

Elmora Youth Little League Local Rules

General Rules

We will be following the “2021 Official Regulations and Playing Rules” established by Little League for baseball and softball. Each manager has received a copy of the rulebook. If a manager needs a copy of the rulebook, please contact your division coordinator.

Please note that no other rules exist; the rule must appear in the above-mentioned rulebooks or on these pages of the EYL League Book.

- 1) The six divisions of 2018 EYL Baseball are:
 - a) 6 teams - Tee Ball for players league age 4 to 5
 - b) 7 teams - Pioneer for players league age 6 to 7
 - c) 4 teams - Rookie for players league age 7 to 9
 - d) 5 teams - Minors for players league age 8 to 11
 - e) 4 teams - Majors for players league age 10 to 12
 - f) 2 teams – Junior/Senior Baseball for players league age 13 to 16
- 2) The four divisions of 2018 EYL Softball are:
 - a) 4 teams - Teeners softball for players in grades K to 2nd
 - b) 2 teams - Ponytails softball for players in grades 3rd to 5th
 - c) 2 teams – Middle School softball for players in grades 6th to 8th
 - d) 2 teams – High School Softball for players in grades 9th to 12th
- 3) Each team must have at least **1 Manager, 2 Coaches and 1 team mother**. A team may have up to 3 coaches and 2 team mothers. Please note that PARENTS are not allowed to be on the field or in the dugout. All coaches must be certified to be on the field by our background check process.
 - a) Each rookie, minors and majors team must appoint a coach as the team record keeper. That person is responsible for reporting pitch counts to the league. See rule 23 a.
 - b) **Number of Coaches in Dugout** - There is a maximum of **four (4)** coaches allowed in the dugout with the players. (1-Manager, 2-Coaches and 1-Scorekeeper). All managers and coaches **must be in their EYL coach shirt** during the game. Managers and Coaches are not allowed to wear player uniform jerseys while performing the role of Little League Coach.
If a team has an excess of volunteers, a trade should be made to move players of potential coaches and team moms to teams that are shorthanded.
- 4) Per Little League rules, the **EYL President appoints all managers** with approval of the EYL Executive Board.

- 5) **Rating Process:** All players age 7 and older must attend the rating session to participate in any level of Elmora Youth League. Failure to attend the tryouts may result in termination from the league for the player. Players age 7 have the option to attend ratings who remain in the Pioneer Baseball division.
- 6) **Player Draft:** The Ratings and Draft for each of our divisions are run by the team managers. Once a player is selected by a manager, they are required to play for the team. Unless the player is traded.
 - a) **The draft** order for all divisions will use Little League rule “Method in First Year of Operation – Plan A” for the draft.
 - b) All **11 and 12 year old baseball** players will be drafted into the major league. A parent, wishing to have their 11-year-old player must make a request to the EYLL President. A 12-year-old player needs to file for a Little League exemption. Please see the Major League coordinator.
- 7) **Major League Baseball Vacancies:** All major league teams will maintain a roster of 12 players. When a vacancy occurs because of injury or withdrawal from the league, the Team Manager must select a 10, 11 or 12 year old baseball player from the minor league. This is not an option. If the manager does not select a player, then the EYL Executive Board is required to place a player on the Major League Team. *Minor League managers must understand that placement on a Major League team is the objective of Little League Baseball and they should work with the league to accomplish this goal for the player.*
 - a) No player will be called up from the Minor League to a Major League team in the last two weeks of the regular season. (See Little League regulation III (d)2)
- 8) **Player Trades:** Player may be traded to another team within their division. The particulars of the trade must be decided by the two team managers and all Little League rules apply with regards to trading.
 - a) The division coordinator will review all trades and present them to the EYL Executive board for approval.
 - b) *Per Little League Rules: The division coordinator must monitor any attempts by managers and parents to manipulate the system and thus create an imbalance in the league. ALL TRADES*

MUST BE FOR JUSTIFIABLE REASONS AND BE APPROVED BY THE EYL EXECUTIVE BOARD

- c) Per Little League rules, the deadline for trades is 2 weeks after the season starts.
- 9) **Protests** – The team manager must issue the protest immediately to the plate umpire.
- a) Only the team manager may address the umpire regarding a call made on the field.
 - b) If the assistant coaches (*named as coach in the league book*) address the umpire, they may be ejected from the game and face possible suspension or dismissal from the league.
- 10) **Dismissal of Player:** Any player who is out of the lineup for more than three consecutive weeks (or six games.) is subject to being removed from his/her team by action of the EYLL Executive Board. However, the board reserves the right to allow such player to remain on the roster. Managers must make the division coordinator aware if any player missed more than two consecutive games for any reason. Failure to do so will be cause for corrective action against the manager. (See LL regulation III (d))
- 11) **Playoffs** - At the end of the season, the EYL Executive Board will determine if there will be playoffs for each division. If there will be playoffs, then the playoff format will be based on the calendar. Some (*but not all*) of the options are (1) a one game playoff of the top two teams, (2) a single elimination, or (3) a double elimination.
- a) Playoff games are six innings for Rookies, Minors, Majors and Ponytails. Middle School Softball and High School Softball games are seven innings.
 - i) Games are subject to a 2-hour time limit. In case of a shortened game the game is official once the time limit is reached; the score reverts back if the visitor takes the lead in the top of an inning.
 - b) Playoff Seeding
 - i) Seeding for the Minors and Majors divisions will be
 - 1 – Best win percentage (*not necessarily most wins*)
 - 2 – Head to Head
 - 3 – Runs Allowed
 - 4 – Coin flip

- ii) Seeding for Ponytails and Middle School will be based on a point system. Teams will receive 2 points for an EYL vs EYL win and ½ point for an Interleague Softball win.
 - 1 – Best point total (*not necessarily most wins*)
 - 2 – Head to Head
 - 3 – Runs Allowed
 - 4 – Coin flip
- 12) **Temporary player call-ups** – If the manager knows they will be short players for a game, they are allowed to bring up a player or players from the lower division.
- a) If a manager brings up a player and there are adequate team players to field a team, then the called-up player may only play the minimum number of innings. Three innings in Minors, Majors and Ponytails. Four innings in Middle School Softball.
 - b) If there is an injury or player needs to leave early, then the rule 15 a) is no longer in effect. *Please remember that a manager who constantly brings up unneeded players is affecting the playing time of their team members.*
 - c) Called up players may not pitch in either baseball or softball.
 - d) Only minor league players that are age 10, 11 or 12 may be used as a substitute in the major league. **Nine year olds** may not play in any Major League baseball game. Eligible players are noted on the minor league team pages.
 - i) Using a nine-year-old in a major league game is an automatic forfeit for the team that violates the rule.
 - ii) The Manager of the team is also suspended from managing the next game.
 - e) Only Rookie players aged 8 and 9 are allowed to play in a Minors Game. Eligible players are noted in the league book
 - f) **Pioneer players are not allowed to play in a Rookie Game.**
- 13) **Uniforms** - All players must be in complete uniform. The complete baseball uniform is the EYLL team jersey, any baseball cap, white baseball pants and the Little League patch on left sleeve. For softball, the uniform is the EYLL team jersey, a headband, black pants and the Little League patch on the left sleeve.

- a) The league issued uniform may not be modified. The name of the sponsor may not be changed. Violations of this rule will result of termination of the team manager.
- 14) **Minimum players to start a game** - A team must have at least 8 players for baseball and at least 7 players for softball to start and end a game. (This rule does not apply to Majors.) There will be 10-minute grace period before that game is cancelled.
- a) Major League Baseball must have 9 players to start and they may finish with 8 players. The missing 9th position is counted as an out.
 - b) **Automatic Outs** - There will an automatic out given to a baseball team that is short of 9 players in the 9th batting position. This rule does not apply to softball.
- 15) **All players must bat** in the lineup.
- a) If a player leaves early or leaves the field of play due to sickness or injury, the position is skipped and no out is awarded, as long as the team maintains a minimum of 9 players.
 - i) This rule does not apply to softball.
 - b) If any player arrives late to a game, they are added to the bottom of the batting order. Please see Little League Rule 4.01d. This includes suspended games. *Therefore, in a continued game, the batting order may not change, and new players are placed at the end of the batting order.*
 - c) All players **must play at least half the game** in the field. (E.g. 3 innings in a 6-inning game.) Players may not sit 2 consecutive defensive innings unless for disciplinary or physical reasons.
 - d) In Rookies, Minors and Ponytails softball, there are 10 players on the field (6 infield and 4 outfield).
- 16) Please see Little League rule on page 81. The batter must have both feet in the batter's box.
- 17) **Postponements** - Game postponements are discouraged, and they may not be granted. If a team lacks players, they must draw from the lower division to field enough players to form a team for a scheduled game.
- a) If a team cannot play due to lack of players, the game may be forfeited, per action of the EYL Executive Board.

- b) The Manager must give enough notice (6 days) to the schedule maker to insure a replacement game can be scheduled in the open slot.

Managers are strongly encouraged to make sure they have enough players for each scheduled game and to take appropriate action to call up lower level players if necessary. The objective is to finish the season on time without unnecessary delay.

- 18) **Free substitutions** at all positions except pitcher in baseball. In softball, a team may substitute the pitcher as long as the pitcher remains on the field. Reminder, any part of an inning pitched is a full inning.
- 19) **Safety Rules**
 - a) **Flinging the Bat** - If a player flings the Bats. The entire team is warned. The next time a player on the team flings or throws the bat. The player is called out and all base runners must return to the original base.
 - b) **Avoiding Contact** - If there is a play being made at 2nd base, 3rd base or home plate, the player must slide or avoid contact. Intentional contact in which, in the umpire's judgment, the runner made no effort to surrender or to avoid contact will be called out.
 - c) **Mandatory Facemasks** - Facemasks on helmets are mandatory for all levels of Elmora Youth League with the exception of the Majors Baseball Division. The Majors are allowed to use C-Flap Helmets.
- 20) **Curfews** - For night games there will be a curfew. No new inning may start after the curfew time of 10:00 pm on non-school nights and 9:45 pm on school nights.
 - a) The new inning begins as soon as the last out is recorded in the bottom of an inning.
 - b) For Middle School Softball, the curfew is 10:00 pm on school nights.
- 21) **Time Limits**
 - a) Tee Ball – 1 hour, 30 minutes for all games.
 - b) Pioneer, Rookies, Minors and Majors – 2 hours for all games.
 - c) Junior/Senior Baseball is governed by the Union Teener League
 - d) Teener Softball – 1 hour, 30 minutes for all games.

- e) Ponytails, Middle School and High School Softball – 2 hours for all games.
- f) **For all divisions**, the game ends 10 minutes prior to the start time of the next scheduled game. This rule supersedes the above published time limits.
 - i) If the visiting team takes the lead in the top half of the last inning in a shortened game (due to time limit or next scheduled game), the score reverts to the previous complete inning.
 - ii) Any game, which ends due to a time limit or darkness, is an official game no matter how many or how few innings have been played (and no matter who is batting or what the score). This does not include Majors baseball.
 - iii) If a game is shortened by weather, then it is official if 4 innings are completed, 3 ½ if the home team is leading at the bottom of the fourth
 - (1) In Middle School and High School Softball, the game is official if 4 innings are completed, 4 ½ if the home team is leading in the bottom of the fifth.
 - iv) A scheduled practice does **not** take priority over a game. The team must wait for the game to complete.

*All team managers are encouraged to start games on time and to keep games moving between innings. Please make sure your catchers are dressed and ready to go whenever your team is taking the field for defense. **The purpose of this rule is to play as many games as possible on the Hanratty and Sissleman fields. Let's work together for the enjoyment of all families.***

22) Practice Fields

- a) Warinanco Park - Elmora Youth League holds permits for fields 6, 7 and 10 for specific dates and times. The league does not reserve fields for practice and the coaches may use open fields on a first come, first served basis. An EYL scheduled games take priority over practice.
 - i) If you arrive at a field and find a non-EYL team using the field, please show them a copy of our field permit to use the field. If there is an issue, please contact the UC Police Department at 908 654-9800.

- b) Hanratty and Sissleman Fields – Open slots on these fields are scheduled by the EYL Scheduler.
- i) Major league baseball teams using Field A may not conduct player batting practice on the smaller field. Also, Major League pitchers cannot pitch live batting to major league hitters. Major division teams may schedule field “A” for infield, defensive work only.

23) Pitching Rules for Baseball

- a) Pitchers who hit batters are not automatically removed from the mound. (Please see little league rules.)
- b) Curve balls are prohibited in the Rookie, Minors and Majors league divisions of baseball.
- c) Innings Limits
 - i) Rookies: A pitcher may only pitch a single inning. Any part of an inning is considered a full inning. (*ie: If a pitcher is brought in to pitch the final 1/3 of an inning, the pitcher may not continue to pitch in the next inning*)
 - ii) Minor and Major League Division: A pitcher may only pitch 3 consecutive innings per game. See Major League rules on page 21 for exceptions to this rule.
 - iii) A single pitch delivered in an inning is considered an inning pitched.
 - iv) Any baseball pitcher in any level is limited to six innings per week per Little League rules.
- d) **Pitch Counts** – The team scorekeeper must report name of pitcher, # of innings and # of pitches for each pitcher used in a game to the division coordinator. Please use the pre-printed forms at the Hanratty Fields. Completed pitch counts are placed in the top rack.
- e) The rest days are determined by pitch count.
 - If a player pitches 66 or more pitches in a day, four (4) calendar days of rest must be observed.
 - If a player pitches 51 - 65 pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest must be observed.
 - If a player pitches 36 - 50 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest must be observed.
 - If a player pitches 21 - 35 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar day of rest must be observed.

- If a player pitches 1-20 pitches in a day, no calendar day of rest is required before pitching again.
- 24) **Suspended Games** - All Suspended games are continued from the exact point of suspension. They are not replayed from the beginning. All rest requirements for pitchers are enforced. If the pitcher **does not** have the necessary rest, he/she may **not** continue pitching in a continued game. (Little League Rule 4.10d)
- 25) **Volunteer Background checks** - All team managers; coaches and scorekeepers are required to complete the Little League Volunteer background check process. An individual is not allowed on the playing or practice field until the background check is complete.
- 26) **Trophies** – It is the policy of Elmora Youth League to award only **one trophy per player** for the spring season. *Teams that win both the playoff and season championships will receive one trophy.*
- a) If a team wins both the regular season and the playoffs, each player will receive **one** trophy that will state “Champions”.
 - b) Depending on the size of the division, the league may award a 2nd place season and/or a 2nd place playoff trophy to other teams in the division. *No team or player will receive more than one trophy.*
 - c) Players who do not receive a place trophy may receive a participation award.
- 27) **Mercy rule** - see Little League rule 4.10 (e) for baseball.
- a) The Ponytails softball division will have a 15 run rule after 4 innings.
 - b) The Middle School and High School Softball divisions will have a 10 run rule after 5 innings.
- 28) **Regular season end-dates.** The regular season end date for Rookie, Minors and Majors baseball will be approximately May 20. It is our policy to schedule rainouts as soon as possible on the next available field.
- 29) **Kitchen Duty** – EYLL is a volunteer run organization and every parent is required to support the league by volunteering.
- a) The parents at each EYLL game are expected to staff the kitchen. If the kitchen is not staffed by two parents (maximum)

then the parents on both teams will be subjected to an additional penalty registration fee of \$100 in 2022.

- b) A log will be kept in the kitchen and the Staff member will record the name, date and duty performed on game day.
 - c) A parent may perform one the following duties to avoid the penalties
 - i) Work the kitchen at least once during the spring season, or
 - ii) Perform field maintenance before or after the game, or
 - iii) Perform the duty of Team Manager, Coach or Team Mom or
 - iv) Sponsor a team, or
 - v) Member of the EYL Executive Board
 - d) If the team covers the kitchen for all of their game, then none of the parents will be assessed the 2022 registration penalty
- 30) **Use of Illegal Bats** – For baseball divisions, all bats must be certified by USA Baseball to be a legal in an EYLL game. The following are the penalties for the team for using an illegal bat in a game.
- a) The batter is out and all base runners are returned to their original base.
 - b) The manager is ejected from the game.
 - c) The manager is suspended from the next scheduled game.
- 31) These rules are subject to change by vote of the Elmora Youth League Executive Board.

T-Ball

- 1) 6 to 7 batters per inning then switch sides.
- 2) All games end in a tie.

Pioneer (Instructional Baseball)

- 1) Pitching Rules (When the player is pitching)
 - a) Player gets 5 pitches from the coach, and then the tee is brought out.
- 2) A team may only bat once through the lineup in an inning.
- 3) The team does not need to dress a catcher, coaches will perform the role of catcher to keep the game moving.
- 4) Base running
 - a) No stealing and no advance on a passed ball.

- b) There will be no advancement on an overthrow to first or third base. (Please see Little League Official Playing rules, rule 7.05 Note 2 for details).
- c) When a batted ball is returned to the infield, advancement stops when the fielder in possession of the ball calls "TIME".

Suggestion: *Please remember that these are the instructional divisions and to try and rotate your players into different playing positions.*

Rookie and Minors

- 1) If a game is shortened due to a time limit, it is official (see general rules above sections 23 and 24)
 - a) In a shortened game, at the start of the announced final inning, the 3-run-rule will be waived.
- 2) A player may score a run only as the result of a batted ball or being forced home by base on balls or a hit batsman. No stealing home. There is no advancement on an overthrow or error on a steal. *(Coaches, please encourage your catchers to make the throw.)*

Rookies

- 1) The first two innings and the last two innings will be either coach or machine pitch.
 - a. Each batter will get 5 pitches to hit the ball. The batter will be out after 3 swinging strikes or at the end of the 5th pitch.
 - b. A fouled ball on the 5th pitch will be given one more opportunity to put the ball in play
- 2) The 3rd and 4th inning will be player pitch. (4 balls and 3 strikes)
- 3) **No stealing home or second base.** The only base that may be stolen is 3rd base.
- 4) **No Bunting, No Infield Fly Rule,**
- 5) A team may only score **3 runs per inning** except for the 6th inning, where there is no limit.
- 6) All runs are allowed to score on batted ball in any inning in excess of 3 runs. All runners must stop when the ball is returned to infield. *This does not necessarily mean fielded by an infielder.* It will be left to the umpires' discretion as to what

runners score, once ball is returned to infield. *For example, bases loaded, no outs and 4 runs scored, if the batter hits a 3 run double, all three runs will score. (The EYL Executive board reserves the right to remove this rule if coaches abuse it. For example, bases loaded infield single turns into a bases clearing error fest.)*

Minors

- 1) **No stealing home.** The only base that may be stolen is 2nd or 3rd base. There is no advancement on an overthrow or error on a steal. *(Coaches, please encourage your catchers to make the throw.)*
- 2) A team may only score **5 runs per inning** except for the 6th inning, where there is no limit.
- 3) All runs are allowed to score on batted ball in any inning in excess of 3 runs. All runners must stop when the ball is returned to infield. *This does not necessarily mean fielded by an infielder.* It will be left to the umpires' discretion as to what runners score, once ball is returned to infield. *For example, bases loaded, no outs and 4 runs scored, if the batter hits a 3 run double, all three runs will score. (The EYL Executive board reserves the right to remove this rule if coaches abuse it. For example, bases loaded infield single turns into a bases clearing error fest.)*
- 4) Only a 10, 11 or 12 year old minor league player may be a substitute for a major league team. The player may not pitch in the major league game. He must wear his Minor league uniform to identify himself as such. **Minor league players age nine and younger are not allowed to play in Major League games.**
- 5) Minor league games are official no matter how many innings are actually played. For standings, the teams are awarded 2 points for a win and 1 point for a tie.

Suggestion: *Please remember that this is a developmental division. A coach should try to rotate the players into different playing positions.*

Majors

- 1) Major league teams must have 9 players to start a game.
- 2) **Double Headers:** If a major league team plays a double header then a pitcher may pitch 6 innings for the day. The 3 innings in a game rule still applies, as does the 6 innings in a week rule.

- a) **Exception** – If the double header is with the same opponent, then the pitcher is allowed to pitch up to six innings in any part of the game. The six innings per week rule and all pitch count restrictions apply.
- 3) **Minor League Substitutes to Majors** - Only minor league players that are age 10, 11 or 12 may be used as a substitute in the major league. Nine-year-olds may not play in any Major League game. The player remains on the minor league team. Please note the following:
 1. The “called-up” player may not pitch in the game.
 2. The “called-up” player must play at least every other inning.
 3. If the “called-up” player has a game at the same time, they must play for their regular minor league team.
 4. As a courtesy, it is requested that the manager notify the “called-up” player’s team manager.

Teeners Softball (Grades K-2nd)

Play governed by 2019 USA Softball rules, with the following modifications:

1. Five runs maximum per inning. There will be no run limit for the last inning of the game, as agreed by the coaches so as to get everyone a final at-bat.
2. Regulation game is 6 innings. Game may be called, and is official, after four innings.
3. Scores will not initially be kept but at the half-way point of the season (6 games), teams will then keep score.
4. Roster batting is mandatory. Lineups must be submitted to the other team with child’s name and # prior to start. No batting out of order or player will be called out.
5. The minimum number of players to begin the game is 6. If a team has 6 players, when a girl leaves that lineup for any reason, no out will be recorded in her spot. Teams who are short-handed may not borrow fielders from the opposing team.
6. There is no infield fly rule or dropped 3rd strike rule.
7. Bunting, and stealing are not allowed. The runner may come off the bag with contact, or as the ball crosses the plate. She may not advance if the ball is not put into play, but she is in jeopardy of being put out.
8. Coaches will pitch to their own players from 35 feet. At this level, children will be able to start the season hitting off a tee. By the half-way point of

the season (6 games), Coaches are recommended to only have players have the coach pitch to them. Walks are not allowed. The batter shall be called out after three swinging strikes OR after she receives six pitches and does not put the ball into play. If the sixth pitch is not swung at then the batter is out. If the sixth pitch is fouled off, the batter gets another pitch and the same will apply.

9. The coach who is pitching must make every effort to avoid interfering with the defensive play on a batted ball. If it is deemed the coach intentionally interfered with a defensive play or if the coach fails to make a good faith effort to avoid the interference, the play should be called dead, the batter shall be called out, and the runners shall return to the bases they occupied prior to the play.
 10. Infield Hit - Base runners are limited to one base on all batted balls hit in the infield. No advances are allowed for overthrows to any base.
 11. Outfield Hit - Base runners may take additional bases on all batted balls hit into the outfield, defined as any ground or fly ball that goes 10 feet beyond the base path or any ball that is fielded by an outfielder. A defensive player can only request a time-out once they have secured the ball and is in the infield. Once confirmed by the Team Managers (only) will time out be granted. At that point the runner may not advance. Those who had not attained the halfway point between bases at the moment the ball was controlled on the infield, will be returned to previous base attained at the moment the ball was controlled. For runners who had attained at least the halfway point between the bases, the result of the play will stand. Again, the ball is not "dead" simply when controlled by the infielder on the infield, they must request a time-out. should be called dead, the batter shall be called out, and the runners shall return to the bases they occupied prior to the play.
- COACHES IN THE FIELD - COACHES MAY BE IN THE FIELD assisting the players. Masks must be worn at all times. ***Only assigned Coaches that have gone through the proper safety training and background checks will be allowed on the field of play. Team Moms will be asked to help assist with kids in the dugouts to ensure social distancing.
 - BATTING: The team that is hitting may have a coach standing at the 1st base and 3rd base coaches' box in addition to the coach who is pitching.
 - DEFENSE: The team in the field will be allowed to have 2 coaches standing at the edge of the infield/outfield grass to give encouragement and to verbally assist their players. The Coaches will not be able to touch the ball in any way. If for any reason an occurrence happens and a coach in the

field interferes with the play, they will be given one warning for the season and then will no longer be able to be on the field.

2021 Inter-league Softball Rules

General Rules

1. In case of bad weather, the visiting coach must contact the home team coach to find out game status.
2. If a team does not have enough players to field a team they may pull a player up but NEVER pull a player down. In the Ponytail division (3,4,&5th grade) they may pull a player from another team in that division but they cannot pitch. The only time you should pull a player up is to avoid forfeiting the game.
3. All teams must roster bat and there are free substitution at all bases except pitcher.
 - a. If a player becomes injured or leaves the game, the spot in the batting order is skipped.
 - b. No player shall sit the bench two consecutive innings.
4. Bat Throwing- If a player from a team throws a bat after swinging; his team will be issued a warning. The next batter that throws the bat from that team will be called out.
5. When a play is being made at a base, the offensive player must slide or avoid contact. If there is contact, the runner will be called out, no warnings given.
6. The individual league EYLL Executive Board reserves the right to change or adjust any of the above rules and regulations or add rules or regulations to help ensure the quality of the league and the safety of its participants.
7. PLEASE REMEMBER that this league is not only for the girls to learn and play softball, but more importantly, to have FUN!

Rules, Combined Union County Recreational Softball, 2018

Rules shall be 2018 USA Softball Rules, with the following modifications:

6th-8th Grade Division

Running - May steal any base, including home; but no more than a total of 4 bases per inning;

Fielding - 10 fielders, four of whom must be on the outfield grass - or a space behind the baseline equivalent to the outfield grass - at the release of the pitch;

Batting - Roster batting;

Number of players to start, begin play - No lower limit on number of players, no outs taken for missing players; Opposing teams may supply missing fielders, but are not required to

Runs per Inning - 8 runs per inning limit, except declared last inning

Pitching - 4 innings per game max, need not be consecutive; 1 pitch = an inning; NFHS rule for pitcher's plate - at least one foot on to begin pitch; Pitchers' plate at 40', unless coaches agree to 43'; cannot change during game; No HBP rule limit, but coaches advised to use common sense

Run Ahead Rule - 10 after 5, by agreement, may continue to play (Umpires will be instructed that they must continue game if requested by coaches - any refusal or failure to be reported to commissioner)

Time Limit - No new inning, 1 hour 45 minutes, no drop dead

Interference, Obstruction - Runner must slide to avoid contact at all bases and home plate; Umpires' point of emphasis, defensive obstruction

Courtesy Runners - Courtesy runners for pitcher, catcher, injured player: last batted out

4th - 5th Grade Division

No dropped third strike

No Infield Fly

Running - May only steal 3rd base, ball must be crossing plate before runner may leave base; no limit on number of steals per inning

Fielding - 10 fielders, four of whom must be on the outfield grass - or a space behind the baseline equivalent to the outfield grass - at the release of the pitch;

Batting - Roster batting;

Number of players to start, begin play - No lower limit on number of players, no outs taken for missing players; Opposing teams may supply missing fielders, but are not required to

Runs per Inning - 5 runs per inning limit, except declared last inning

Pitching - 3 innings per game, need not be consecutive; 1 pitch = an inning; NFHS rule for pitcher's plate - at least one foot on to begin pitch; Pitchers' plate at 35'; No HBP rule limit, but coaches advised to use common sense

Innings - 6 inning game

Ball - 11" ball

Run Ahead Rule - 15 after 4, 12 after 5, by agreement, may continue to play (Umpires will be instructed that they must continue game if requested by coaches - any refusal or failure to be reported to commissioner)

Time Limit - No new inning, 1 hour 45 minutes, no drop dead

Interference, Obstruction - Runner must slide to avoid contact at all bases and home plate; Umpires' point of emphasis, defensive obstruction

Courtesy Runners - Courtesy runners for pitcher, catcher, injured player: last batted out

EYL Baseball Rules Committee – Victor Alvarez (Chairmen), Steven Rosen, James Llano, Franklin Guardaramma, Joe Colacitti, Jairo Labrador, Edwin Heredia, Rob Griffith

EYL Softball Rules Committee – Victor Alvarez (Chairmen), Jose Flores, Jason Navas, Phil Salvatore, Rob Griffith

Tournament Teams

Elmora Youth League traditionally sponsors softball and baseball tournament teams that participate in a higher level of competitive play during the summer. The players on these teams may be required to play games on consecutive days, weekends and holidays. Our coaches will run several practices during the summer so that the players develop their skills to a higher level.

All players on EYL Tournament Teams are required to pay a separate registration fee. Only Elmora Youth League registered players are eligible to play on Elmora Youth League Tournament Teams. Our goal is to form the strongest team from each age group in our league. Therefore, a player is bound to play for their appropriate age group.

Selection of Managers - The president of the league selects the Managers of the teams with input from the Tournament Director and the appropriate division coordinator(s). The EYL Executive Board approves the selection.

Player Eligibility – A player is bound to play for the team of their age group. This is based on league age, not actual age. The manager of the player’s age group has all rights to players in their age group and only the manager may release the player to a team in a higher age group. The EYL Executive Board must approve all player movements.

Selection of Players - The Manager of the team, along with input from the Executive Board will run an approved process to select the players. All tournament team players must be registered EYL players for the 2018 spring season.

The approved methods of selection are:

- 1) The division managers meet and select the team as a committee, or
- 2) The division managers meet and select the candidates for an invitational tryout, the tournament team manager selects the players.

Or

- 3) The tournament team manager conducts an open tryout and selects the players.

All other methods are illegal and against the direction of the EYL Executive Board. Any tournament team manager that does not follow these guidelines for player selection will be removed from their tournament team duty.

Uniforms – The EYL colors are Royal Blue with White or Grey trim. Our teams are formed to represent our league and they must carry our league colors to their tournament games. Exceptions require approval of the EYL President and the Board. The Baseball teams are known as the **Elmora Troopers** and the Softball Teams carry the name **Elmora Thunder**.

Playing Time -Tournament team managers are bound only to rules of the tournament with regards to playing time. EYL rules regarding minimum playing time do not apply to tournament teams.

For the player selection methods 1) and 2) described above, the following EYL schedule defines which of the divisions managers participate in the process. All Managers must participate irregardless of player eligibility.

Baseball 7s – Rookie and Pioneer League	Softball 8u - Teener League
Baseball 8s - Minor and Rookie League	Softball 10u – Ponytails
Baseball 9s - Minor and Rookie League	Softball 12u - Senior and Ponytails
Baseball 10s – Major and Minor League	Softball 14u - Senior League
Baseball 11s - Majors	
Baseball 12s – Majors	