

HAPS DISTRICT RULES SOFTBALL

(Last Updated May 2017)

National Federation of High School Sports Rules will apply for softball. Special rules or restrictions will apply as listed below.

1. The Playing field will have the following dimensions:
 - a. The distance from the apex of home plate to the pitchers rubber will be forty (40) feet (unless it is not possible at the school facility).
 - b. The distance between bases shall be sixty (60) feet.
2. Game Equipment:
 - a. A 12 inch yellow optic .47 core high school competition ball shall be used.
 - b. Batting helmets will require faceguards and have NOCSAE seal.
3. Games and Rules:
 - a. Games shall be 7 innings or 1 hour 50 minutes, whichever comes first.
 - b. There is a 5 run limit per inning for each team.
 - c. Once an inning is started, it must be completed unless conditions do not allow the game to be completed.
 - d. Extra innings will be used to determine a winner if tied after 7 innings.
 - e. If weather, darkness, or other event forces a game to end early, the game must be replayed from the beginning. In the same sense, if the game is called after 5 complete innings or the home team is leading in the bottom of the fifth, then the game is considered complete and victory is awarded to the team with the most runs. Additionally, a game ended after the fifth inning but before the seventh will revert back to the last full inning played if the game cannot be completed and the visiting team is leading. This is only in cases where the game cannot be completed due to circumstances outside time.
 - f. Mercy Rules:
 - i) 10 runs after five innings
 - ii) 12 runs after four innings
 - iii) 15 runs after three innings
4. There will be a District tournament at the end of the season for the top 4 teams.
5. Ties will be decided by head-to-head competition in the season. The next step, if there is not enough time to play a tie-breaker game, a coin toss will be made with a Board member of HAPS officiating the toss. This can be done by conference call if both schools agree.
6. The host school will be responsible for all game costs.
7. If a team chooses to not play the tournament, the next team in the standings will fill that spot. The team choosing to not play will need to meet before the HAPS membership to determine if there will be any consequences for not finishing the season.

8. For the two schools playing in the championship, any trophies and/or awards will be the mutual agreement of the two schools involved.

9. Two certified officials are required for all league games. If only one official is available and the game is started, the game is official.