



North Harbour Softball Intermediate Schools Fastball45 Competition

RULES:

Intermediate Fastball45 Competition – Rules

The Game: Regulation game – 3 innings or 45 Minutes

PLAYING RULES

- ✚ Time limit for all FASTBALL45 games shall be 45 minutes or completion of 3 innings.
- ✚ Play starts and finishes on the Hooter.
- ✚ Teams must have a minimum of 6 players to play or must default.
- ✚ The batting side changes after 3 outs or 7 runs, whichever comes first. However, if the batting side has scored 6 runs before the 3rd out, then all runs batted in with the 7th run will count.
- ✚ If 3 innings are incomplete at time. Then final score will revert to the last completed innings.
- ✚ There will be no time stoppage for injuries unless it is a major injury.
- ✚ New innings will NOT commence with less than 5 minutes to go.
- ✚ 1st inning will start with a runner on first base. 9th Batter starts on first Base.
- ✚ 2nd inning will start with runners on first and second base. Being the last 2 batters from previous innings.
- ✚ 3rd innings will start with runners on all bases (loaded bases). Being the last 3 from the previous innings.
- ✚ Batters named in line up from 1 – 9 must stay in that order throughout the game.
- ✚ All non-fielding individuals must remain over 5 meters behind the foul ball.

BATTING & BASE RUNNING

- ✚ ALL players of this age group should be used. So that they all participate equally.

TEMPORARY RUNNER FOR CATCHER ONLY

- ✚ This only applies when catcher is on base and there is 2 out.
- ✚ Runner is the last available batter out.
- ✚ This is to speed up the game – catcher comes off and immediately puts on catchers' gear for when they go out to field.

SUBSTITUTIONS

- ✚ This is to be done between innings only. No substitutions allowed during an innings.
- ✚ May also be allowed due to injury as approved by the umpires.

DEFENSIVE PLAY

- ✚ Pitchers will have one warm up at the start of each innings – no others will occur during innings.
- ✚ Fastball45 pitching is as per standard softball pitching.
- ✚ Teams are to rotate pitchers between innings ie: Different pitcher per innings
- ✚ 4 Balls = Walk.
- ✚ 3 Strikes = Out
- ✚ No Intentional Walks

CHANGE OVERS

- ✚ 3 Minutes to change over as per Umpire judgement.
- ✚ If one team is not ready, then a ball or strike will be called depending on which team is responsible for hold up.

EQUIPMENT

- ✚ Regulation softballs – Provided by NHSA – 12 inch
- ✚ There will 3 to 4 balls available for each game to ensure the game flows.
- ✚ All catchers must wear safety gear – Helmet, Mask, Chest protector and Leggings – This can be borrowed from NHSA though it is preferred schools have their own.
- ✚ Umpires must wear face mask.
- ✚ Regulation Bats
- ✚ All Fielders must wear gloves.
- ✚ Please note NHSA can assist in acquiring gear for schools that require it.

TEAM OFFICIALS

- ✚ Each team must supply 1 umpire and 1 scorer per game.
- ✚ Home Team Umpire starts as Plate Umpire/Away Team starts as Base Umpire. Umpires to alternate positions between innings. Umpires may at their discretion and in agreement with each other stay on the position throughout the game.
- ✚ Umpires must attend and complete the NHSA Umpires Orange Shirt Introductory Course – free of charge. If a team does not have a designated umpire an official umpire will be supplied at a cost of \$15.00 per game.

RESULTS

- ✚ These must be returned to control room at end of game – team scorers to ensure they have the same result.
- ✚ Points will be awarded as follows:
 - ✚ 3 for a win
 - ✚ 2 for a tied game
 - ✚ 0 for a loss

North Harbour Softball Association encourages all schools to ensure all players are rotated in fielding positions. This is to ensure player development in all areas of the game.