

## **PLAYING REGULATION 14.1 –SLO-PITCH (GIRLS)**

1. **SAFETY GUIDELINES:** Each HSSAA Member School shall ensure that the current Physical Education Safety Guidelines - Secondary Inter School Module, outlined according to the following critical components: EQUIPMENT, CLOTHING / FOOTWEAR, FACILITIES, SPECIAL RULES / INSTRUCTION and SUPERVISION, be adhered to at all times. Specific details on the Critical Components will be provided at the Pre-Season Coaches Meeting..
2. **AGES:** All competitors shall meet the age requirements as per [Article VI, Section III](#) of the HSSAA Constitution.
3. **EVENTS:** There will be competition for Varsity Team Champions.
4. **ELIGIBILITY:** As governed by HSSAA Constitution [Article VI](#).
5. **ENTRIES:** Each HSSAA Member School may enter one school team. No limit to the number of players dressed for the game. The cost will be borne by the competing schools.
6. **RULE BOOK:** O.S.A. Rule Book will apply.
7. **OFFICIALS:** To be of the highest caliber obtainable.
8. **UNIFORMS:** All competitors must wear a uniform top. No metal spikes are permitted
9. **STARTING TIME:** To be set by the Athletic Convenor prior to the preseason coaches meeting.
10. **AWARDS:** A team Trophy will be awarded to the winning team. Each member of the winning team will receive Gold Medallions. Each member of the finalist team will receive Silver Medallions. (max 20 per team)
11. **GHAC REPRESENTATION:** Not applicable.
12. **GENERAL REGULATIONS:**
  - a) Playoffs – to be determined by convenor based on number of participating teams
  - b) All games are to be 7 innings with a 1hour 45 minute time limit. If after 5 complete innings a team is 10 or more runs up, the game is called.
  - c) No more than 5 runs may be scored in one inning. Exception: the final inning, as declared by the umpire, allows for unlimited runs to be scored.
  - d) The home team is responsible for preparing the diamond, providing one new ball and reporting the score to the convenor. The visiting team is responsible for providing one good ball.
  - e) Balls should be official 11"; yellow or white.
  - f) Base length is 70 feet with a safety bag at 1<sup>st</sup> base; pitchers must be between 50 and 60 feet from home plate (no rubber is required).
  - g) A commitment line is drawn 20 feet from home plate (once runner crosses this line they must continue to home plate).
  - h) A pitcher may pitch unlimited innings.
  - i) Pitches are to be between 6 – 12 feet. A batter may swing at an illegal pitch and the result of the swing is taken.
  - j) A 2 x 3 feet mat/board is used for home plate.

- k) Catchers must wear head/face protection, face masks for pitchers are strongly recommended.
- l) A runner may not slide into or touch home plate. They must cross the scoring line adjacent to the plate which is an extension of the first base line. If the catcher touches home plate before the runner crosses this line, the runner is out. If a runner touches home plate they will be called out.
- m) If the batter hits a foul ball with two strikes they are called out.
- n) Infield fly rule applies.
- o) Intentional walk rule is used.
- p) A 10<sup>th</sup> fielder (rover) is used; they must be positioned behind the baseline (i.e. not utilized as a 5<sup>th</sup> infielder)
- q) Runners cannot lead off or steal; runners may only advance when the batter makes contact with the ball.
- r) Bunting is not allowed.
- s) Jewelry is not allowed.
- t) Teams may choose to bat all players on the roster; players batting must play the field at least one inning. OR: teams may choose to bat 10 players; normal substitution rules then apply – inform the other team and substituted players must remain in the game for at least once through the batting order.
- u) A team may use a maximum of three courtesy runners per game. A courtesy runner may be anyone from the team, but if the runner's spot comes up to bat, a new courtesy runner must be used for that person, or an out is recorded. Using a courtesy runner must be communicated to the other team.
- v) If after using three courtesy runners there is an injury where a player can bat but not run, the batter cannot advance past 1<sup>st</sup>, and the runner would be the last out.
- w) Teams must start a game with 8 players minimum. New players arriving would be added to the bottom of the batting order.
- x) In Playoffs, if teams only have 8 players; the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> position in the batting order will be considered out. If teams only have 9 players, the 10<sup>th</sup> position in the batting order will be considered an out.
- y) Ties in the regular season will stand and each team will receive 1 point.
- z) Ties in playoff games will continue in extra innings until 20 minutes to curfew. At this time, the international tie breaking rule will come into effect. (begin the inning with your last out or a player on the bench at second base and nobody out.)