

St. Thomas Optimist Softball

PEEWEE DIVISION (U13/U15)

1. Emphasis is to be placed on learning the fundamentals of the sport, good sportsmanship, and having fun.
2. Unless otherwise specified, all rules are those recognized by Softball Ontario
3. Bantam level players will be assigned as Umpires for each game;
4. Umpire cards are to be signed by the Home Team coach, even if the game is forfeited
5. Coaches are responsible for placing bases into sleeves before the game (first coach to arrive)
6. "Home" team coach is responsible for returning bases to equipment bins after each game
7. Scores are to be kept by each team in the score books provided
8. Scores are to be reported by the Home Team coach after each game
9. A maximum of 10 defensive players will be allowed on the field. Teams must have a minimum of 7 defensive players on the field;
10. If a team has less than 7 players the game is forfeited and recorded as a 1-0 Loss
11. In case of forfeits, the players may be shared across teams and a fun scrimmage or practice can take place on the field - umpire is to stay and assist as needed
12. Players from the division below (Squirt) may be called up, to a maximum of 10 players on the bench
13. Players who have been called up must wear their own team shirts and follow all Peewee rules of play
14. No innings will begin after 90 minutes from the start of the game. Umpire may call last inning at their discretion but is not required to do so
15. If games are rained out after 45 minutes of play, the score recorded will be the score as of the last complete inning. Games rained out before 45 minutes of play will be rescheduled.
16. Players will pitch to opposing teams; A player may only pitch for a maximum of two consecutive innings but may pitch more than 2 innings total per game
17. Pitchers must use an underhand pitching style - windmill pitching is permitted and encouraged;
18. Pitchers must pitch from the rubber mound
19. Pitchers must start with both feet together and facing home plate,
20. It is legal to drag, leap or hop and then land and throw as long as the original push starts from the pitcher's plate. It is not legal to step off with the pivot foot and then drag, leap, or hop and throw
21. Strikes and balls are in effect; a foul when 2 strikes on the count will not be a third strike
22. A foul tip on the 1st or 2nd strike must be over the batter's head and caught by the catcher for the batter to be called Out. Any foul tip caught by the catcher on the third strike will result in a call of out
23. Stealing bases is allowed, batters may advance once the ball has left the pitcher's hand
24. A batter may run to first base on a third strike ONLY if the catcher drops the ball AND first base is not occupied
25. If a ball is overthrown and goes out of play, it is considered a dead ball and runners will advance one base. The Umpire will call TIME and direct the runners
26. Catchers may not block home plate when a runner is advancing from third base - catchers must stand in front of the plate to ensure safety of both players and not on the base path or on home plate. A runner coming from third will be called safe when approaching the plate if the catcher is blocking their path
27. Sliding into base is allowed except first base - no sliding into first base
28. Infield fly rule will apply - when the batter hits a fair fly ball with runners on 1st & 2nd, or 1st 2nd & 3rd, AND there are less than 2 outs the batter will be called out and runners may not advance
29. Every inning has a six-run limit. There is a maximum of 7 innings per game
30. The batting order must remain the same for the entire game - any batter out of order or missing is an automatic out, except for injured players. This infraction must be brought to the attention of the umpire while the batter is at the plate in order to be enforced
31. Catcher must wear the leg guards, chest protector, and catcher's helmet
32. Pitchers must wear fielding masks; other fielding players may wear the mask but are not required to
33. Batters/base-runners must wear a helmet with face mask until they have entered the dugout
34. During the regular season a tied game remains tied - only tournament games are played out

Ball: 12" soft core ball

Pitcher: From the rubber, one hop or dragging pivot foot is allowed

Base Distance: 60 feet