



## **DE PERE GIRLS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION**

**2011 U8 LEAGUE RULES  
(Board Adopted 12-12-2011)**



### **DGSA MISSION STATEMENT:**

1. To provide a safe environment for girls in the De Pere area (East / West) to have fun while learning the fundamentals of softball, teamwork, commitment, and competition.
2. To help build the self-esteem of all athletes and provide a service to the youth of the community.
3. To provide the De Pere High School softball programs (East / West) with athletes that can demonstrate a solid understanding of the fundamentals of girls softball.

### **LEAGUE OBJECTIVES:**

1. The objective of this league is to introduced the fundamentals of softball to these athletes and prepare them for U10.

### **LEAGUE RULES:**

1. Teams may include 3 coaches/assistants. Parents may not be in the outfield/infield to help direct the players; coaches/assistants are only allowed on the field. A coach/assistant can act as a backup catcher (it is recommended to keep the game moving).
3. Coaches are responsible for:
  - Keeping the girls on the bench and out of the playing area when appropriate.
  - Seeing that equipment is properly cared for and returned at the end of the season with an inventory of any equipment needs.
  - Promoting good sportsmanship at all times. This league is to encourage the girls to participate and have fun. Our league commissioner will enforce a zero tolerance policy.
4. Coaches on the field will call outs. We will not have officials.
5. Games will consist of 6 innings or a time limit of 1 hour 15 minutes. Ball will be a soft 11" ball. Coaches will confer before the start of the game to agree on the official start time. Play will stop after 1 hour 15 minutes.
6. One inning will consist of three outs per team or all players batting from both teams (whichever comes first). Coaches will rotate the order each inning throughout the season so each player has an opportunity to be lead-off batter some time during the season. This rotation continues from game to game.
7. An at bat consists of 5 pitches. Batter must keep one foot in the box at all times. Coaches will pitch the ball using a Louisville Slugger Ultimate Pitching Machine provided by the league. The pitching machine will be set at 35' and the pitching machine will be set at the setting determined by the league commissioner.

8. If a pitch hits the batter, she will continue at bat. If the batter is interfered with by the catcher, the swing will not be counted and the at bat continued.
9. The batter and all base runners will wear batting helmets.
10. All helmets must have a face mask.
11. If a batter throws the bat, a warning will be issued. A second offense will result in the batter being called out.
12. There will be no infield fly rule.
13. There will be no leading off or stealing.
14. If the pitcher controls a played ball within the pitching circle area, runners that are past the halfway point may advance to the next base if it is unoccupied.
15. Runners may advance one base on an overthrow.
16. Coaches will pitch to their own team the entire season.
17. Coaches on the field may not interfere with a ball in play at any time. If interference occurs, the ball will be ruled dead. All runners will return to their previous positions, and the batter will return to the count previous to the batted pitch. The pitching machine is considered part of the field and balls hitting the machine will remain in play.
18. All players will play the field. We will have normal infield positions of catcher, pitcher, first base, second base, shortstop, and third base. All other players will be spread out in the outfield. All but the normal infield positions will be required to play on the outfield grass. All players will rotate after two innings.
19. All players should get an opportunity to play each position. A player should not play 3 consecutive innings in the infield, unless there are not enough players to do so.
20. The last batter will run all bases until someone on defense throws her out or she crosses home plate.
21. The De Pere Girls Softball Association Good Sportsman Code applies to all leagues.

**COACHES, IF YOUR TEAM IS PLAYING THE FIRST GAME, PLEASE HELP SET UP THE FIELD.**

**IF YOUR TEAM IS PLAYING THE LATE GAME, PLEASE HELP PUT THE EQUIPMENT AWAY.**

**HOME TEAM IS ALWAYS IN THE THIRD BASE DUGOUT**