

## Geauga Fast Pitch League Rules

Revised March 2011

Ohio High School Rules apply except where noted (1/14/99).

Divisions	10	12	14	18
Innings	6	7	7	7
Bases	60	60	60	60
Stealing	NO	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ball Size	11	12	12	12
Pitching Distance	35	40	40	43
Age (as of)	Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup> all divisions			

### PITCHING

Please refer to the section in the NFHS rulebook regarding pitching. "A legal delivery shall be a pitched ball that is delivered to the batter with an underhand motion" it does not have to be a windmill motion, nor is there any required arc or lack of arc, therefore a pitcher may use a slow pitch delivery. We encourage pitchers to be taught a fast pitch delivery.

### SPECIAL RULES FOR 10U TEAMS

1. A 10u team may field 10 players in a game but can have as few as 8 (10<sup>th</sup> player is an outfielder). (4/98)
2. There is no infield fly rule. (4/98)
3. A batter cannot advance on a dropped third strike. (5/31/98)
4. No lead offs, a runner cannot be put out. No pick off plays are allowed. (5/31/98)
5. Runners cannot leave the base until the ball crosses home plate. (There is NO stealing) (1/14/99)
6. No coaches may pitch. (2/20/07)
7. Each team is allowed to score a maximum of 4 runs per inning thru out the game. (No continuous play, no unlimited runs in the last inning.) (2/20/07)
8. An official game is played to 4 ½ innings or the 2hr. time limit to allow all players a minimum of 2 innings defensively. (6/00)

### GENERAL LEAGUE RULES

1. Games begin at 6:30. Visiting team takes the field at 6:15.
2. A forfeit occurs if a team cannot field 8 players within 15 minutes of the official start of the game.
3. Home team supplies both game balls. Both must be the same color.
4. Time limit of 2 hrs. per game. No inning shall start after 2 hrs..
5. If the game is a doubleheader, the time limit is 1.5 hrs. per game.
6. All age groups must have at least 8 players to start & finish the game. (4/28/02)
7. 5 complete innings constitutes an official game. In addition, if time expires the game is official.
8. Any game that does not go the regulation 2 hrs. or to the bottom of the 5<sup>th</sup> inning (with the home team ahead) shall be called a suspended game. Unless agreed upon by the coaches, the game will resume from the point it stopped with the same batting order, lineup, pitch count, & outs. Any player not present will be scratched from the lineup without penalty. If new players present will be added to the end of the batting order and the game will continue until complete.
9. If the game is tied the international tiebreaker is in effect.  
Each half inning begins by placing a runner on 2<sup>nd</sup> base. That runner is the player in the batting order that preceded the lead-off batter in that inning. Then the game proceeds a full inning or until a winner is determined in that inning.
10. Every player plays a minimum of 2 innings defensively.
11. Continuous batting order & free substitutions (this includes pitchers 5/99). Any player taken out of the game due to injury and misses a batting turn may not re-enter and will not be an out. There is NO automatic out if a team has only 8 players.
12. All outfielders must be 15 feet behind the baseline at the start of every play.
13. A 12u team may field 10 players, 4 will be outfielders. (3/20/07)
14. LIGHTNING RULE: If the umpire sees lightning or hears thunder the game shall be delayed 30 minutes from the last occurrence. All individuals have the right to leave an athletic site or activity, without fear of repercussion or penalty, in order to seek a safer structure or location if they feel they are in danger from impending lightning activity. (4/16/07)
15. RUN RULE for 12U DIVISION ONLY: There will be a MAXIMUM of 8 runs permitted per inning, (no continuous play—meaning only 8 runs count even if a HR is hit & more than 8 runs score) IN THE LAST INNING THERE WILL BE UNLIMITED RUNS ALLOWED. The last inning to be determined by the umpire & coaches and will be the last inning regardless if time remains. (3/10)
16. SLAUGHTER RULE (12u & 14u): A softball game ends anytime after five innings when a team is 10 or more runs behind and has completed its term at bat. Home team does NOT need to bat in the fifth inning if they are ahead by 10 runs. (OHSAA "General Regulations" (1) Interscholastic Participation rule 1.6) (2/10)

## GFP BY-LAWS

1. The GFP Board of Directors:
  1. Will consist of 3 Directors one from each of the following organizations: CGS, Berkshire Rec., & LAGS
  2. Each Director will have one vote.
  3. The Directors will elect & serve as president, vice president, & secretary/treasurer of GFP.
  4. The Directors or president shall call for special meetings of the members at their discretion. Upon the written request of five members, the president shall call a special meeting to consider a specific subject. No business other than that specified in the notice of the meeting shall be transacted at the special meeting of the members & the Board of Directors.
  5. The Directors will settle all disputes during regular season play with the help of the Division Head.
2. Members of GFP:
  1. The head coach from each participating team & the 3 directors.
  2. Each member shall have one vote.
3. The coaches in each division (10u, 12u, 14u, & 18u) will elect a Division Head or Heads. (2/20/07) The division head may also serve on the Board of Directors & coach. (4/29/98)
4. Only players who live in your community or go to school in your school district are eligible to play on your community teams. (1997) Exceptions to be reviewed & approved by the GFP Board of Directors (revised 5/09) (reinstated 3/16/11)
5. There will be an open league in the 18u Division. (12/14/00) Amended to 19U (2005) (reinstated 3/16/11)
6. No organization, team, manager, coach, or spectator may recruit players while in summer league play in GFP those disregarding the request may be subject to a review by the Board of Directors of GFP & may be denied future membership and/or participation in GFP. (3/16/11)
7. Division Heads responsibilities: (5/09)
  1. Will keep track of the win-loss records for each team. (Coaches required to report scores to division director)
  2. Help to set up the tournament during the last week of the season & oversee the tournament or find an approved substitute.
  3. Will obtain each coach's contact information at the scheduling meeting. (phone numbers, email)
  4. Will obtain a roster for each team by the end of June.
  5. Assist the Board of Directors as needed to settle any division dispute during the season.
  6. Assume other reasonable duties as deemed necessary by the GFP Board of Directors.
8. Teams must pay all GFP fees or they will not be allowed to schedule games. (3/12/98)
9. All coaches must schedule & play the league required games for the season. NO EXCEPTIONS (5/31/98)
10. Rosters may have 20 players/team. Only 15 trophies will be provided/team but teams may purchase more at their cost. (1/10/02)
11. **CARDED UMPIRES ARE REQUIRED FOR 14U & 18U.** (4/29/98) Carded umpires are suggested but not required for 10U & 12U.
12. Any player or coach that is ejected from a game will be suspended for the next 2 games. The next ejection will result in the coach or player ejected from the league for the remainder of the season. (3/14/02)
13. All season record ties will be decided by: (4/29/98)
  1. Head to head
  2. Least runs allowed
  3. Run differential
  4. Coin flip
14. GFP Board of Directors reserves the right to cancel the year-end tournament with a majority vote from the Board & the division members.
15. GFP Board of Directors reserves the right to change or amend any rules or by-laws as necessary with a majority vote of the board.