

# WILMOT SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

## FAIR PLAY POLICY



This Fair Policy has been established to insure that the interest of the children is in mind. A “win at all costs” philosophy will not be tolerated at any age level in the Wilmot Softball Association. The primary purpose of our youth Softball League is to promote the game of softball, educate the children about the rules, winning and losing, sportsmanship and team play.

### **Expectations at all age levels:**

- The safety of our players always comes first.
- Every official, coach, player and parent will accept and agree to the Wilmot Softball Association Code(s) of Conduct with membership and will be expected to abide by that Code.
- The basic fundamentals of softball will be emphasized while making the season an enjoyable experience for the children.
- Every player will be taught the skills which are appropriate for each level of play, as well as more advanced skills and techniques should time allow during the season.
- Every player suited up for play and on the roster will play. All coaches will use their best efforts to ensure that each player is allowed to have equal playing time.
- All teams will use a continuous batting order and the batting order will change to allow equal at bats over the season.
- Parents are required to contact the coach if their child is going to miss a practice or game. If the player misses 2 consecutive practices/games, that player will still be allowed to play in their next game, but may not be allowed to be a starter.

### **At the U11 & under (U11, U9, Coach Pitch and T-ball):**

- Every player will be given the opportunity to try every position by the end of the season to enhance skill building.
- During games, player’s positions will be rotated every inning. For Atom/Mite - player positions should rotate throughout the season and not necessarily every inning at the discretion of the coach. Players should have an opportunity to play all positions.
- During practices, all players who wish to try pitching may be allowed to do so.
- Players wishing to pitch must show additional commitment and practice on their own time.
- However, during games, only those players who are able to pitch the ball over home plate will play this position.

### **At the U13 & U15 age groups:**

- During practices, all players who wish to try pitching and catching may be allowed to do so. However, during games, only those players who have shown the ability to pitch and catch well will play this position.
- Although every player will play in a game at least 3 innings, it will be at the coach’s discretion what positions they will play.
- Players wishing to pitch must show additional commitment and practice on their own time.

**At the U17 level:**

- During games, only those players who have shown the ability to pitch and catch well will play this position.
- Although every player will play in a game at least 3 innings, it will be at the coach's discretion what positions they will play.

**Fair Play Exceptions:****Local League - All levels except T-ball and Coach Pitch.**

- 1) In ORSA, OASA or tournament play coaches may choose not to rotate players in to all positions. Positions determined at the coach's discretion.
- 2) Players must play at least 3 innings in each game.
- 3) No players should sit an entire game. All players are expected to take turns sitting.

**Select or Representative Softball - At the 9 & under (U9, Coach Pitch and T-ball), U11 & U13:**

- 1) In ORSA, OASA, PWSA or tournament play coaches may choose not to rotate players in to all positions. Positions determined at the coach's discretion.
- 2) Players still must play at least 3 innings in each regular season game and a minimum of 2 innings in each tournament or playoff game.
- 3) No players should sit an entire game. Not all players will have to sit.

**Select or Representative Softball - At the U15 and older levels:**

- 1) In ORSA, OASA, PWSA or tournament play coaches may choose not to rotate players in to all positions. Positions determined at the coach's discretion and are earned thru hard work on and off the field. Playing time is earned not guaranteed.
- 2) In regular season games, no player will sit an entire game, however playing time may be limited and will be at the coach's discretion, players will play a minimum of 2 innings.
- 3) Some players may not sit at all in this level.