

HAPS SOFTBALL RULES

(Updated 1/25/2018)

1. NFHS regulations will be followed (including the DP/Flex Rule). Some exceptions for NFHS regulations apply (see below).
2. Games will consist of 7 innings, but no inning will start after 1 hour 25 minutes. There are no ties.
3. Game Tie-Breaker: After the completion of 7 Innings, or when time limits have expired, and the score is still tied, the tiebreaker procedure will begin. The player, who had the last completed at bat, assumes a position on 2nd base. A substitute may be inserted. A courtesy runner may be used for the pitcher or catcher. This procedure would be done at the beginning of each half inning; until a winner is determined.

If the absent player should begin the half inning at second base, no out is declared. The player whose name precedes the absent player in the line-up is placed on second base.

If the wrong player is placed on second base, the correct runner should be inserted immediately even if a pitch has been thrown, or the runner has advanced a base.

All play made while the incorrect runner was on base stands. It is the responsibility of the Umpire and scorekeeper/coach to notify the teams involved as to which player starts the half inning at second base.

4. A mercy rule will be as follows: 15 runs after 3 innings, 10 runs after the 4 inning and 8 runs after 5 innings.
5. Pitching rubber will be a mandatory distance of 40 feet. If schools do not have the ability to make this happen, they will play at their opponent's field.
6. There will be a District tournament at the end of the season for the top 4 teams. The tournament will be a single elimination format. Teams will be seeded for the tournament based on their league record.
7. There shall be free defensive substitutions during games. However, the batting lineup should be governed by NFHS rules.
8. Ties in winning percentage 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.

Points of Emphasis: NFHS rules govern courtesy runners, base distance, DP/Flex Players