

## 2021 CSFPS 15U RULES

### CAMBRIA/SOMERSET GIRLS 15 & UNDER FAST PITCH SOFTBALL RULES

Revised 3/5/2020

**NOTE: Please pay attention to any BOLD and HIGHLIGHTED text, indicating new or changed rules.**

**15U will be governed by PIAA rules (in addition to rules listed below) IF A RULE IS NOT GOVERNED BY PIAA DEFAULT BACK TO CSFP RULES**

1. All teams must be comprised of players selected by draft from their home league. This division is for players who are 15 years of age or younger as of January 1 of the season year. Rosters will be reviewed by the CSFPS Board and may be questioned/rejected at the discretion of the Board.

#### **1A. Metal Spikes are Permitted in this age group effective 2/25/2019**

1B. A player cannot be on a roster on more than one team in CSFPS.

2. **If any team in any age division wishes to call up a player, the only way that your team can use a call-up is if you have a team less rostered than was you submitted in with CSFP at the beginning of the season. So basically with the 10U and the 12U if you have less than 10 players on your team for an upcoming game you may call up a player to fulfill your roster to 10 players. NO regular roster player is to be sitting on the bench when you are using a call up. The same rule applies for 15U and 18U with the exception of the rosters for that division, in the 15U and 18U divisions if you have less than 9 players you may call up players to fulfill your roster to the 9 players that you need. Also on the call-up rule if you call up a pitcher, that player may not pitch in the called up game as that said player will LOOSE her pitching eligibility in the division she is rostered in. Call Up players are ONLY TO BE USED if a team has less than a full defense (All field positions) available for any game. In the CSFP you can call –up a player from your local league or any team with-in CSFP as long as the player’s coach and parents agree to the player being called up for that team.**

3. All umpires must be at least 16 years old. Home team must supply 2 umpires. Umpires for **all playoff games** shall be agreed upon by the two coaches involved in the game.
4. A legal pitch will have no more than a 3 ft. arc, from the point of release and be thrown from a distance of 43 ft. between the rubber and the apex of home plate. Contact with the rubber must be made for at least one second to be a legal pitch. The pivot foot must be on the rubber at the start of the pitch. Rocking is permitted. **Step backs and crow-hops will not be legal.** If the ball slips from the pitcher's hand during the delivery, a ball is declared on the batter and the ball will remain in play and the runners may advance at their own risk. Note: The penalty for an illegal called pitch will be: a ball is added to the home plate umpire's count and all runners advance 1 base forced or not. Pitchers must wear masks!
5. Any player can steal any base during the game.
6. An overthrow from the infield that goes out of play will be one base from last base attained at the time the ball left the fielder's hand. An overthrow from the outfield that goes out of play will be two bases from last base attained at the time the ball left the fielder's hand.
7. The batter is out if the ball is hit above her head and is caught by the catcher, or if the ball is tipped and caught by the catcher on the third strike. Additionally, the batter is out if the ball is hit while the batter is outside the batter's box or while stepping on home plate.
8. Base runners may not leave the base until the ball is released from the pitcher's hand. If the base runner leaves early the base runner will be called out.
9. Each game is to be 7 innings in duration. If extra innings become necessary, each team receives 3 outs per team, until winning runs are determined. The international Tie Breaker will be used. Both teams start with the girl who had the last completed at bat in the 7th inning starting on second base to start the inning.
10. The defense must get 3 outs for the inning to be over or the offensive team must score 7 runs. In the final inning runs are unlimited.
11. Mound visits are limited to one per inning with a time out asked for. These visits may include the pitcher and infielders. If a second trip to the mound occurs within the same inning, the pitcher must be replaced. Each team is entitled to one offensive timeout per inning.
12. **Games will be considered complete after 4 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead or complete after 5 innings if the home team is losing when a game is halted for darkness or weather. The mercy rule will be a 10 run lead after 4 innings.**

13. The umpire will call rain outs. Each home team should give the visiting team a courtesy call 1 1/2 hours before the game if the field is not playable due to rain. If three innings are not completed when a game is called, the game will be resumed from the exact point at which it was called at a later date. Lineups will have to stay as close as possible to the lineup used when the game was suspended.

14. There will continue a ZERO tolerance policy for coaches, players and parents. Any player, coach or parent using profanity or making derogatory comments will be ejected immediately from the field location.

14A. A player's first offense of either throwing a helmet, bat or other object will result in a warning, a second offense will get a player ejected from the game and pending league discussion possible game suspensions.

14B. Coaches are reminded it is their responsibility to control themselves, their players, as well as their fans. The respective league representative will be notified immediately in the occurrence of any ejection and pending home league discussion possible suspensions.

15. Each team is limited to 4 coaches. Defensive coaches must stay behind the barriers to the field of play at all times. Offensive coaches are to remain within the boundaries of the coaches boxes along the 1st and 3rd base lines. All other coaches must stay in the dugout area. Only rostered players and coaches may be in the dugout area with the exception of a bat boy/girl.

18. Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, provided the players occupy the same batting order whenever in lineup. It is illegal re-entry to remove a substitute from the game and then re-enter that sub later in the game. A pitcher may be moved to another position on the field and be eligible to pitch again in that game after the inning they were switched in is completed. If a pitcher is subbed off the field the player does NOT lose their pitching eligibility for the rest of the game.

19. The teams will be allowed to have an infield and outfield ball to warm up with throw all balls in when catcher throws down. The pitcher will only be allowed 5 warm up pitches between innings.

20. Bunting is allowed.

21. All runners must slide to avoid contact with the fielder. If a runner does not slide and contact is made **while the fielder has possession of the ball**, the runner is out. **Fielders cannot block the base if they do not have possession of the ball.** NO HEAD FIRST SLIDES! Dive backs to a base are permitted.

**22. Infield fly rule definition: An Infield Fly is a fair fly ball (not a line drive or bunt) that, in the judgment of the umpire, can be caught by an infielder, pitcher, or catcher with ordinary effort and when there are runners on first and second or first, second, and third and less than two outs.**

23. All helmets worn by players are required to have a face mask and chin strap which must be used for its intent and purpose. Helmets are required to be worn at all times by offensive players on the field during a game. These players include on deck batters, batters, base runners and players serving as base coaches. **No jewelry will be allowed with the exception of starter earrings that cannot be removed, which should be covered by tape/ band-aids. (THIS RULE IS BEING STRICTLY ENFORCED BY ALL LEAGUE COACHES AND UMPIRES!!!!)**

24. Each player must play at least 6 consecutive outs as a defensive player and 1 at bat.

25. No tobacco use of any kind will be allowed by players or coaches in the dugout or playing field.

26. A catch shall become legal when the fielder shows complete control of the ball in her hand or glove. Catching the batted or thrown ball with anything other than the hand(s) or glove in its proper place shall be ruled an illegal catch.

27. Any batter struck by a pitch that is not swung at nor called a strike shall be awarded first base. It does not matter if the ball strikes the ground before hitting the batter. The batters hands are not considered part of the bat. IF NO ATTEMPT IS MADE TO AVOID BEING HIT, THE BATTER WILL NOT BE AWARDED A BASE UNLESS IT IS BALL 4. If the batter is hit on the hands while swinging at a pitch and hits the ball fair or foul, the ball is dead and a strike is called. If it is strike three, the batter is out.

28. Batter-runners must run in the 3-foot running lane on the foul side of the first base line.

29. **During a base on balls scenario, if a player rounds first base and makes an aggressive move towards second, they must commit to second base. A slight rounding of the base without an aggressive move will allow the player to return to first base.**

30. A team roster must be submitted to the CSFPS Board of directors by the elected date set. If a team does not submit a roster they will forfeit until the roster has been received and approved by CSFP.

**30A. Maximum rostered team number of 16. Age groups 10U and above.**

31. Managers, at minimum, will bat the number of fielded (position) players. At the manager's discretion, they may choose to use an EH, or place all of their players on the roster into the batting order. Once the line-up is set by starting play, the batting order cannot change

32. A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher when she is on base with two outs to let her get her equipment on. The runner must be the batter who made the previous out. The change must be made before the 1st legal pitch to the next batter.

33. The batter becomes a batter-runner when the catcher fails to catch the third strike before the ball touches the ground when:

- There are fewer than two outs and first base is unoccupied at the time of the pitch, or
- There are two outs and first base is occupied. This is called the third strike rule.

34. Any rule not covered by PIAA rules, 15U will default back to the CSFP rules.

35. The use of the Flex – DP player will be used per the 2009 ASA Official Rules of Softball (refer to ASA rule book for additional information).

36. Ball that bounces is a live ball and can be hit.

37. If a pitcher hits three batters in an inning **EVEN IF THE BALL BOUNCES** (still live ball) the pitcher must immediately be replaced for that inning. The pitcher who has been replaced may return to the pitching position the next inning. If a pitcher hits a total of four batters in a game the pitcher must immediately be replaced and loses her eligibility to pitch the remainder of the game no matter if she is eligible or not.

Umpire's note: If the batter makes no attempt to avoid being hit, the pitcher will not be charged with a hit batter and the batter will not be awarded first base unless it is ball four

### **38. Players in the dugout to keep quiet during the pitcher's wind-up.**

38. **Game protests: Manager will declare a protest during the game. The game will be continued to conclusion. The protest will be handled by the League Reps of the teams involved in the game to see if resolution can be arranged. If not, the protest will go to the Board. After your game end time you will have a total of 24 hours to submit your game protest to the league reps, after the protest is submitted the league reps have 24 hours to vote on the protest at state. Once all votes are in the CSFP Meeting secretary will email the coach and reps back on what the final results are.**

**39. If a team doesn't show up to play the scheduled game, the team automatically forfeits. If that team did not provide sufficient notice to allow the home team to cancel their umpires, the forfeiting team will be required to pay ALL umpire fees. The team that does not show up will be under review of the CSFP board of directors.**

**40. Pitchers are required to wear a mask and it is highly recommended that 1st & 3rd base players wear a mask as well.**

**Cambria Somerset Fast Pitch highly recommends the use of throat protectors on all catchers' masks as an added safety precaution. It is highly recommended that 1st and 3rd base players wear a mask as well.**

### **League Rescheduling Policy**

Games will be rescheduled due to darkness, weather and scheduling conflicts. It is the responsibility of the home team to provide the visiting team two new dates for the game. These two dates cannot interfere with the visiting teams previously scheduled games. If the visiting team does not play the game on one of the offered dates the game will be recorded as a win for the home team and a loss for the visiting team. All rescheduled games must be reported to CSFP within 48 hours of the reschedule. **If the home team can't provide a field in the 48 hour window to reschedule the game, they must play away if the visiting team has field availability or forfeit that game. Also new this year if the league secretary doesn't get a confirmed date after 48 hours, he will text both managers and also include both league co-presidents to help get the game resolved and scheduled.**

#### **Final Scores 15&U**

**It is the responsibility of the winning team to report the score of the game on the CSFP website ([www.leaguelineup.com/csfpitch](http://www.leaguelineup.com/csfpitch) ). All game scores must be entered within 24 hours from official scheduled date or a forfeit will be given for both teams. The password for the website is: csfp2021**

Please visit our new website at [www.leaguelineup.com/csfpitch](http://www.leaguelineup.com/csfpitch), your rosters, scores and game schedules will be on the new site, we will no longer be using the old website effective 4/1/18. As usual 15U is required to submit all games scores and schedule request for rainouts & reschedules. For schedule change request you will email the CSFP league secretary under the contacts tab of the website