

SweetTees Rules

Updated Spring 2019

In the preseason, practice will be 1-2 times per week. Once the season begins, the intent is to have one game and one practice each week. Games will be played on Mondays/ Tuesday/ Thursday or Saturdays and practices will be schedule during the week at the discretion of the coach. A 8-10 game season is typical. Additional practices are optional but will not be scheduled by the league.

Games have a one-hour time limit consisting of 3-4 innings. All equipment used during practices and games must meet the requirements of the Blythewood Softball League.

I. - Hitting

7 or Less Players

All the players in the lineup will hit each inning if you have 7 or less on a team. Example: Team A (7 players) and Team B (6 players). Inning 1 – Team A bats players 1-7& Team B bats players 1-6; Inning 2 REPEAT

Innings 1 & 2 - Each batter will hit from the tee. Runners will advance one base at a time. The ball must travel beyond the 12-foot arc to be considered in play. There will be no strikeouts. No outs or score will be recorded, however if the defensive records an out that base runner will be removed.

Innings 3 & 4 – Each hitter will be pitched to from 35 feet. The hitter will get 4 four pitches per at bat. If the final pitch is fouled, the batter gets another pitch. If after the final pitch without contact, the ball will be placed on the tee. The ball must travel beyond the 12 foot arc to be considered in play. There will be no strikeouts. No outs or score will be recorded, however if the defensive records an out that base runner will be removed.

8 or More Players:

Only half the players in the lineup will hit each inning. Example: Team A (12 players) and Team B (11 players). Inning 1 – Team A bats players 1-6 & Team B bats players 1-6; Inning 2 – Team A bats players 7-12 & Team B bats players 7-11. Inning 3 – Team A bats players 1-6 & Team B bats players 1-6; Inning 4 – Team A bats players 7-12 & Team B bats players 7-11.

Innings 1 & 2 - Each batter will hit from the tee. Runners will advance one base at a time. The ball must travel beyond the 12 foot arc to be considered in play. There will be no strikeouts. No outs or score will be recorded, however if the defensive records an out that base runner will be removed.

Innings 3 & 4 – Each hitter will be pitched to from a distance of 35 feet. The hitter will get 4 four pitches per at bat. If the final pitch is fouled, the batter gets another pitch. If after the final pitch without contact, the ball will be placed on the tee. The ball must travel beyond the 12 foot arc to be considered in play. There will be no strikeouts. No outs or score will be recorded, however if the defensive records an out that base runner will be removed.

II. Base running and Play Stoppage Play will stop when: 1) batted ball stays on the infield or any ball hit from the tee, runners can advance only one base; or 2) when a pitched ball is hit into the outfield, runners can continue to advance until the defensive team gets the ball to the infield breaking the plane separating the infield dirt from the outfield grass.

If a base runner is more than half way to the next base when play is stopped, he will be awarded that base. If the runner is not half way, they will return to the previous base.

For the final batter of each inning, the hitter will clear the bases by all runners reaching home plate unless the defense makes a play on the batter and records an out. Once play is stopped, all remaining runners will be allowed to clear the bases by reaching home plate.

Coaches at each base will be the umpire for that base. In case of a disagreement, the head coaches of both teams will discuss and make the final call.

When a player is called out, the nearest coach will make sure the child gets back to the dugout before play resumes.

If a play is made at any base and the ball is over thrown, no runners can advance other than to the base they are running to.

There will be no plays at home allowed.

No coach or adult is permitted to stop the ball at any time. It is up to the players to stop the ball and make a play on the runner.

III. Defensive Positioning

On defense, the infielders will have defined positions at first; second; short; third; and a pitcher.

The pitcher must one foot inside the circle which will be 12 feet in diameter centered 35 feet from home plate.

Outfield positions must be a minimum of 15 feet behind the base path (60' bases). There are no set positions required for the outfielders. Outfielders can be placed on the dirt or outfield grass at the coach's discretion.

Coaches will be responsible for rotating players at both infield and outfield positions in an organized manner. The team batting will have coaches at the tee; first and third base coaching boxes; and behind second base. The defensive team will have up to four coaches spread throughout the field. When the

team is batting, they are required to have coaches at home plate or pitching to the batter; first and third base coaching boxes. The coach at home plate is responsible for moving the tee out of play once the ball is hit beyond the arc.

The defensive team can have up to three coaches spread around the infield and outfield.

Players are not allowed to lead off or steal.

No infield fly rule.