

# Navajo Girls Fastpitch Rules and Regulations

## I. Overview

- A. **PLEASE READ AND BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THESE RULES.** It is the intention of the Board of Directors that these rules be strictly enforced. Ignorance of a rule shall not prevent the enforcement of a penalty.
- B. Responsibility
  - 1. Navajo Girls Fastpitch, referred to as “NGF” or “the League”, and its Board of Directors (“the Board”) has responsibility for drafting and reviewing the rules and regulations found in this document. The League’s Board of Directors has the responsibility of enforcing these rules.
- C. Interpretations and Appeals
  - 1. Any request for explanation or interpretation of a rule, or an appeal of an interpretation or decision made by a Board member in exercising these rules, shall be made in writing and directed to the Board of Directors.
  - 2. In making their interpretations and decisions, the Board of Directors shall consider and follow the intent of the rule in trying to reach a fair and equitable decision.
  - 3. Any decision made by the Board of Directors is not subject to appeal.

## II. Registration Process

- A. Responsibility
  - 1. The League’s Player Agents have the responsibility for conducting the League’s registration process. The Player Agents shall act in accordance with these rules, the League’s bylaws, and all other such directions given by the Board. Any questions, comments, complaints, or other correspondence regarding registration should be directed to your division’s Player Agent. In making any discretionary decisions, the Player Agent’s primary duty shall be to act in the best interest of the players.

## III. Eligibility

- A. The League is open to players with a “League Age” of 5-14.
  - 1. The Player Agents may make an exception and approve qualified 4-year-olds.
- B. A player is a child of “League Age”, whose registration with the League is current, and who is in good standings with the League, having no outstanding balances due and serving no suspensions.
  - 1. Any individual may make an appeal in writing to the Board regarding player eligibility. Any decision made by the Board is final.
- C. A player’s eligibility is also governed by the most current USA Softball Yellow Book and covers eligibility issues regarding travel ball and high school players. The Player Agents determine final player eligibility.

## IV. Divisions

- A. The League is separated into divisions in accordance with USA Softball age guidelines, with eligibility based on a calendar dates of September 1st to August 31st of each year. For example, in the 2024 season, whatever the player's physical age is on 8/31/23 is their playing age for the full season.
- B. Depending on the number of players, the League shall offer the following divisions of play:
  - 1. 6U Minis- 4-year-olds and first time playing 5-year-olds
  - 2. 6U Super Sixers- 2+ time playing 5-year-old and 6-year-olds
  - 3. 8U: 7-8-year-olds
  - 4. 10U: 9-10-year-olds
  - 5. 12U: 11-12-year-olds
  - 6. 14U: 13-14-year-olds

- C. The League shall make an effort to accommodate girls 15-16 years of age through the establishment of a 16U team to compete against teams in the same age division from other leagues around San Diego County. The formation of such a team shall depend upon the number of registrants and availability of a qualified coach.
1. If a 16U team is not formed, 15 and 16-year-olds may play in the 14U division on a recreational team.

## V. Registration/Sign Up

- A. Registration for the League's Spring Recreational Season shall start on November 1st. The Player Agents shall determine the date which would constitute late registration.
- B. Upon registration, each participant must provide acceptable documentation of the player's age. Non-siblings, living in the same house as siblings, must provide proof of legal guardianship in order to qualify as siblings. Any and all documents provided to the League shall be confidential except in cases where proof of eligibility is required.
- C. No player shall be permitted to participate in any team function without a signed registration form, liability release, or without having paid the required fees.
1. Proof of age is not required to participate in any recreational team function; however, the Board may request a copy of a player's birth certificate at any time.
- D. Volunteer registration consists of all managers, coaches, and any adult volunteer, including team parents directly associated with players must complete the voluntary form and submit to a background check. Background check fees shall be absorbed by the League or as determined year-to-year based on budget constraints.

## VI. Fees and Refunds

- A. A registration fee is required for participation in the League. All such fees must be paid on a date established by the Player Agents.
- B. Any player may request financial assistance or request a payment plan to the Board of Directors for approval. The Treasurer shall notify requesters of the Board's decision.
1. All fees must be paid on or before the designated evaluation day unless an alternative plan is agreed upon between the Board and the petitioner.
  2. Any fees charged to the League for returned checks due to insufficient funds will be charged to the player.
  3. Scholarship recipients shall volunteer for two shifts in the snack bar.
- C. Refunds
1. Any request for a refund must be submitted in writing to the League's Treasurer.
  2. Refunds pertain to any fees paid to the League for registration and all underlying expenses. Refunds will not be issued by the League for any monies paid to the individual team officials for additional equipment and/or other outside activities held by the team.
  3. A request for a refund prior to evaluation day of a select or recreation season, whichever is first, will be subject to a \$25 processing fee.
  4. **No Refunds** will be allowed after a player is drafted to a team.
  5. Exception: Players who make a high school team will receive a refund, less any applicable fees (e.g., processing fee, uniform, USA registration, pictures).

## VII. Cash Policy

- A. Registration Fees
1. All registration fees shall be deposited in the League's account as soon as possible after each registration day.
- B. Sponsorship Fees
1. All sponsorship monies shall be submitted to the League's Treasurer as soon as possible and deposited to the League's account promptly.
- C. Fundraising Money
1. All fundraiser money shall be submitted to the League's Treasurer as soon as possible and deposited to the League's account promptly.

## **VIII. Managing/Coaching Staff**

### **A. Responsibility**

1. The Board has a responsibility to oversee the managing/ coaching staff. The Board shall act in accordance with these rules, the League's bylaws, and all other such directions given by USA Softball. Any questions, comments, complaints, or other correspondence regarding managers, coaches, assistants, or other team officials should be directed to the Player Agents. In making any discretionary decisions, the Player Agents primary duty shall be to act in the best interests of the League. Any individual may make an appeal in writing to the Board regarding the managing/ coaching staff of any team. Any decision made by the Board is final.

### **B. Manager/Coach Selection**

1. The Board is responsible for approving the managers/coaches for the League. This includes all other coaches who will be directing the play on the field during a game. Opportunities to manage/coach shall be widely advertised by the Board to attract as many well-qualified candidates as possible. All applicants for manager must register as a volunteer with the league each season, and consent to a background check and complete SafeSport training each year.
2. The Board may conduct interviews with the managers and coaches.
3. The Board has the right to reject an applicant and may withhold the information for confidentiality purposes. The rejected applicant may not appeal the decision. The Board's decision is final.
4. A list of individuals interested in managing a team within the League shall be presented to the Board prior to approval. The Player Agents shall notify applicants immediately upon approval of the Board.
5. The qualities sought in managers/ coaches shall include the following:
  - a) Dedicated to providing a positive experience for players while stressing teamwork and personal responsibility.
  - b) Willingness to contribute to and support the League and the welfare of all its participants beyond coaching.
  - c) Ability to reflect a positive image of Navajo Girls Fastpitch, its teams and its players.
  - d) Knowledge of the game and ability to teach the game.

## **IX. Managers Responsibilities and Conduct**

- A. All managers and their coaching staff are representatives of the League, and as such, are expected to support the League and its Board in the following manner:

1. Know the League's bylaws, rules and regulations, and the USA Softball rules governing play.
2. Cooperate with Board members by responding promptly to inquiries or requests for information.
3. Support and implement all of the League's objectives, policies, rules, and regulations, regardless of personal views.
4. Communicate these objectives and policies to players and parents.
5. Work with the Board to voice objections or opinions.
6. Maintain a positive, team-oriented approach to coaching and in working with players and parents.

- B. The manager is responsible for the overall operation of the team and is expected to be actively involved in the majority of the team's activities. Managers who are not actively participating shall be subject to disciplinary action and possible removal. The duties and responsibilities of the manager

include but are not limited to:

1. Evaluation of players at evaluations.
2. Participate in the team selection process, if required.
3. Hold regular parent or team meetings.
4. Conduct practices and games.
5. Attend coaching and player training and clinics.
6. Ensure their coaching staff is properly trained.
7. Maintain their playing field after each practice and/or game.

**8. Participate in the selection process of the All-Star manager and evaluation and selection of the All-Star team.**

- C. Managers are to contact the Board concerning questions about the League's rules, player misconduct, parental problems, or any other matter pertaining to the operation of their team. Any matters that a manager would like brought to the Board's attention must be reported to the President who is responsible for placing the item on the Board's agenda at their next meeting.
- D. Managers and their coaching staff are to maintain professional conduct at all times and are responsible for the conduct of themselves, their coaching staff, parents, players, and spectators.
- E. Managers shall conduct at least one parent or team meeting prior to the team's second scheduled practice. The manager shall explain, in detail, their coaching philosophy and policies, team rules, and any other topics or the League's policies as instructed by the League.
1. Managers shall select a parent to act as team parent and shall notify the Board of Directors of this selection as soon as possible. This parent shall be considered part of the "coaching staff."
- F. Physical discipline, verbal abuse, the use of profanity, or unsportsmanlike conduct by any member of the coaching staff toward the players, other coaches, parents, umpires, or spectators is strictly forbidden regardless of any personal relationship. If a manager cannot successfully deal with a player, coach, or parent then they may direct this problem to the Board.
- G. The manager may bench a player for a specified period of time, not to exceed one game, for failure to comply with the League's rules, chronic unexcused absences, unsportsmanlike conduct, or any action by the player that does not support the best interest of the team. The benching shall be reported to the Board.
- H. Managers shall immediately report any of the following to the appropriate Board: benching, anticipated roster change, injuries, players chronically left unattended by parents, or abuse of a player on any team.
- I. Managers shall report any action that may affect a change in the roster, including request for pool players, drops, adds, disciplinary actions, etc. to the Board as soon as possible.
- J. Managers shall attempt to ensure that there is an adult female at all team activities. At no time shall an adult male be left alone with a player. Players shall not be left unattended before or after a practice or game. If a player continually has a problem with parent drop-offs or pick-ups, the manager shall report it to the Board.
- K. The coaching staff is prohibited from using any tobacco products and consuming alcoholic beverages in the vicinity of the playing or practice fields or any Navajo Girls Fastpitch function, regardless of location.
- L. Disciplinary Action and Removal
1. Misconduct by a manager or coach includes, but not limited to, any of the following:
    - a) Poor sportsmanship.
    - b) Inappropriate cheers by team players that demean or otherwise make fun of players on the opposing team.
    - c) Chronic absences from team practices and/or games.
    - d) Foul and/or abusive language.
    - e) Behavior that displays a lack of moral character.
    - f) Mental and/or physical abuse of a player, parent, spectator, or game official.
    - g) Multiple ejections from games involving NGF teams.

- h) Blatant, purposeful, or multiple violations of NGF and/or USA Softball rules.
- i) Violation of any current CDC health directives.
- M. Charges of manager or coach misconduct shall be made in writing to any member of the Board. The Board shall act upon the charges of misconduct within five (5) days. Disciplinary action may include oral or written reprimand, suspension, ejection, removal, or any other penalty the Board wishes to impose. Additionally, the Board may forward a recommendation to the USA Softball Commissioner. Any decision by the Board is final. A report of any action taken by the Board shall be filed with the Secretary.
- N. Any manager, coach, player, parent, or person ejected from a game shall be reported to the Board. The Board may impose any disciplinary actions. Any decision by the Board is final.
- O. Any manager who quits voluntarily shall not be reinstated on any team in any division that season.

## **X. Team Selection and Player Placement**

### **A. Responsibility**

1. The League's Player Agents have the responsibility for conducting the League's team selection and player placement process. The Player Agents shall act in accordance with these rules, the League's bylaws, and all other such directions given by the Board. Any questions, comments, complaints, or other correspondence regarding team selection and player placement should be directed to the Player Agents. In making any discretionary decisions, the Player Agent's primary duty shall be to act in the interest of fair play and team equity.

### **B. Recreational Team Selection and Player Placement Policies**

1. It is not the policy of NGF to grant requests for placement with a specific division, team, coach, or other player, nor is it the policy of NGF to allow players to play outside of their age division. The League, however, may make certain exceptions to this policy using the guidelines established within these rules. Special placement requests along with an explanation shall be submitted in writing or electronically to the Player Agents no later than 48 hours before the close of registration. This is NOT a guarantee that the request will be granted.
2. In order to fill out team rosters or coaching positions in an upper division (excluding 6U), it may be necessary to allow a small number of qualified players to be moved to an advanced division. Placement in an upper division requires that the following criteria be met:
  - a) Players must have permission from their parents or legal guardians.
  - b) Players must be within one year of the upper division in which they have requested to play and have played a minimum of 3 seasons (e.g., Spring, All-Stars, Fall) in their appropriate age division in a USA Softball league before being eligible to request to "play up" to the next division. At the Board's discretion, other non-USA Softball leagues may be considered as counting towards the 3 seasons (e.g., Little League). Players requesting to play up still must assess or evaluate with the division they are requesting to play up to.
  - c) Players must participate in the evaluation for both the upper division they are requesting to play in as well as their League-age division.
  - d) Players must be skill-qualified for the upper division in which they have requested to play. The player must also not be a safety risk. This determination will be made by the players' League-age division managers.
  - e) Players must have the consent of their Player Agent and the Board.
  - f) A request for placement in an upper division due to special circumstances may be made in writing to the Board. Any decision made by the Board is final.
  - g) **Placement in an upper division may be allowed during the Spring Recreational Season but may not be allowed during the All-Star Program or the Competitive leagues (Spring and Fall Select,) pending approval.**
3. Players requesting to "play down" must submit a request along with an explanation in

writing or electronically to the Player Agents no later than 48 hours before the close of registration. Placement in a lower division requires that the following criteria be met:

- a) Players must be within one year of the lower division in which they have requested to play.
- b) Players must participate in the evaluation for both the lower division they are requesting to play in as well as their League age division.
- c) Players must be skill-qualified for the lower division in which they have requested to play. The player must also not be a safety risk. This determination shall be made by the player's league age division managers.
- d) Players must have the consent of their Player Agent and the Board of Directors.
- e) A request for placement in a lower division due to special circumstances may be made in writing to the Board of Directors. Any decision made by the Board is final.
- f) **Placement in a lower division may be allowed during the Spring Recreational Season only but may not be allowed during the All-Star Program or the Competitive leagues (Spring and Fall Select.)**

### C. Evaluations

1. It is the goal of the Board to give every recreational team a fair chance. Even with all the rules in place, it is up to the honor of the managers and coaches to play fair, make sure all players are evaluated, and all players play their best.
2. Evaluations will be held for all divisions except 6U.
  - a) The 6U teams will be formed by the Lower Division Player Agent based on friend/coach requests and school of attendance. In the absence of requests, all attempts are made to balance the teams by considering players' ages and years of experience.
3. Managers are required to keep their own evaluations and notes on players.
4. Teams in all divisions (except 6U) are formed by the managers and/or coaches using an evaluation as follows:
  - a) For each division, the Player Agents will establish a list of all players who have registered online before the deadline. This list will include each player's name, birthdate, years of experience in softball, years of experience as a pitcher, years of experience as a catcher, and seasons of All-Stars experience. This list is sent to the managers no earlier than 24 hours prior to the designated evaluation date.
  - b) During evaluations, the girls are run through a predetermined set of offensive and defensive drills. Each manager will record their evaluation of each player's offensive and defensive skills. A five-point scale is recommended, but not required.
5. Pitchers and catchers must attend evaluations.
  - a) All pitchers and catchers from each division are evaluated. Managers are asked to rank the pitchers from one to X (One being the most skilled pitcher in the division, and X being the number of teams in that division) but ONLY if there are X players who are determined to be skilled pitchers. Managers are then asked to rank the catchers in the same way, but ONLY if there are X players who are determined to be skilled catchers. The managers will come to a consensus on both lists before they begin their draft. If a division has more than X pitchers or catchers, the managers can request to rank the remainder, but ONLY if the quantity can satisfy double the number of teams in the division.
  - b) Pitchers and catchers with experience/ known pitchers and catchers not evaluated will be placed according to known skill level during the draft. Managers and Board Members will come to a consensus on a player's skill and experience to determine where they would fall in their division's rankings.
  - c) Pitchers and/or catchers with experience/ known pitchers and/or catchers who no longer pitch and/ or catch and would like to remove themselves from the pitcher's

and/or catcher's drafts, must submit in writing to the Executive Board within 24 hours before evaluation day, regardless if they attend evaluations or not. This request will be valid for the Tournament of Champions (TOC) and **the player will be ineligible to play that position.**

6. A manager may choose one assistant coach prior to evaluation day and submit it in writing to the Board. The assistant coach's daughter becomes a protected player.

a) Coaching requests will be denied if both players are determined to be ranked pitchers or catchers.

#### D. Draft Procedures

##### 1. Pre- Draft

a) All managers will vote on which round every manager's player and protected player would be drafted. The majority vote will decide which round these players will be chosen by their managers. If a manager has a daughter or a protected player that is a ranked pitcher and/ or catcher, the manager's draft position in that round will correspond to the rank assigned to the player. ( e.g., If a manager's daughter is ranked as the #4 pitcher, the manager will draft #4 in the pitcher round, and must select their daughter.)

b) All managers and Board members will discuss players who were not evaluated but who would like to be drafted on a team.

(1) If two (2) or more managers and/or Board members can comment on a player's skill and experience, she will be included in the general draft.

(2) If less than two (2) managers and/or Board members have knowledge on a player's skill and experience, she will be included in the blind draft.

c) The draft order will be determined by lottery immediately before the draft begins. A serpentine draft will be used, beginning with 1, and the last pick of that round will have two picks returning in a reverse order. Managers will begin the draft by choosing ranked pitchers first. Managers will re-draw numbers and will then draft ranked catchers. Managers will not re-draw numbers for the general draft.

##### 2. Pitchers and Catchers Draft

a) If applicable, managers will draft ranked pitchers in the first round. If applicable, the draft order will then be reversed, and a second round will be used to draft the remaining ranked pitchers.

(1) All teams must have a pitcher and catcher before the general draft starts, except in the 6U and 8U divisions.

(2) All teams shall have one ranked pitcher before any team has two, except sisters when both sisters are ranked pitchers.

(3) Pitchers will be distributed equally whenever possible.

b) Managers re-draw numbers and will draft ranked catchers. If applicable, the draft order will then be reversed, and a second round will be used to draft the remaining ranked catchers.

##### 3. General Draft

a) The draft continues in a serpentine manner until all evaluated players have been drafted onto a team.

(1) When sisters play in the same division, managers will agree upon the round where the second sister would be drafted AFTER the first sister is drafted. The manager who drafts the first sister will automatically take the second sister in that predetermined round. Parents may also request to have siblings placed on separate teams.

(2) After all evaluated players are drafted, the blind draft shall begin. The numbers of the girls in the blind draft are placed in a hat and, in the same order they were previously drafting, managers draw them out until all girls are placed on a team.

#### 4. Draft Trades

a) Trades will be allowed at the end of the draft.

(1) The division's Player Agent must approve all trades unless the Player Agent is a manager or coach in that division. In this instance, the Board or other Player Agent shall approve the trade. There shall be no appeal on any decision.

(2) No trades will be honored after division managers leave the draft room.

(3) If a trade is considered necessary because of special needs, the Board will hear the case and decide in the draft.

#### E. Player Placement After Team Selection

1. The Player Agents may have the responsibility of placing players on teams after the draft process is over. The Player Agents' primary duty shall be to act in the interest of fair play and team equity. All decisions are made by the Player Agents and are not subject to appeal.

2. The Player Agents shall place players allowing for an equal number of players on all teams in that division. No team shall have more than one player than the smallest team in the division.

3. The division may be closed after all teams have twelve (12) players.

### **XI. Non-Playing Rules**

#### A. Responsibility

1. The League's Board of Directors has a responsibility to enforce the League's rules. They shall implement and enforce these rules, the League's bylaws, and all other such directions given USA Softball. In making any discretionary decisions, the Board's primary duty shall be to act in the best interests of sportsmanship and fair play.

#### B. Player and Parent Conduct and Behavior

1. All players and parents are "members" of the League, and as such, are expected to support the League in the following manner:

a) Become familiar with the League's Code of Conduct, these Rules and Regulations, and USA Softball's rules governing play.

b) Volunteer whenever possible as a scorekeeper, team parent, coach, or other team official. Background checks must be cleared before any volunteer steps on a practice or game field.

c) Follow the League's objectives, policies, rules, and regulations regardless of their personal views.

d) Voice their opinions and objections to the Board only.

e) Maintain a positive, team-oriented relationship with the manager and other parents.

C. The Board must approve any public actions or activities performed by any of its teams or members that are in the same League in advance.

D. Players and parents are to contact any Board member concerning questions about the League's rules, player or parent misconduct, coaching concerns, or any other matter pertaining to the wellbeing of the League.

E. Players and parents are to maintain civil conduct at all times. The appointed or acting manager is responsible for the conduct of parents, players, and spectators.

F. Physical discipline, verbal or emotional abuse, the use of profanity, or unsportsmanlike conduct by any player or spectator is strictly forbidden regardless of the relationship to the player.

G. Players, parents, and spectators are prohibited from using any tobacco products or the consumption of alcoholic beverages in the vicinity of playing or practice fields.

#### H. Social Media

1. Any post, photo, video, or other recording posted to any social media site by a Board member, general member, manager, coach, player, parent, or other volunteer that is determined by the Board to be degrading, harmful, or unethical shall be prohibited.

2. Violations of the League's social media policy by a Board member, general member, manager, coach, parent, or other adult volunteer shall result in immediate removal from the League for the current season, or future seasons pending Board review.
3. Violations of the League's social media policy by a player may result in a verbal warning issued by the Board or removal from the league for the current season, or future seasons, pending Board review. A second violation of the social media policy in the same calendar year shall result in removal from the League for the current season, or future seasons, pending Board review.
4. Any individual may make an appeal in writing to the Board regarding the Board's decision. Any decision made by the Board is final.

#### I. Disciplinary Action and Removal

1. Player or parent misconduct includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:
  - a) Disregard the Code of Conduct.
  - b) Poor sportsmanship.
  - c) Inappropriate cheers by team players that demean or otherwise make fun of girls on the opposing team.
  - d) Chronic absences from team practices and/or games.
  - e) Foul and/or abusive language.
  - f) Use of or being under the influence of alcohol, tobacco products, or illegal drugs at any practice or playing field.
  - g) Behavior which displays a lack of moral character.
  - h) Mental and/or physical abuse of a player, parent, spectator, or game official.
  - i) Multiple ejections from games involving NGF teams.
  - j) Blatant, purposeful, or multiple violations of NGF and/or USA Softball rules.
2. Charges of player or parent misconduct shall be made in writing to any member of the Board of Directors. The Board shall act upon the charges of misconduct within five (5) days. Disciplinary action may include oral or written reprimand, suspension, ejection, removal, or any other penalty the Board wishes to impose. Additionally, the Board may forward a recommendation to the USA Softball Commissioner. Any decision by the Board is final. The Board has the right to revoke League membership. A report of any action taken by the Board shall be filed with the Secretary.
3. Any parent or spectator who is ejected from a game involving any NGF sanctioned team shall be suspended for the remainder of the game in progress. The ejected member has one minute to leave the premises and remove him/herself from sight and sound. The game may also be forfeited at the umpire's discretion. The ejected member may not have any contact with the team during the post-game activities. It is the manager's responsibility to make sure the ejected person leaves the premises.
4. A player ejected from the game will serve a bench ejection. The player will be removed from the lineup but remain in the dugout at the discretion of the umpire. An out shall be recorded each time the ejected player was to appear as a batter for the remainder of the game.
5. A player, parent, or spectator who is ejected from a second game involving any NGF sanctioned team may be suspended from attending any games in which an NGF team is participating for the remainder of the season at the discretion of the Board. Any decision made by the Board is final.
6. Any player who quits voluntarily shall not be reinstated on any team in any division that season.

## **XII. Code of Conduct and Ethics**

### A. Code of Conduct

1. Standards of conduct are part of the USA Softball National Code and NGF rules and regulations. Every USA Softball member shall respect these standards. Any

manager, coach, player, or other individual affiliated with any NGF team shall not commit any of the following:

- a) Unsportsmanlike conduct or any derogatory action on or of the playing field.
- b) Verbal or physical attack or threat upon an umpire, an USA Softball official, a manager, a coach, a fan, or a player. There is a zero-tolerance rule for abuse against umpires, managers, coaches, players and/or fans.
- c) Destruction of property, abusive behavior, or violation of state and/or federal law.
- d) Non-payment of team-incurred debts.
- e) Playing under an assumed name or falsifying an official USA Softball document.
- f) Writing checks with non-sufficient funds or from a closed account to any USA Softball official, team, or individual.
- g) Commission of larceny or fraud perpetrated against an USA official, team, or individual.
- h) Commission of any acts that are contrary to the objectives and purposes of USA Softball or the League.
- i) Non-cooperation with the administration of the organization in the enforcement of rules and regulations. It is required to report any irregularities that violate sound competitive practices
- j) Failure to comply with Rule XIII.F. "Division Specific Rules."
- k) Consumption of alcohol at any league practice and/or game or league function.

#### B. Code of Ethics

##### 1. Commitment to the Players

- a) Managers should put the welfare of the athletes above all else while maintaining a professional relationship.
- b) Managers should encourage the player to exhibit sportsmanship at all times.
- c) Managers shall follow USA Softball rules and the League's rules.
- d) Managers will treat players with dignity and respect at all times.
- e) Managers should understand they are role models for their young players. They must project a proper role model image.
- f) The manager's commitment to the player and the player's commitment to the manager are an equal partnership.
- g) Conduct all practices and games so that all athletes have an opportunity to improve their skill level through active participation.

##### 2. Commitment to the League

- a) Managers shall behave in such a way that they shall bring credit to the League and to themselves.
- b) Managers need to have and show professional behavior at all times.
- c) Managers shall act in full accordance with NGF and National USA Softball rules.
- d) Managers will follow the NGF and USA Softball Code of Conduct.

##### 3. Commitment to Umpires and Other Managers

- a) All umpires and managers shall be treated in a professional and respectable manner both on and off the field.
- b) Any displeasure with a manager or umpire's actions or conduct shall be addressed through the proper channels and not through public opinion.

### XIII. Spring Recreational Game Rules

#### A. General Information

1. The Board of Directors has the responsibility to enforce the League's rules. They shall implement and enforce these rules, the League's bylaws, and all other such directions given by the USA Softball. Any questions, comments, complaints, or other correspondence regarding rules, regulation, and policies should be directed to the Umpire in Chief. In making any discretionary decisions, the Umpire in Chief's primary duty shall be to act

in the best interests of sportsmanship and fair play. Any decision made by the Umpire in

Chief regarding game rules is not subject to appeal.

2. There will be no regular season standings kept for 6u. Regular season standings will be kept for 8u, 10u, 12u, & 14u (depending on the number of teams).
3. Games that end before the conclusion due to light or drop-dead time will revert back to the previous inning unless the home team is at bat and ahead, then score at drop dead will be final.
4. Games can end in a tie.
5. Scores will be reported by both teams within 24 hours to [scores@navajosoftball.com](mailto:scores@navajosoftball.com). If no score is reported, both teams will forfeit, and a double 0-0 loss will be recorded.
6. There will be a double-elimination tournament for 8u, 10u, 12u & 14u (depending on number of teams) at the conclusion of the regular season (aka Tournament of Champions; "TOC"). Additional rules pertaining specifically to TOC play shall be distributed by the Umpire In Chief to coaches prior to the start of tournament play.
7. Seeding will be determined by the regular season standings.
8. For teams that are tied in the standings, the following tiebreakers will be used:
  - a) Head-to-head
  - b) Runs allowed
  - c) Runs scored
  - d) Coin flip

B. The requirements of the League's playing rules shall not be suspended by agreement between managers, coaches, umpires, or any other person.

C. Postponement or Cancellation of Games.

1. Games may be postponed or canceled by any Board member due to inclement weather, field conditions, or emergency situations only.
2. Games may be canceled or postponed by the Board of Directors within 24 hours' notice, for any reason.

D. Field Prep

1. The Home team shall be responsible for pre-game field preparation. This includes marking baselines, placing bases, and obtaining game balls, etc.
2. The Visiting team is responsible for post-game field maintenance. This includes removing bases, dragging the infield, etc.
3. Following every game, each team shall clean their side of the field and bleacher area, making sure all trash is in trash cans. Managers are responsible for dragging and watering the field and locking up any equipment after use, unless it is verified that another team will be using the field later that day.
4. There shall be no infield warm up on the infield dirt before the game.

E. Rules for All Divisions

1. Players may not sit out more than two (2) innings per game unless a player has been benched under the stipulations outlined in Rule IX.G. One inning must be played in the infield.
2. A player who leaves a game early will not be an out when her spot in the batting order comes up.
3. A player arriving late will be inserted in the last spot of the batting lineup.
4. If a team is missing their ranked pitcher and if truly no other pitcher is present, a pitcher from another team in the same division may substitute and pitch a maximum of two (2) innings. The substitute pitcher must bat last and play in the outfield for the remainder of the game, subject to Rule XIII.E.5. below. This option is not available during TOC.
5. If a team is missing their ranked catcher and if truly no other capable catcher is present, a

catcher from another team in the same division may substitute. Due to potential safety issues, there is not a limit to the number of innings the substitute catcher may catch; however, other catchers on this team should be used as much as possible. The substitute player must bat last and play in the outfield for the remainder of the game, subject to Rule XIII.E.5. below. This option is not available during TOC.

6. Teams unable to field ten (10) players in 8U or nine (9) players in 10U, 12U, or 14U may bring in substitute players to meet the minimum number of players specified for each division. These substitute players can be from the same division or one division lower. With the exception of those players listed in Rule XIII.E.2 or Rule XIII.E.3., those players must bat last and play in the outfield the entire game.
7. If a team requires substitute players in the form of a pitcher and/or catcher (per Rule XIII.E.2 or Rule XIII.E.3. above) and the team otherwise has the minimum amount of its regular players to field a team (ten players for 8U and nine players for 10U, 12U, and 14U), the pitcher and/or catcher must bat last, and may only play in their needed positions on defense (pitching and/or catching). In this situation, the pitcher/catcher may not play in the outfield. When not pitching and/or catching, these players must sit on the bench when this team is on defense. The purpose of this is to provide the regular players on that team with all available field time.
8. Substitute players are not available for TOC. Teams must play with their regular season team players only.
9. All batting helmets must have a face shield and chin strap.
10. Home team occupies the third base dugout.

#### F. Division Specific Rules

1. 6U – See Appendix A1 & A2
2. 8U – See Appendix B
3. 10U – See Appendix C
4. 12U – See Appendix D
5. 14U – See Appendix E

#### G. Playing Field

1. The pitching distance for the offensive pitcher shall be:
  - a) 6U – 30 feet
  - b) 8U – 30 feet
  - c) 10U – 35 feet
  - d) 12U – 40 feet
  - e) 14U – 43 feet
2. The base path distance shall be:
  - a) 6U – 45 feet
  - b) 8U – 60 feet
  - c) 10U – 60 feet
  - d) 12U – 60 feet
  - e) 14U – 60 feet
3. Field shall be lined according to USA Softball guidelines

#### H. Playing Equipment

1. The uniform jerseys worn by the players of each team shall be approved by the Board and provided by the League.
2. Metal cleats shall not be permitted except for the 14U division.
3. Full approved batting helmets shall be mandatory at all practices and games while on the playing field in the on-deck circle, batting, or base running. All helmets shall have a chin strap and face mask.
4. Fielder's masks are required to be worn when playing any defensive position.
5. All bats shall meet USA Softball rules and guidelines and have the USA Softball approval stamp. Altered bats shall not be permitted.

6. Game balls will be as follows:

- a) 6U – 10" Rawlings RIF 1 ball, optic yellow
- b) 8U – 10" Rawlings RIF 1 ball, optic yellow
- c) 10U – 11" Rawlings RIF 10 ball, optic yellow
- d) 12U – 12" Dream Seam, optic yellow
- e) 14U – 12" Dream Seam, optic yellow

I. Players and Substitutes

1. Each player shall play a minimum of two (2) defensive innings per game. The only exception shall be for games lasting less than four (4) complete innings, in which case each player shall play at least one (1) defensive inning.
  - a) PENALTY: Loss of the game in which all players failed to play the minimum innings.
  - b) If both teams have not played all eligible players the minimum innings during a game, a double loss shall be declared.
  - c) Free defensive substitutions shall be permitted for all defensive players, including pitchers, provided that the minimum playing rule and pitching limitations are followed.
  - d) The batting line-up shall consist of all players.
  - e) A standard nine (9) player defense shall be used (Exception: 8U = 10 defensive players shall be used with 4 players starting in the grass).
  - f) If a team has less than nine (9) players to start or continue a game, the other team shall provide a shared player in order to prevent a forfeit. A shared player may not substitute for an ejected player.
  - g) Players shall not be allowed to base coach, with the exception of 14U.

**XIV. All Stars**

A. Managers

1. All candidates interested in managing an All-Star team must be a manager or coach for NGF during the current season.
2. The Board shall solicit applications for managers which shall be submitted by the deadline set and the Board may conduct interviews. The Board may, in its sole discretion, determine that an applicant for manager is not eligible to manage or coach All-Stars if the applicant has violated Navajo Softball rules or otherwise acted with poor sportsmanship unbecoming of an All-Star Manager.
3. Voting for all divisions and levels (Gold, Silver, Bronze) will occur simultaneously. The vote will occur on a day designated by the board and must adhere to USA Softball rules. Rec league managers from each division will participate in the vote for all-star coaches in their respective division. Voting will occur using either in-person or electronic ballots to ensure secrecy. All managers for each level (gold, silver, bronze) will be selected at this time based upon total votes received. If an all-star manager declines the position, the next candidate with the subsequent highest number of votes will assume the position. In the case of a tie, a second vote will be conducted to break the tie. In person voters will have 20 minutes to conduct the second vote. Electronic voters will have one day to conduct a second vote. If, after a second vote, there is still a tie, the Board will vote to break the tie for all-star manager.
4. Once selected, All-Star Managers may select their coaches, team parent, and business manager for the All-Star team. Selections are subject to Board approval.
  - a) Managers shall attempt to ensure that there is an adult female on their staff, and must have an adult female present at all team events.

B. Teams

1. The Board shall determine the number of All-Star teams for the various divisions. 2. The number of teams per division will be based on the availability of pitching and catching. a) Each division may have multiple teams if approved by the Board.

- b) Each team shall have twelve (12) players.
- c) Managers may request to carry a 13<sup>th</sup> player pending approval of the Board.

### C. Players

1. The Board shall determine prior to the All-Star commitment process if open tryouts will be held prior to team selection. Rec managers shall attend any tryouts and evaluate players. Managers, including all-star managers, are discouraged from running the tryouts and should be focused on evaluating players. Evaluations may be based on league play, select team play, all-star tryouts (if applicable) and other experience managers may have with interested players.
2. A player who plays in a higher division during the recreation season may request to play in that same division during All-Stars. The player must be approved with a vote of  $\frac{2}{3}$  by the division managers of the division the player is currently playing in and  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the Board of Directors.
3. The following All-Star player selection process shall be used:
  - a) Managers for each division will submit a ranking of 9 total players for each team in a division. For example, if a gold and a silver team are formed, the managers shall rank their top 18 players and if a gold, silver and bronze team are formed, then the managers shall rank their top 27 players. The managers shall submit their ranking to the All-Star Coordinator or other designated person no earlier than May 1st.
  - b) The Board may disqualify any Manager's ballot that is submitted for obvious "bad faith" reasons (such as to get one's own daughter selected when clearly not qualified, or not selecting a clearly qualified player to affect the rankings). Managers shall vote for the "best" players in each age group.
  - c) Each ranking shall be assigned a numerical value. If more than one team is formed, all ranked players must be selected for an All-Star team. Each ranking shall be assigned a numerical value in reverse order of ranking. (By way of example, a number 1 ranking player will receive 18 points, a number 2 player ranking will receive 17 points and a number 18 player ranking will receive 1 point.) The six players with the most votes will be on the Gold team. The Gold manager must pick the next three players from the ranked player list. The Gold manager may pick the final three players from anyone that applied to All-Stars. The process shall be continued for each team until all ranked players are selected. Once all ranked players are selected to a team, the All-Star manager may select any player that applied for All-Stars.
  - d) In the event of a tie in the rankings that impacts selection (.ie. ranking of 6<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>) the managers shall re-vote to reach a final ranking order for those tied players.
4. The Board must vote to approve each team.
5. Any player who declines an offer to play on any All-Star team will be banned from playing All-Stars the following season.

### D. Parents

1. All parents shall sign and comply with the All-Star Code of Conduct.
2. Players may be removed from the All-Star team by the Board because of persistent misconduct, including violation of the League's social media policy outlined in Rule XI.H. Any request for explanation or appeal shall be made in writing and directed to the Board. In making their interpretations and decisions, the Board's primary duty shall be to act in the best interest of the team. Any decision made by the Board is not subject to appeal.

### E. Championship Tournaments

1. The League will not provide any funds towards players' expenses in such tournaments with the exception of a National Championship Tournament. All requests for funds are subject to Board approval.
2. Players are prohibited from wearing any jersey or pants not provided by the League in any

All-Star games.

## **XV. Spring Select and Fall Select Seasons (Warriors)**

### **A. Managers**

1. In order to be an approved Select manager, applicants are expected to have experience with competitive softball. Additionally, applicants must have managed and/or coached with Navajo Girls Fastpitch the prior year in any division, and have at least one season of experience as manager within Navajo Girls Fastpitch.
2. Interested applicants must fill out and submit an interest form by the designated due date and can be found on the Navajo Girls Fastpitch website.
  - a) This interest form does not constitute immediate approval for a position of a Warriors manager.
  - b) The Player Agents will let all managers know if they have been approved prior to the close of Registration.

### **B. Recruitment**

1. Each approved manager will be responsible for recruiting players to their team.
2. Managers may NOT sign player commitment forms until board approved and the registration period has closed.
3. The minimum number of players a Select team may have in order to submit a roster for approval is eleven (11) players in the 8u division, and ten (10) in the 10u, 12u, and 14u divisions.
  - a) **It is highly suggested that managers carry more than the minimum requirement**, however, a team shall not exceed twelve (12) players unless approved by the Board.
4. In the Fall season, a player not recruited by a manager will not play on a Fall Select team, but will alternatively participate on a Fall recreational team for the season.
5. In the Spring season, players not recruited by a manager will not participate on a Spring Select team and play on a Spring Recreational team only for the season.

### **C. Registration Process**

1. All players interested in participating on a Select team must be registered by the due date of the Select registration period.
  - a) The program registration can be found on the Navajo Girls Fastpitch website in the Registration Tab.
  - b) Per USA Softball, all Spring Select players must ALSO participate on a Spring Recreational team, and attend at least 75% of their Spring Recreational team practices and games.
  - c) Fall Select player shall only play on either Fall Select or Fall Recreation. They may not play on both.
2. Interested players do not need to be recruited by a manager to register for a Select program.
  - a) Players that are not recruited by a manager will be designated as a "pool" player.
  - b) The league may hold tryouts for pool players. If the league hold tryouts, the pool players should attend both the select tryout and the recreational evaluation.
  - c) If interested pool players register with the league, it does NOT guarantee placement on a Select team.
3. Within the program registration, there will be questions that help provide information for our league's Player Agents.
  - a) The checkbox requesting if the applicant is interested in Select MUST be marked off if a player would like to be considered.
  - b) When registration closes all managers will receive a list of all Select applicant players.

4. Once a player commits to a manager's select team, the player and manager must sign and submit a Select acceptance form to the designated Player Agent. The Select acceptance form can be found on the Navajo Softball website after registration closes.. No player shall officially commit to any team until after fall registration is closed. On the day following the close of fall registration, the player and manager may sign and submit acceptance forms.

5. Any player who signs a Select acceptance form and quits during the select season is not eligible to play select the following season. A player may make a request to the board to allow a player to quit a team without consequences due to extenuating circumstances. The board shall grant or deny the request in its sole discretion.

#### F. Team Staff

1. All team staff will be selected by the manager.
2. Managers shall attempt to ensure that there is an adult female on their staff, and must have an adult female present at all team events.
3. Staff must be submitted and approved by the Board at least 48 hours prior to the start of season practices.
4. All team staff members must be background checked, insured and have SafeSport training completed before participating in any practices, games and/ or tournaments.
5. It is expected that all staff members represent Navajo Girls Fastpitch in a positive light and must hold themselves accountable at all times. Any behavior that does not abide by the rules and regulations of our league and/or USA Softball will be subject to dismissal.

#### G. Parents

1. Players may be removed from a Select team by the Board because of persistent misconduct, including violation of the League's social media policy outlined in Rule XI.H. Any request for explanation or appeal shall be made in writing and directed to the Board. In making their interpretations and decisions, the Board's primary duty shall be to act in the best interest of the team. Any decision made by the Board is not subject to appeal.

#### H. Rosters

1. Once a team is at capacity or has the minimum required number of players, the manager can submit their team roster to the Board of Directors for approval.
  - a) A team will not be allowed to begin practices or participate in any game play until the roster has been approved.
  - b) A manager can add additional players to their roster after it has been approved, but they must abide by all previously outlined recruitment rules in order to do so.
  - c) Per USA Softball rules, no Spring Select team shall begin practicing or playing prior to January 1st.

#### I. Substitute Players

1. If a player is lost due to injury and/or illness at any time during a season, the team may request to borrow a substitute player.
  - a) The substitute player must be currently registered and/or actively playing on a team with the league during that season.
  - b) All substitute players must be submitted to and approved by their division's Player Agent before they are used *each game*.

#### J. Refund Policy

1. Players who are not recruited onto a Select program team can request a refund, but will be subject to a \$25 processing fee.
2. If a player is injured at any point during the season, they can request a refund less any applicable fees (e.g., processing fee, uniform, USA registration, pictures, tournament fees, etc).

## Navajo Girls Softball 6U Division: Minis- Appendix A1

### General

- Games will last a maximum time of 60 minutes unless otherwise noted. Please clear out the dugout promptly after every game.
- All games will be played with a 10" RIF 1 softball, provided by the league.
- The Home team uses the 3rd base dugout.
- Infield and outfield must rotate each inning.

### Offensive Rules

- The entire lineup will bat each inning. It should change every inning so a different player will have the chance to be the first or last batter.
- Players will hit off of the tee for half of the season. Once the second half of the season starts, the batter may still use the tee but a coach can toss four (4) pitches to the batter if the tee is not needed.
- If a player is called out, the runner will remain on base.
- After hitting the ball, the player will run to first base and will stay there until the next player has their at-bat. There is no stealing and no advancing on an overthrown ball.
- Players will run the bases regardless of whether or not they are "out."
- The last batter each inning will circle the bases without stopping. The offense will inform the defense when their last batter comes up to bat.
- One coach can be at home plate in order to assist batters. Base coaches may be positioned next to first and third base.

### Defensive Rules

- The entire lineup will play in the field each inning. Players should be assigned to normal infield positions including pitcher, with the remaining players in the outfield. Outfielders must start beyond the base path.
- The defensive lineup should change every inning. All players should have the opportunity to play every position during the season.
- Two coaches can be on the field, typically behind the infielders.
- As the final batter is rounding the bases, defensive players should throw the ball to the catcher at home plate. She will attempt to tag out any remaining base runners.

## Navajo Girls Softball 6U Division: Super Sixers- Appendix A2 (this division will serve as a hybrid instructional division, where players will be introduced to more of the 8U division rules. General

- Games will have a drop-dead game time of one hour to eliminate any scheduling conflicts.
- The entire lineup will have their at-bat each inning.
- All games will be played with a 10" RIF 1 softball
- Players will begin playing the catcher position (a coach may be stationed by the catcher to assist).

### Offensive Rules- First Half of Season

- The manager or any assistant coach will toss four pitches to their own batter. ● If the ball is not hit by a pitch from the coach, one will be placed on a tee for the batter to hit.
- There will be no called outs.
- On a hit, the batter can run to first base.
- Players will run all bases and the batting team will bat through the entire lineup. Once all batters have been up to bat, the teams will start the next half inning. The offense will inform the defense when their last batter comes up to bat.
- Only USA softball registered managers or coaches may assist a batter during the at- bat.

### Offensive Rules- Second Half of Season

- The teams will have a player pitch.

- Pitchers can throw up to two pitches. If the batter does not hit the ball, the manager or coach will toss three pitches (not including foul balls on or after the third pitch). If the player does not hit the ball during coach- pitch, a tee will then be provided for them to hit from.
- A defensive coach or assistant can be stationed by the pitcher to help (e.g., holding extra balls, helping to corral errant throws from infielders, or throws that get past the pitcher, etc.)
- Base runners may only take one base on an overthrow.
- Base runners cannot steal home.
- Runners may run two bases if the ball is hit to the outfield.

### Navajo Girls Softball 8u Division – Appendix B

| Category                                                                                                              | 8U Rule                                                                                                                                                  | Remark                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Game Duration                                                                                                         | No new inning at 1:20, with a drop dead time of 1:35                                                                                                     | At 1:20, if any team is ahead by 5 or more runs, the game will end. If the home team is at bat and ahead by 1+ runs, the game will end. If the visiting team is at bat, the home team will have the opportunity to hit. If the game is tied at the conclusion of the inning, the game will continue using the ITB (International Tie Breaker) rule. If neither team can break the tie by 1:35, the game will end and the score will revert back to the last completed inning that did not end as a tie. |
| Max Runs/ Inning                                                                                                      | 4                                                                                                                                                        | No open innings.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Min Pitchers/ Game                                                                                                    | 2                                                                                                                                                        | 2 pitchers per team must start and finish 1 full inning.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Pitching Limit                                                                                                        | 6 innings/ week                                                                                                                                          | Pitching to even one batter counts as an inning.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Base on Balls (Walks)                                                                                                 | Allowed only after April 2 <sup>nd</sup> (except when bases are loaded.)                                                                                 | After 4 balls, a coach will pitch with the assumed strike count.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Max Coach Pitches (Coach must pitch from the rubber inside the pitching circle and pitch should mimic pitcher speed.) | 4 coach pitches max.<br>After April 2 <sup>nd</sup> , coach pitch is allowed ONLY when bases are loaded.<br>Bunting is NOT allowed off of a coach pitch. | Batter will assume strike count. Umpire will continue to call balls and strikes. The batter may take pitches that are called "balls" but will be out after 4 pitches or a strikeout. If the 4 <sup>th</sup> pitch is fouled, the at-bat will continue.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Stealing Bases                                                                                                        | Allowed                                                                                                                                                  | Players may advance 1 base per pitch.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Stealing Home                                                                                                         | NOT Allowed                                                                                                                                              | Home plate is NOT open (hot.)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Continuation Play                                                                                                     | NOT Allowed                                                                                                                                              | Players may NOT continue to 2 <sup>nd</sup> base on a walk.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Advance on an Overthrow                                                                                               | Allowed                                                                                                                                                  | Runners may advance 1 base on an overthrow and then the ball will be ruled dead.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Infield Fly                                                                                                           | NOT Allowed                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Dropped 3 <sup>rd</sup> Strike                                                                                        | NOT Allowed                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Number of Fielders                                                                                                    | 10                                                                                                                                                       | 4 outfielders (LF, LC, RC, RF.) must start in the outfield grass                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

|                                 |                                         |                                                                                                                                           |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Number of Batters               | All Available                           | It is encouraged that the batting order fluctuate during the season (must bat entire roster)                                              |
| Free Defensive Substitutions    | Allowed                                 |                                                                                                                                           |
| Min Innings Per Game Per Player | 1 Infield & 1 Outfield                  | All players must play 1 inning in the infield and one outfield (TOC- 1 infield only)                                                      |
| Max Innings on Bench            | Players may not sit more than 2 innings | (Barring special circumstances) Any player that leaves the game due to injury or illness will not be called OUT during their turn at bat. |

|                |                                                                            |  |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Catching Limit | Players may not play the catching position more than 2 consecutive innings |  |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|

### Navajo Girls Softball 10u Division – Appendix C

| Category               | 10U Rule                                             | Remark                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Game Duration          | No new inning at 1:20, with a drop dead time of 1:35 | At 1:20, if any team is ahead by 5 or more runs, the game will end. If the home team is at bat and ahead by 1+ runs, the game will end. If the visiting team is at bat, the home team will have the opportunity to hit.<br><br>If the game is tied at the conclusion of the inning, the game will continue using the ITB (International Tie Breaker) rule. If neither team can break the tie by 1:35, the game will end and the score will revert back to the last completed inning that did not end as a tie. |
| Maximum Runs/ Inning   | 4                                                    | No open innings                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Minimum Pitchers/ Game | 2                                                    | Both pitchers each must start and complete one full inning                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Pitching Limit         | 7 Innings/ Week                                      | Pitching to even one batter counts as an inning                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Stealing Bases         | Allowed                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Stealing Home          | Allowed                                              | Home plate is open (hot)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Continuation Play      | Allowed                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Advance on Overthrow   | Allowed                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Infield Fly            | Allowed                                              | Called at Umpire's discretion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Dropped 3rd Strike     | Allowed                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

|                                 |                                             |                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Number of Fielders              | 9                                           |                                                                                                                                          |
| Number of Batters               | All Available (must bat entire roster)      | It is encouraged that the batting order fluctuate during the season                                                                      |
| Free Defensive Substitutions    | Allowed                                     |                                                                                                                                          |
| Min Innings Per Game Per Player | 1 Infield                                   | Must play 1 inning in the Infield                                                                                                        |
| Max Innings on Bench            | Players may not sit out more than 2 innings | (Barring special circumstances) Any player that leaves the game due to injury or illness will NOT be called OUT during their turn at bat |

### Navajo Girls Softball 12u Division – Appendix D

| Category             | 12U Rule                                             | Remark                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Game Duration        | No new inning at 1:20, with a drop dead time of 1:35 | At 1:20, if any team is ahead by 5 or more runs, the game will end. If the home team is at bat and ahead by 1+ runs, the game will end. If the visiting team is at bat, the home team will have the opportunity to hit. If the game is tied at the conclusion of the inning, the game will continue using the ITB (International Tie Breaker) rule. If neither team can break the tie by 1:35, the game will end and the score will revert back to the last completed inning that did not end as a tie. |
| Max Runs/ Inning     | 4                                                    | No open innings                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Min Pitchers/ Game   | 2                                                    | Both pitchers each must start and complete one full inning                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Pitching Limit       | 8 Innings/ Week                                      | Pitching to even one batter counts as an inning                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Stealing Bases       | Allowed                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Stealing Home        | Allowed                                              | Home plate is open (hot)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Continuation Play    | Allowed                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Advance on Overthrow | Allowed                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Infield Fly          | Allowed                                              | Called at Umpire's discretion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

|                                 |                                         |                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dropped 3rd Strike              | Allowed                                 |                                                                                                                                          |
| Number of Fielders              | 9                                       |                                                                                                                                          |
| Number of Batters               | All available (must bat entire roster)  | It is encouraged that the batting order fluctuate during the season                                                                      |
| Min Innings Per Game Per Player | 1 Infield                               | Must play 1 inning in the Infield                                                                                                        |
| Free Defensive Substitutions    | Allowed                                 |                                                                                                                                          |
| Max Innings on Bench            | Players may NOT sit more than 2 innings | (Barring special circumstances) Any player that leaves the game due to injury or illness will NOT be called OUT during their turn at bat |

#### Navajo Girls Softball 14u Division – Appendix E

| Category             | 12U Rule                                             | Remark                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Game Duration        | No new inning at 1:20, with a drop dead time of 1:35 | At time expiration, if any team is ahead by 5 or more runs, the game will end. If the home team is at bat and ahead by 1+ runs, the game will end. If the visiting team is at bat, the home team will have the opportunity to hit, |
| Max Runs/ Inning     | 4                                                    | No open innings                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Min Pitchers/ Game   | 2                                                    | Both pitchers each must start and complete one full inning                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Pitching Limit       | 8 Innings/ Week                                      | Pitching to even one batter counts as an inning                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Stealing Bases       | Allowed                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Stealing Home        | Allowed                                              | Home plate is open (hot)                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Continuation Play    | Allowed                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Advance on Overthrow | Allowed                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Infield Fly          | Allowed                                              | Called at Umpire's discretion                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Dropped 3rd Strike   | Allowed                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Number of Fielders   | 9                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

|                                 |                                         |                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Number of Batters               | All available (must bat entire roster)  | It is encouraged that the batting order fluctuate during the season                                                                      |
| Min Innings Per Game Per Player | 1 Infield                               | Must play 1 inning in the Infield                                                                                                        |
| Free Defensive Substitutions    | Allowed                                 |                                                                                                                                          |
| Max Innings on Bench            | Players may NOT sit more than 2 innings | (Barring special circumstances) Any player that leaves the game due to injury or illness will NOT be called OUT during their turn at bat |