Official Handbook

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General Rules
1. GYSBA Board is the only one that can modify, edit, change, alter, or rewrite the rules that are in place for the Gretna Youth Softball & Baseball Association. No coaches or managers are allowed to modify, edit, change, alter or rewrite any rule without the approval of the GYSBA Board.
2. It is highly recommended that all coaches carry these rules as well as a USSSA baseball or USA (fka ASA) softball rulebook with them to all games.
3. The visiting team occupies the first base dugout. The home team will occupy the third base dugout.
   3.1. At NP1 will be the opposite, the visiting team occupies the third base dugout and home team will occupy the first base dugout.

Fields
1. GYSBA Fields Director or a GYSBA Board Appointed Representative will determine if fields are playable for each practice or game day. A notification will be posted by 4:00 PM if a field is deemed “closed” for that day.
2. All teams are responsible to pick-up the trash at their assigned fields, dugouts as well as the bleachers. Please help keep the park neat and clean for players, families, and visitors.
3. Please contact the GYSBA Board members on issues that need any work/repair to promote a safe field sites.
4. Games on school fields cannot start before 2nd week of April without permission from the school administration.
   4.1. Games on High School Fields cannot start before High School graduation without permission from the school administration.
5. Games on City Fields can start once the fields are deemed “Open”, typically by April 1.
6. Fields must be vacated 60 minutes before scheduled games to provide time for field prep.
   6.1. Example: This means no 5:00 PM practice if there is a 6:00 PM game scheduled.
7. If a field is prepped (chalked and drug) for a game you may not have an infield practice, even if its 90 minutes before game start. Stay off a prepped field.

Equipment
1. We would like the Rec Coaches and Managers to encourage parents to buy batting helmets with face mask for their kids. It’s mainly due to health, personal hygiene reasons and a better fit for the kids. If a player is unable to provide their own batting helmet, one will be made available by the GYSBA.
2. GYSBA Rec will be provide one (1) uniform shirt and hat (baseball only), catchers protective equipment (no mitt), five (5) batting helmets, one (1) dozen game balls and two (2) dozen practice balls.
3. GYSBA Select shall not be provided uniforms. Game balls and practice balls, or an alternative option, will be provided. Catcher’s protective equipment (no mitt) is available upon request. Each player is required to purchase their own batting helmet with face mask.

Team & Individual Player Eligibility, Registrations, Refunds
1. Team Eligibility
   1.1. No GYSBA Team shall be allowed to compete with any player that has not first completed the GYSBA player registration process and paying GYSBA fees.
   1.2. GYSBA will maintain the official rosters of all teams.
   1.3. GYSBA will maintain all coaches, team managers & players current contact information.
2. Player Eligibility
2.1. A player that is found to be illegal due to an age division violation during or after a game or
tournament game is subject to disciplinary actions from the GYSBA Board in accordance, but not
limited to, USSSA Baseball Rules and USA Softball Rules.

2.2. All Rec Baseball Rules will follow those of USSSA Baseball except where noted herein. Click here
to view USSSA Baseball Rules.

2.3. For baseball age divisions 7U-14U, any player who before May 1st of the current season reaches
the listed age restriction in the birthday restriction column shall not be eligible to participate at the
listed age in the age division column and shall be required to play in the next older division.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Division</th>
<th>Birthday Restriction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7U Coach Pitch</td>
<td>Eight (8)</td>
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<td>8U Kid Pitch</td>
<td>Nine (9)</td>
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<td>10U</td>
<td>Eleven (11)</td>
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<td>12U</td>
<td>Thirteen (13)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14U</td>
<td>Fifteen (15)</td>
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3. All Rec Softball Rules will follow those of USA Softball except where noted herein. Click here to view USA
Softball Rules.

3.1. Any player who before January 1st of the current season reaches the listed age restriction in the
birthday restriction column, they must play at this age level, but may play in an older level.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Division</th>
<th>Birthday Restriction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8U</td>
<td>8 or under January 1</td>
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<td>10U</td>
<td>10 or under January 1</td>
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<td>12U</td>
<td>12 or under January 1</td>
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<td>14U</td>
<td>14 or under January 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>16U</td>
<td>16 or under January 1</td>
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4. Registration & Refunds

4.1. All registration fees shall be decided on by GYSBA Board of Directors. No refunds of registration or
other fees will be made after the player is assigned to a team. Exception: In extreme cases, a
refund (less administrative & processing fees) may be granted at a later date, subject to approval
by the GYSBA Executive Committee.

4.2. There will be a $25.00 processing fee per family charged on all checks returned from the bank for
any reason.

4.3. A scholarship fund will be established for hardship children who are unable to pay registration fees.
Requests for scholarships shall be made to either the Baseball or Softball Director and will be
approved by the President. As this fund will be limited, partial or scheduled payments will be
arranged whenever possible. Volunteer work within the organization and/or on the fields will be
requested or parents of scholarship recipients. Proof of hardship may be required.

Softball & Baseball Recreational Definition

1. The Recreational (Rec) League Program gives traditional league based teams to compete amongst teams
formed by a similar system. Age divisions shall include Tee Ball-14U.
1.1. The GYSBA Registration Coordinator will assign players to a team, in accordance with the rostering process, once a player has completed the registration process and have paid all registration fees.

1.2. All GYSBA Teams must have a roster of at least 75% Gretna School District Kids unless otherwise pre-approved by the GYSBA Board of Directors.

2. GYSBA Rec teams shall compete in-house if the age division has enough teams. If not they will compete against other area teams, or find a local league to join, at the discretion of the GYSBA Program Directors.

3. GYSBA Rec teams shall not compete against GYSBA Select teams, unless it is a scrimmage game only.

4. GYSBA Rec teams are equal opportunity teams. Coaches and Managers should try their best to give equal playing time to all players, regardless of skill level. All players should have an opportunity to play at least one (1) infield position per game, and should never sit more than 2 innings per game.

**Softball & Baseball Select Definition**

1. The Travel and Select League Program gives teams the opportunity to compete at a higher level of competition than the Recreational League. Age divisions shall include 8U - 16U.

1.1. Teams shall be formed through an open competitive tryout or recruiting process, at the Manager’s discretion.

1.2. GYSBA Baseball & Softball Directors will post a designated date & time for each age division open tryout. Team Managers are responsible for filling their rosters.

1.3. All GYSBA Teams must have a roster of at least 75% Gretna School District Kids unless otherwise pre-approved by the GYSBA Board of Directors.

1.4. Players must complete the GYSBA Select Registration process and pay the required fees before upon acceptance of a roster spot. Failure to do so by October 1st will result in removal from Select team unless pre-approved by GYSBA Board of Directors.

2. GYSBA Select Softball teams shall compete in open league or non-league game and tournament play under USSSA Softball, USA Softball, what other tournament sanctions are there? at the team’s discretion.

3. GYSBA Select Baseball teams shall compete in open non-league and tournament play under USSSA Baseball rules in A, AA, AAA or Majors division at the team’s discretion.

4. Equal playing time is suggested, but not guaranteed, for GYSBA Select teams. A Team Manager has full discretion to rotate players and lineups at any time.

**Softball Rules of Play**

**8U Recreational**

1. ASA/USA Softball rules apply unless specifically noted below, then local rules shall govern.

2. Game length will be 1 hour drop dead or 5 innings. Games may end in a tie.

3. Base length will be 60 feet with the pitching rubber at 35 feet with an 8 foot chalked pitching circle.

4. RIF1 (reduced injury factor) ball shall be used. Note: This is not a leather incrediball.

5. Innings and Outs:
   5.1. 5 inning maximum.
   5.2. 3 outs or 5 runs will conclude a half inning.
   5.3. Pitch maximum - Batter out occur after 5 pitches; with a max 8 pitches to account for foul balls. If 5th or last pitch is a foul ball, another pitch can be delivered until a maximum of 8 pitches. After the 8th pitch, the batter is out if the ball is not put into play.
   5.4. Caught foul ball is an out (regardless of pitch count) including a legitimate fly ball to the catcher. Batter is out on a “tipped” and caught 5th pitch.
   5.5. Infield fly rule is not in effect.
   5.6. Dropped third strike rule is not in effect.

6. Coach Pitch:
   6.1. The player fielding the pitcher’s position shall not pitch to the batters.
   6.2. The coach, from the offensive teams coaching staff, shall pitch the ball in an underhand motion to the batter.
   6.3. The coach shall start pitching from and maintain contact with the rubber, but may move forward at the umpire’s discretion, while staying in the pitcher’s circle, to deliver a hittable pitch.
6.4. The player fielding the pitcher’s position shall be no closer to home plate than the coach pitcher and be within the pitching circle.

7. Defense:
7.1. 10 player maximum in the field, eight minimum, no more than 4 infielders, 1 pitcher and 1 catcher. Borrowing from other team is allowed if coaches agree. Unlimited field substitutions allowed.
7.2. Outfielder must be positioned behind the base path/back side of the bases and cannot be in the infield.
7.3. No infielder may be closer than 27 feet to home plate.
7.4. No more than two coaches or volunteer parents may help direct from the outfield behind players (Pitching coach plus 2 coaches in the field).
7.4.1. Coaching moments are greatly encouraged, but coaches should refrain from guiding and touching players during live play. If ball hits any coach/parent assisting to coach in the field of play then it is live ball (e.g. umpires are part of the field).
7.4.2. Intentional directing or redirecting of the ball by the coach/parent is not allowed and the play shall be replayed.
7.5. Players should rotate positions every inning, at least one inning in the infield and one in the outfield. Players should have the opportunity to play all positions during the season.

8. Hitting:
8.1. No bunting.
8.2. All players will bat regardless if they are playing the field. Batting order must remain the same throughout the game. No penalty for players leaving the game (batting order) early.
8.3. All batters must have helmets with face guards when in the field of play and in the batting circle. Chin straps are not required, but if present must be used and secured properly.

9. Baserunning:
9.1. If a play is being made at first, players must run through first base by hitting the safety bag if present.
9.2. Dead ball occurs once an infielder has control and possession of the ball inside the base-paths in fair territory. Runners advance or return to the nearest base once the ball dead (e.g. a runner more than halfway to 2nd base can proceed to second base; a runner not half way to 2nd base would return to first base).
9.3. Leading offs is allowed once ball crosses home plate. Once in lead off position player may only advance forward if the ball is put in play. Runner is out if they leave the base prior to the ball crossing the place.
9.4. Stealing is not allowed. Player is only allowed to advance to the next base after the ball is struck by the batter.
9.5. Advancing one base on a maximum of one overthrow is allowed at the players own risk. Player may be put out in the attempt to advance. No continuous over throws – Max 1 overthrow and 1 base). Should a 2nd overthrow occur, the ball is dead and all base runners must return to their previously occupied bases without risk of being put-out.
9.6. Home is closed. A runner may advance home on an overthrow if the bases are loaded or the overthrow is at third base.
9.7. A base may not be blocked by a player unless they are in possession of the ball.
9.8. Close plays (tag outs), there shall be no intentional collisions allowed and player must slide or attempt to get around the fielder (without leaving the base path). If a collision occurs, the player can be called out at the umpire’s discretion for not avoiding the collision.

10U Recreational
1. ASA/USA Softball rules apply unless specifically noted below, then local rules shall govern.
2. Game length will be 1 hour 15 minutes drop dead (can finish the inning if no games follow) or 6 innings. Games may end in a tie. Tournament games will finish the inning until a winner is declared. Should extra innings be needed for a tournament game (i.e. time expired/completed last full inning), the offensive team will start with a runner (last out from prior inning) on second base.
3. Base length will be 60 feet with the pitching rubber at 35 feet with an 8 foot radius chalked circle.
4. Innings and Outs:
4.1. 6 inning maximum.
4.2. 3 outs or 5 runs will conclude an inning.
4.3. Caught foul ball is an out. Runners may advance at own risk.
4.4. Infield fly rule is not in effect.
4.5. Dropped third strike rule is not in effect.
4.6. Run rule - 10 run rule in 5 innings, 15 in four innings.

5. Pitching:
5.1. Two inning maximum for each player per game.
5.2. Pitcher/coach must start on the pitching rubber and her pitching motion must keep her inside the chalk circle.
5.3. Umpires will call balls and strikes for both player and coach pitch.
5.4. Coach to complete the at bat once 4 balls or a hit by pitch occurs (pitch that resulted in a hit by pitch is a ball). Strike/ball count remains. Coach has four pitches to complete the at bat; 1 extra pitch if last pitch is foul. Player out on after 4 coach pitches unless last pitch is foul. Batter is out after the extra pitch.

6. Defense:
6.1. 10 player maximum in the field, eight minimum. Borrowing from other team is allowed if coaches agree.
6.2. Unlimited field substitutions allowed.
6.3. One coach may help direct from the outfield behind the players.
   6.3.1. Coaching moments are greatly encouraged, but coaches should refrain from guiding and touching players during live play. If ball hits any coach/parent assisting to coach in the field of play then it is live ball (e.g. umpires are part of the field).
   6.3.2. Intentional directing or redirecting of the ball by the coach/parent is not allowed and the play shall be replayed.
6.4. Players must rotate positions. Players should have the opportunity to play all positions during the season.

7. Hitting:
7.1. Bunting is allowed only on a kid pitch; not on a coach pitch.
7.2. All players will bat regardless if they are playing the field. Batting order must remain the same throughout the game. No penalty for players leaving the game (batting order) early.

8. Base running:
8.1. If a play at first base, players must run through first base by hitting the safety bag if present.
8.2. Lead off allowed only after the ball has left the pitcher’s hand (can be called out for leaving early).
8.3. Stealing is allowed, only on player pitcher. One bag per attempt regardless of over thrown occurs or not.
8.4. Advancing one base on a maximum of one overthrow is allowed at the players own risk. Player may be put out in the attempt to advance. No continuous over throws – Max 1 over throw and 1 base. Should a 2nd overthrow occur, the ball is dead immediately and all base runners must return to their previously occupied bases without risk of being put-out.
8.5. Home is closed. The only way to score is when a ball is in play. A runner may advance home on an overthrow if the bases are loaded or the overthrow is at third base.
8.6. A base may not be blocked by a player unless they are in possession of the ball.
8.7. Close plays (tag outs), there shall be no intentional collisions allowed and player must slide or attempt to get around the fielder (without leaving the base path). If a collision occurs, the player can be called out at the umpire’s discretion for not avoiding the collision.

9. Base running “Look Back Rule / Pitching Circle Clarification”
9.1. According to the USA/ASA fastpitch softball rule book, the look back rule specifies that when the pitcher has control of the ball inside the pitcher’s circle and does not attempt to make a play on any runner, then all runners who are on base must stay on the base.
9.2. On the other hand, any runner off the base must either go back to the previous base or advance to the next base without any hesitation/without looking back. This means that if the runner off base, while on her way to any base either stops or changes direction, then she will be called out.
Baseball Rules of Play

Tee Ball Recreational (Ages 4-5)

1. Field Dimensions:
   1.1. Base length is 50 feet.
   2. Two adult coaches will be positioned behind the infield to provide verbal instruction to infield and outfield players.
   3. One coach will be behind home plate to help batters and speed the game along.
   4. Either a coach or parent will be placed at first base and third base to help base runners.
   5. Players and coaches are not permitted to pitch in games.
   6. There are no outs recorded.
   7. All players will play defense.
      7.1. Extra players will be placed in the outfield areas.
      7.2. One player will be placed at the pitcher mound no less than 30 feet away from home plate.
      7.3. Infield positions will be filled as follows 1st, 2nd, SS, and 3rd. With extra players in the outfield.
   8. All batters will use a tee to hit the ball.
      8.1. Entire roster will bat but only six batters per inning.
      8.2. Last batter will clear bases. Inform the coach of other team when the last batter is up.
      8.3. Coaches are recommended to rotate the batting line up every game.
   9. One base is allowed per hit, no extra bases are allowed.
 10. Game Conclusion:
      10.1. Game play will be completed after One Hour (1:00).
      10.1.1. No new inning after Fifty minutes (:50).

7U Coach Pitch Recreational (Ages 6-7)

1. Field Dimensions:
   1.1. Base length is 60 feet
   1.2. Pitching rubber is 35 feet (note USSSA rules state 40 feet for the pitching rubber).
2. Coaches will follow the rules of 8U Recreational **for the final 3 games of the season ONLY**.
3. Coaches will pitch from the knee position to all batters from the pitching rubber.
4. Two (2) adult coaches are allowed to be positioned behind the outfielders while their team is on defense. They can verbally realign players prior to the pitch, but cannot interfere with players or ball once it is hit.
5. Teams will bat their entire roster.
6. Batters will be pitched 8 balls and batter can strike out after 3 strikes.
7. Runners are allowed to run to the next base if ball is hit into the outfield. Runners do not have to stop until the ball is thrown back into the infield.
8. Once ball is thrown back into the infield time is called and no play should be made, and players should return to their previously occupied base.
9. Runners cannot advance on an overthrow.
10. The batter must hit the ball or strikeout after 3 swings.
11. No stealing or lead-offs are allowed.
12. Pitchers cannot "pick off" runners.
13. An inning ends after batting the entire lineup, 3 outs or 5 runs whichever one comes first.
14. Defense is allowed to play 10 players, including 4 outfielders.
15. Defensive players are not allowed to play the same position more than 2 innings in the same game.
16. Players will be allowed to pitch during the last 3 games of the season.
   16.1. Pitchers can only pitch 2 innings per game and those innings must be consecutive. Once a player is removed from the pitching position, they cannot re-enter the pitching position during that game.
   16.2. Pitchers are limited to 4 innings pitched per week.
   16.3. Pitchers will pitch to a batter until there are 3 strikes, 4 balls or a hit batter.
   16.4. If 4 balls, or a hit batter occurs the coach will come in to finish the at bat.
      16.4.1. The batter will maintain the amount of strikes recorded during the kid pitch portion of the at bat until there is a 3rd strike recorded and the batter is out or until there is a batted ball in fair territory.
17. Game Conclusion:
17.1. No 10-run mercy rule.
17.2. Game play will be completed after 6 innings or One Hour and Thirty minutes (1:30), whichever comes first.
  17.2.1. No new inning after One Hour and Fifteen minutes (1:15).

8U Recreational (Ages 8 & Under)
8U Select refer to USSSA rules
These rules were formed with the goal of developing players that are ready to graduate to 9-10 (10U) baseball next year and contribute to that team’s success. 8U baseball is a transitional and critical year in the development of Gretna baseball talent. Critical positions that need development are pitchers and catchers. As coaches and educators we must develop proper techniques and provide the proper education to ensure that the kids in these positions and other positions will be ready to play 10U baseball next year.

1. Field Dimensions:
   1.1. Base length is 60 feet.
   1.2. Pitching mound is 40 feet (USSSA rule).
2. A parent or coach behind catcher to speed up the game. He/she will field pitched passed balls.
3. Parent or Coach umpires from behind the pitcher or catcher (Umpires choice).
4. Score will be kept.
5. Max 2 games/week
6. Defense is allowed to play 10 players, including 4 outfielders.
   6.1. Coaches must rotate players every inning.
   6.2. Player cannot sit more than 1 inning per game
   6.3. Player may not play the same defensive position more than 2 innings per game.
7. Pitching:
   7.1. Players will pitch 3 strikes or 4 balls. If batter does not hit or gets hit by kid pitcher, Coach will step in and pitch until batter hits the ball or strikes out.
   7.2. Coach will pitch from the rubber and the batter will maintain the amount of strikes recorded during the kid pitch portion of the at bat until there is a 3rd strike recorded and the batter is out or until there is a batted ball in fair territory.
   7.3. Pitchers are only allowed 50 pitches a game
   7.3.1. If a pitchers throws 30 or more pitches in one-inning, they are ineligible to pitch any more that game.
8. Teams will bat their entire roster.
9. Batters can strike out.
10. No bunting.
11. No dropped third strike.
12. No base stealing or leading off.
13. Home plate is closed, meaning the only way to score a run is on a batted ball in fair territory or a bases loaded walk.
14. No infield fly rule.
15. Runners are allowed to run to the next base if ball is hit into the outfield. Runners do not have to stop until the ball is thrown back into the infield.
16. Once ball is thrown back into the infield time is called and no play should be made, and players should return to their previously occupied base.
17. An inning ends after batting the entire lineup, 3 outs or 5 runs whichever one comes first.
18. Conclusion of Game:
   18.1. No 10-run mercy rule.
   18.2. Game play will be completed after 6 innings or One Hour and Thirty minutes (1:30), whichever comes first.
   18.2.1. No new inning after One Hour and Fifteen minutes (1:15).

10U Recreational (Ages 9-10)
9U & 10U Select refer to USSSA rules
Any player who is ten years old (10) or younger on April 30 is eligible to play in this age group. Ten years old and under (10U) age group will play FULL BASEBALL rules.

1. Field Dimensions:
   1.1. Base length is 65 feet.
   1.2. Pitching mound is 46 feet.
2. Steel cleats are not allowed.
3. Pitching:
   3.1. Pitchers will be allowed to pitch 3 innings or 60 pitches per game, 5 innings or 80 pitches per day and 10 innings or 100 pitches per calendar week.
   3.2. Pitchers will be given two (2) balk warnings per pitcher per inning. The ball will be declared dead for the warnings.
4. Teams will bat their entire roster.
5. No dropped third strike.
6. Infield fly rule is in effect.
7. Baserunning:
   7.1. Runners cannot lead off.
   7.2. Runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit or has reached or passed home plate.
   7.3. If a runner leaves before the pitched ball has been hit or has reached or passed home plate, the runner will be called out and the pitch shall be considered a dead ball.
   7.4. Runner may steal second and third base, but shall not leave the base before the pitched ball has been hit or has reached or passed home plate.
   7.5. Runners can advance only one base at his/her own risk, if there is a play made on any runner on any base.
   7.6. Once the ball has reached the infield or the pitcher, time should be called.
8. Catchers cannot be a base runner if there are two (2) outs. The previous runner who made an out must run for the catcher to help with the speed of play.
9. Home plate is closed, meaning the only way to score a run is on a batted ball in fair territory or a bases loaded walk.
10. No player may sit on the bench for more than one (1) consecutive inning and must return to the game after sitting out one (1) consecutive inning, and not to exceed five (5) defensive outs per game, except in the event of injury or discipline.
   10.1. A player that is injured must sit out a full complete inning before returning to the game.
   10.2. The injured player cannot bat or play defense until he has sat out 1 complete inning.
11. An inning ends after batting the entire lineup or 3 outs, whichever one comes first.
   11.1. The Coach of the batting team much notify the other team when last batter is up to bat.
   11.2. Example: Team 1 has 10 players and Team 2 has 12 players.
       11.2.1. Team 1 can bat 10 players per inning and Team 12 can bat 12 players per inning.
       11.2.2. When the last batter comes to the plate, two (2) outs will be declared.
12. Conclusion of Game:
   12.1. Game play will be completed after 6 innings or Two hours (2:00), whichever comes first.
       12.1.1. No new inning after One Hour and Fifty minutes (1:50), even if the game is tied.
       12.1.1.1. For purposes of the One Hour and Fifty minutes (1:50) time limit, the next inning begins when the last pitch is thrown from the previous inning. This will eliminate the intentional stalling between innings by the lead team.

12U Recreational (Ages 11-12)

11U & 12U Select refer to USSSA rules

Any player who is twelve years old (12) or younger on April 30 is eligible to play in this age group. Twelve years old and under (12U) age group will play FULL BASEBALL rules.

1. Field Dimensions:
   1.1. Base length is 70 feet.
   1.2. Pitching mound is 50 feet.
2. Steel cleats are not allowed.
3. Pitching:
   3.1. Pitchers will be allowed to pitch 4 innings or 80 pitches per game, 6 innings or 90 pitches per day and 10 innings or 100 pitches per calendar week.
   3.2. Pitchers will be given one (1) balk warning per pitcher per inning. The ball will be declared dead for the warnings.

4. Teams will bat their entire roster.

5. Dropped 3rd strike is in effect.

6. Infield fly rule is in effect.

7. Baserunning:
   7.1. Runners can lead off.
   7.2. Runners may leave the base at any time the ball is deemed live and in play.
   7.3. Runners may steal all bases at any time the ball is deemed live and in play.
   7.4. Once the ball has reached the infield or the pitcher, time must be called and granted by an umpire before the ball is deemed dead. Umpires discretion as to whether or not runner(s) must return to previous occupied base.

8. Catchers cannot be a base runner if there are two (2) outs. The previous runner who made an out must run for the catcher to help with the speed of play.

9. Home plate is open.

10. No player may sit on the bench for more than one (1) consecutive inning and must return to the game after sitting out one (1) consecutive inning, and not to exceed five (5) defensive outs per game, except in the event of injury or discipline.
   10.1. A player that is injured must sit out a full complete inning before returning to the game.
   10.2. The injured player cannot bat or play defense until he has sat out 1 complete inning.

11. An inning ends after recording 3 outs.

12. Conclusion of Game:
   12.1. Game play will be completed after 7 innings or Two hours (2:00), whichever comes first.
   12.1.1. No new inning after One Hour and Fifty minutes (1:50), even if the game is tied.
   12.1.1.1. For purposes of the One Hour and Fifty minutes (1:50) time limit, the next inning begins when the last pitch is thrown from the previous inning. This will eliminate the intentional stalling between innings by the lead team.

14U Recreational (Ages 13-14)
13U & 14U Select refer to USSSA rules

Any player who is fourteen years old (14) or younger on April 30 is eligible to play in this age group. Fourteen years old and under (14U) age group will play FULL BASEBALL rules.

1. Field Dimensions:
   1.1. Base length is 80 feet. (Note, some leagues will use 90 foot bases)
   1.2. Pitching mound is 54 feet. (Note, some leagues will use 60 foot, 6 inches for pitching mound).

2. All other rules are consistent with those found above in 12U Recreational rules

Tournaments
1. GYSBA Rec tournaments will use the GYSBA rules.
2. All other tournament for 8U-14U Select will use USSSA rules for tournament play.

Softball and Baseball Scheduling of Games
1. The appointed or elected GYSBA Scheduler is the only person allowed to assign home or practice time slots. If the GYSBA Scheduler is not available for any reason the GYSBA President may appoint a temporary or permanent replacement.
2. GYSBA will provide assigned game times and fields for all GYSBA Recreational and Select softball and baseball team ages Tee Ball-16U.
3. All teams 10U and younger shall not schedule 8:00 PM starts on school nights until the last week of school.
4. All homes games must be scheduled and approved through GYSBA Board processes in order to be an officially recognized game and to have an umpire assigned.
5. Weekend schedules start with the late times (8:00 PM and 6:00 PM) and work up to 2:00 PM. Only go to 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM as needed. This will help with rain-outs.

6. Only assign 8:00 PM weeknight starts from the 3rd week of May through June due to school conflicts.

7. Teams can trade game times and practice times. The GYSBA Scheduler MUST be notified so that the official schedule can be updated correctly.

8. Games always take priority over practice, even if a younger team’s game needs to bump an older team’s practice.

9. Practice slots are 5:00 PM, 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM. Practice times are a maximum of 90 minutes. The early team gets the infield for 60 minutes, then must yield the infield to the next practice and move to the outfield.

   9.1. Example: 5:00 PM practice gets the infield until 6:00 PM and then they move to the outfield and let the 6:00 PM practice have the infield.

10. The batting cages are not automatically given to the team using NP1. They are scheduled independently to allow teams on NP2-NP5 equal access.

11. NP1 batting cages are able to be scheduled to a different team during a game.

12. Wednesday night Gretna men’s softball league does not get the batting cages. They are open to GYSBA for scheduling.

13. Recreational:

   13.1.1. GYSBA will provide a complete season schedule for all Recreational team ages Tee Ball-16U.
   13.1.2. All 8U Coach Pitch softball games will be scheduled by GYSBA with the potential to have games in other towns.
   13.1.3. All 10U-16U softball games will be scheduled according to the competitive leagues participating with the GYSBA. Select teams participating with MOS will have double headers scheduled ONE night per week with all games played in the Omaha Metro. Select teams participating with Todd Valley will have their games scheduled at the discretion of the teams coach. These games will be both home and away. Recreational teams 10U-14U will have games scheduled through the RAINBOW LEAGUE in conjunction with Metro Omaha Softball, these games will be both home and away. (Is this accurate?)
   13.1.4. GYSBA Baseball Rec team ages Tee Ball-10U will be assigned a minimum of 10, not to exceed 15, game times and fields.
   13.1.5. GYSBA Baseball Rec teams age 12U-14U will be assigned a minimum of 15, not to exceed 25, game times and fields with one additional tournament.
   13.1.6. Recreational Teams will be focused on weekend games with scheduling moving to weeknight games as needed due to field constraints.
   13.1.7. Recreational teams will be assigned schedules by April 1.

14. Select:

   14.1.1. GYSBA Select Softball and Baseball Managers ages 8U-16U are required to find home and away opponents. The GYSBA will not build a complete season home/away schedule for these teams.

      14.1.1.1. Baseball Select teams ages 8U-14U will be assigned 15 home game times and fields.
      14.1.1.2. Baseball Select teams will be assigned schedules by October 1 for the next year.
      14.1.1.3. Select team ages 8U-14U shall limit the total games/season to 50, not including tournaments.

15. Additional home games can be purchased:

   15.1. GYSBA teams: $40 1 ump, $80 2 umps
   15.2. Non-GYSBA teams: $50 1 ump, $90 2 umps -- needs to be changed

Umpires

1. GYSBA shall schedule all games through Metro Umpires for all paid umpires.

2. Recreational:

   2.1. Ages 7U Coach Pitch-8U will use parents and/or coaches as umpires.
   2.2. Ages 10U-16U Rec League teams shall have one (1) umpire per game.

3. Select:
3.1. Ages 8U-11U Select Baseball teams shall have one (1) umpire per game.

3.2. Ages 12U-14U Select Baseball Teams shall have two (2) umpires per game.

4. The umpires shall be responsible for the conduct of the game in accordance with these rules and for maintaining discipline and order on the playing field during the game.

5. Each umpire is the representative of GYSBA, and is authorized and required to enforce the rules of the Association.

5.1. Each umpire has authority to order a player, coach, manager, sponsor or spectator to do or refrain from doing anything, which affects the administering of these rules, and to enforce the prescribed penalties.

5.2. Each umpire has authority to disqualify any player, coach or manager for objecting to decisions or for unsportsmanlike conduct or language, and to eject such disqualified person from the playing field.

5.3. Each umpire has authority at his discretion to eject from the playing field any person whose duties permit his presence on the field and any spectator or other person not authorized to be on the field.

6. Any umpire’s decision which involves judgment, such as, but not limited to, whether a batted ball is fair or foul, whether a pitch is a strike or a ball, or whether a runner is safe or out, is final. No player, coach or manager shall object to any such judgment decisions.

6.1. Comment: Players leaving their position in the field or on base, or managers or coaches leaving the bench or coaches box, to argue balls and strikes shall not be permitted. They should be warned if they start for the plate to protest the call. If they continue, they will be ejected from the game.

7. If there is reasonable doubt that any umpire’s decision may be in conflict with the rules, the manager may appeal the decision and ask that a correct ruling be made. Such appeal shall be made only to the umpire who made the protested decision.

8. If a decision is appealed, the umpire making the decision may ask another umpire for information before making a final decision. No umpire shall criticize, seek to reverse or interfere with another umpire’s decision unless asked to do so by the umpire making it.

9. Immediately following a game, the umpire shall report to the league / tournament officials all violations of rules and other incidents worthy of comment, including the disqualification of any player, coach or manager and the reasons therefore.

10. All umpires must be certified by the appropriate governing bodies for umpires.

Sportsmanship and Ejections

1. Zero tolerance for acts of violence, bullying, and abusive language

2. All players, coaches, managers, sponsors and spectators are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. Acts of suspension: A team, team member, manager, team official or umpire may be suspended for any of the following:

2.1. Unsportsmanlike conduct.

2.2. Physical violence, such as an attack on an umpire, player, player’s parent, tournament official or other participant immediately preceding, during or immediately following a game or practice.

2.3. Commission of fraud, such as playing under an assumed name, falsifying an affidavit or roster or giving false information to tournament officials.

2.4. Participating when they do not meet the eligibility requirements governing play.

2.5. Commission of any act while participating in GYSBA activities such as; failure to pay indebtedness, destruction of property, violation of state or local laws or any other acts that are contrary to the objectives and purposes of GYSBA.

2.6. Participation (including spectators) under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.

3. Any player, coach, manager, sponsor or spectator whose conduct is unbecoming or abusive shall at a minimum be reprimanded with a warning. If warranted, the offending party shall be ejected from the game at the discretion of the Umpires and / or the League / Tournament Director.

4. Any player, coach, manager, sponsor or spectator leaving their position or base, in the field, on the bench, in the dugout area or grandstands to participate in a fight, brawl or altercation shall be immediately ejected from the game and may be disbarred/suspended.
5. Any coach, manager, sponsor or spectator ejected from a game shall immediately remove himself from the vicinity of the playing field and / or grandstands for the remainder of the game. Additional penalties may be assessed at the discretion of the League / Tournament Director.

6. Any player ejected from a game shall either immediately remove him/ herself from the vicinity of the playing field for the remainder of the game or be confined to the dugout area for the remainder of the game at the discretion of the League / Tournament Director.

7. All persons ejected may be asked to leave the park and / or venue at the discretion of the League / Tournament Director.

8. Abusive language or cursing shall not be tolerated under any circumstances and shall result in an automatic ejection.

9. Throwing of equipment shall result in an automatic ejection.

10. If necessary, a team may be forced to forfeit a game and / or be removed from the league / tournament.

11. As these rules indicate, the matter of disorderly conduct shall be taken seriously. The leagues / tournaments your team will be participating in will include some of the finest baseball teams in the area. The level of competition will be high and at times fierce. Because of this, please remind all players, coaches, managers, sponsors and spectators to be extra aware of good sportsmanship.

12. All Parents must sign and agree to the GYSBA Parents code of conduct. This document will be kept on file in the GYSBA League offices.

13. All coaches and team managers must sign and agree to the coach's code of conduct. This document will be kept on file in the GYSBA League offices.

Acts of Disbarment / Suspension

1. Acts of disbarment / suspension include:

   1.1. Physical attack on an umpire, tournament official, Association Director or Association Officer during a game or immediately following a game, played under the administration of the Association.

   1.2. Players, coaches, managers, or sponsors threatening an umpire, tournament official, Association Director or Association Officer.

   1.3. Any players, coaches, manager, sponsor, director or officer fighting, using unsportsmanlike conduct or abusive tactics or derogatory or unbecoming acts that could be detrimental to the Association and not in the best interests of GYSBA Baseball.

   1.4. Destruction of property or the abuse of hotel / motel property or failure to pay hotel / motel bills.

   1.5. Participating in a tournament in which cash prizes are offered.

   1.5.1. Comment: A cash prize is defined as a prize or prizes in cash or in merchandise that is easily converted into cash that is awarded to players or teams based on the final standings of a tournament or other competition. A player or team may receive reimbursement for actual expenses incurred, as long as the amount of the reimbursement is not dependent on the final standings of the event. These acts shall apply to an individual player as well as a team or sponsor.

   1.6. Paying or receiving compensation in consideration of participating in baseball competition. These acts shall apply to an individual player as well as a team or sponsor.

   1.7. Receiving money directly or indirectly by capitalizing on athletic ability, athletic prominence, or athletic fame in baseball except that a player or team may use his name and likeness to advertise, recommend, or promote the sale of baseball sporting goods equipment or other goods or services if it is done pursuant to a registered personal services contract.

   1.8. By knowingly competing with or against illegal or disbarred / suspended player, coach or manager.

   1.9. By participating in or permitting a fraud to be perpetuated.

   1.10. Any official of the Association who refuses to submit funds to the Association that is due the Association.

   1.11. Competing under an assumed name, altered (miss-spelled) name, and or date of birth.

   1.12. Submitting a check, for any reason, that cannot be negotiated for payment.

   1.13. Failure to appear after entering a State Championship and / or World Series unless reasonable advance notice is given. The GYSBA Board shall determine what "reasonable advance notice" is.

   1.14. Purposely using false information to damage, harm, hurt, impair or mar the Association.

   1.15. An illegal player as defined by the GYSBA Board may be disbarred / suspended for one year.
2. Only GYSBA Officers and/or the GYSBA Board, have the authority to issue disbarments/suspensions for a period of one year from the time of the incident.

3. The offending party may appear at the convening of the GYSBA Board and give evidence on his behalf as to why the additional disbarment/suspension should not be imposed. The decision of the GYSBA Board shall be final and binding and is not subject to appeal.

4. Players or other announced participants, who have been disbarred/suspended or declared illegal, may use the appeal process procedure set forth in the constitution, except as limited by the provisions of USSSA.

5. The GYSBA Board has the authority to issue indefinite disbarments/suspensions for players, teams, and other announced participants who fail to meet financial responsibilities to that state’s association.

Weather Conditions
1. All individuals in direct participation or observation of GYSBA events are responsible for their own safety. No weather guideline guarantees safety. All individuals should monitor threatening weather conditions both before and during the activity. Common sense and good judgment should be used. Managers/coaches and umpires should determine whether or not to suspend play. If a thunderstorm appears likely to occur during an event postpone or suspend the activity until the threat passes. This may include suspending the event prior to spotting lightning. In the event of lightning, play should be suspended immediately. All individuals have the right to leave any site or activity to seek a safer environment. Suspension of play for at least 30 should be instituted due to lightning. The 30 minute waiting period may be extended but not shortened if thunderstorm activity persists. Safety is the first priority, games and practices may be made up later.

Sponsors
1. Team sponsors will be solicited for each baseball and softball team.
   1.1. The Board of Directors shall determine the fee to be paid by each sponsor. All sponsor’s fees shall be paid into the corporation treasury.
   1.2. A sponsor may elect, at their expense, to install a billboard sign on the field of their choice. Signs must be 4’ x 8’ and professionally painted. Signs must be kept in good order. All advertising signs must be approved by the Board of Directors prior to installation. Advertising of tobacco, alcohol, or other subject matter not conducive to children shall not be allowed.