

## Softball PEI – U7 Rules

**Pitching Distance:** 30 feet

**Ball Size:** 10 inch Soft Training Ball or 11 inch Indoor Ball

**Base Distance:** 45 feet

**Scrimmage Length:** 1 hour

**Open innings:** There are no open innings.

**Mercy Rule:** There is no mercy rule for U7.

### Game Rules

#### Score

- Score and standings will not be kept as the emphasis is on player and team skill development not on winning

#### Equipment

- All batters will wear a batting helmet with strap done up while at bat and on base. A helmet with a cage is highly recommended.
- It is encouraged for defensive players to wear a face guard

#### Playing Time

- It is encouraged that a player cannot play the same position in consecutive innings.
- All players will be given the opportunity to play each position during the scrimmages throughout the season.
- Coaches are encouraged to play all players as equally as possible over the course of the season.

#### Batting

- All players bat in each inning.
- The batting order should be shuffled every inning so a different player leads off each inning.
- The inning is over when every player has a turn at bat.
- Sliding is allowed.
- NO stealing allowed of any base and no advances on overthrows.

#### Pitching

- An adult from the batting team will pitch to their own team. The pitcher is encouraged to use the windmill arm action when pitching. Each batter gets 5-7 hittable pitches.
- If the player does not hit a fair ball, but swings on at least 2-4 pitches, they can go to first base. This will help children learn to swing at the ball. Alternatively, you may choose to the child hit from a tee.
- The pitcher should have a bucket of balls so that if the catcher misses you don't have to wait for them to retrieve the ball. It is encouraged to have a parent at the back stop who throws balls back between batters.

**Defensive Play**

- All players will play defensive but there must be a maximum of 7 players in the infield.
- There will always be 4 outfielders used.
- Two coaches can be on the field to help direct field play.