

## **MAJOR DIVISION PLAYING RULES**

The purpose of the Major Division is to improve game skills and to provide a more competitive environment for girls 13, 14, 15, and 16, although some girls who have never played before do join at this level. Many girls in this Division tried out for high school softball and did not make a team- this league gives them playing experience so that they have a better chance to make a team the following year. CIF rules state that no high school player may be on another roster- which means if they are on a high school team they may not play in our league. All girls play in every game (in this division 1/2 of the innings to be played- because there is no time limit). Where it gets difficult is if you are in a game where the “Mercy Rule” may come into effect – knowing it is a possibility we ask that you make adjustments to not run up the score and at the same time involve all players. The rules of play are the same as the Minor Division with the following exceptions:

### **Field Specifications**

The pitching distance will be 40 feet.

### **Game Time Limit**

- 7 innings and no time limit on Fridays or Saturdays. Time Limit of 1 ½ hours on any other weekday evening.
- If a tie game occurs after 7 inning the International Tie Breaker Rule will come into effect until a winner is determined.

### **Pitching**

No limit

### **Team Composition**

- Teams will consist of 9 positions on the playing field.
- No games shall start with fewer than 8 players and finish with fewer than 6 players.

### **Mercy Rule**

- 15 runs ahead after 5 complete innings
- Does not apply to Tournament Play

### **Tournament Play**

- In case of a tie at the end of 7 complete innings, a runner shall be placed at the start of each team's turn at bat in the extra innings as follows:
- In the 8th inning, the runner (who is the last player to have completed her turn at bat in the 7th inning) shall start at second base.
- In the 9th and succeeding innings, the runner (who is the last player to complete her turn at bat in the preceding inning) shall start at third base.