

**2019 CROW RIVER FASTPITCH ASSOCIATION RULES**  
(REVISED 10/04/18 PER THE COMMUNITY DIRECTOR'S MEETING)

**SOFTBALL DEFENSIVE MASKS ARE REQUIRED  
FOR ALL PITCHERS, 3<sup>RD</sup> BASE AND 1<sup>ST</sup> BASE PLAYERS AT ALL AGE LEVELS.**

- A. There shall be no more than twenty (20) players on a team roster. Official rosters must be filled out at [www.minnesotasoftball.com](http://www.minnesotasoftball.com) by June 15, 2019. Two roster changes may be made prior to June 30, 2019. No pick-up players allowed. The player's age is determined as their age on December 31, 2018.
- B. Double Rostering- Player's names may appear on more than one roster within a division or across age divisions. Each player may participate in **one** State Qualifier and may only participate in State with that team. If team fails to qualify, the player is ineligible to join another team to play in State competition without prior approval from the CRF League Director. *A player who participates in a State Qualifier or a State tournament is ineligible to participate in league Season Ending tournaments without prior written permission from the League Director.*
- C. Any team more than 1/2 hour late will forfeit the game. Failure to show without notice is a forfeit.
- D. At the time limit, complete the current inning. If teams are tied, the game will be declared a regulation tie game.
- E. A team may play with eight (8) players and will not be required to take an out in the 9<sup>th</sup> spot of the batting order during league play.
- F. The home team will furnish the umpire. Umpires **must** be USA sanctioned in 18U, 16U and 14U. It is also recommended at the 12U and 10U level. If no umpire shows up, the head coaches shall mutually agree on how the umpiring is done. If a sanctioned umpire is not available to work the game (18U, 16U & 14U) the visiting coach has the option to not play the game and take a forfeit. If the visiting coach agrees to play without a sanctioned umpire, the result of the games will stand. Coaches must agree prior to the first pitch being thrown.
- G. The home team will furnish one new ball, as supplied by the CRF league, and one good used ball. Only 12 inch optic yellow red stitched balls are to be used in 18U, 16U, 14U and 12U. The 10U division will use an 11 inch optic yellow red stitched ball. Game balls must be .47 core and 375 compression and stamped with the ASA or NFHS approval stamp.
- H. Home team scorebook is the official book. It is suggested that the score be checked between teams after each half inning.

*Except where modified by these rules, all play shall be governed by the  
2019 USA softball rules of play.*

1. There is a five (5) run limit per inning for the first four (4) innings in 14U, 12U and 10U league games.
  - a. 10U: The 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> inning, or the last inning declared due to time, will have a ten (10) run limit per inning.
  - b. 12U Tier II: The 5<sup>th</sup> inning, or the last inning declared due to time, will have a ten (10) run limit per inning.

- c. 14U & 12U Tier I: The 5th inning, *or the last inning declared due to time*, is open.
2. When teams are playing a double header each team will be home and visitor one time.
3. **Run Rule:** 5 inning games: 15 runs after 3 innings (14U & 12U)  
7 inning games: 10 runs after 5 innings (18/16U & 10U)
4. Offensive players are **NOT** required slide to avoid contact with a defensive player having possession of the ball or about to play the ball. The offensive player is only required to avoid MALICIOUS contact with the defensive player by stopping, going under or over, running around the defensive player within the defined base path. *Malicious contact is determined by the umpire.*
5. Pitching distances: (measured from the front of the pitching plate to the back tip of home plate)  
18U & 16U & 14U is 43 feet between pitching plate and home plate  
12U is 40 feet between pitching plate and home plate  
10U is 35 feet between pitching plate and home plate
6. If an error in field setup is found, it is to be corrected *immediately* and play continues.
7. There will be no use of the infield prior to the start of the game.

**Rainouts:** Both teams have one week from the game date to agree on a makeup date. If a date cannot be agreed upon the CRF League Director will assign a date.

**Cancellations (non-weather related):** The opposing coach can determine whether to take a forfeit or agree to a make-up date. If a make-up date is agreed upon, that date becomes the official game date.

**Complete Game:** In the case of rain or darkness (umpire's discretion), a game is complete after three (3) innings unless the home team is leading in the bottom of the third. A suspended game is continued from the point at which it was stopped, including score, inning, outs, base runners and count on batter. Batting order and field positions are at the discretion of the coach, but should be maintained as close as possible to that of the suspended game.

## **PLAYERS PARTICIPATING BELOW THEIR AGE LEVEL**

The following conditions will apply to players, teams of said players and the communities having said players.

1. Players participating below their age level, as defined by USA rules, will NOT be permitted to play in USA sanctioned tournaments including State Qualifiers and the State Tournaments. **A player's age is determined by their age on December 31, 2018. Over-age players may not pitch in league play.**
2. Communities having over-age players MUST email the CRF League Director, prior to the start of league play, identifying the player(s) and the reason why they are playing as an over-age player. The community must also state that the community understands that these players are ineligible for play outside the CRF regular season games. Failure to comply will result in a community's team(s) at the affected age level being barred from the CRF State Qualifier tournament.