

NORTH COUNTY WINTERBALL ASSOCIATION

2013 RULES

(Revised July 22nd, 2013)



North County Winterball Association conforms to ASA rules with these Supplemental Rules.

1 TEAM ROSTER

There is no maximum, but end-of-season tourneys will likely be limited to a total of 15 sweatshirts for the winners and runners-up.

2 PROBLEMS/PROTESTS/COMPLAINTS

The umpires on the field will decide protests to ASA rules and North County Supplemental Rules. Complaints should be sent to your league board member UIC.

3 UMPIRE FEES FOR Joe Godinez's Group

Each Sunday and some Saturday's (if your team is hosting) throughout the season, teams must pay an umpire fee in CASH to the umpire at the field before their games. For the 8U, 10U, 12U and 14U teams, (only 1 umpire), the Winterball umpire fee for each team is \$50 per Saturday or Sunday. These umpire fees will cover both games held on Saturday or Sunday.

4 LINE-UP SHEETS

Line-up sheets must have names listed by last name, first initial, and number. Give to the plate umpire prior to start of game. All substitutions will be announced to the plate umpire, who will then tell the opposing team. Substitutes need not be present at the start of the game. Any player on your team roster can be added to the line up *at the bottom* if you are batting around, if she is not present at the start of the game.

Each team should BAT AROUND. Teams choosing the Bat Around option have free defensive substitutions. The "last out" may be used as a courtesy runner for pitchers/catchers.

5 UNIFORMS

Uniforms must comply with ASA. No metal cleats may be worn during play. Exposed jewelry may not be worn. Medical Alert bracelets or necklaces are not considered jewelry, but if worn must be taped to the body so that the alert tag is clearly visible.

6 RESCHEDULING

GAMES WILL NOT BE RESCHEDULED UNDER ANY CONDITIONS, INCLUDING RAINOUTS. In the event of a possible rainout, the home team should notify the NCWA UIC (see below) as soon as possible.

7 CANCELLATIONS/FORFEITS

If a team cannot play a game, the league's Winterball contact person **must notify the NCWA contact person or UIC** by phone and/or email. Please ask for a confirmation back by email that the request has been received. Umpires will be **paid in full** for all games cancelled after noon on Thursday, the week before the game. In this case, the league responsible for the late cancellation or no-show will pay the \$100 double-header fee for both teams. The fee will be taken from the leagues NCWA registration deposit and must be replaced before the league's teams can resume play.

**NCWA Contact List: Joe Godinez - UIC, Mobile - 760-484-7770
Email: jagesc1958@yahoo.com**

**Chris Scioscia – Mobile – 760-402-9338
Email: cscioscia2@yahoo.com**

An NCWA official and league rep/coach from the opposing team **must also be given notice** by noon on Thursday as well.

NOTE: If a team cancels a game for any reason other than a rainout, they are subject to being ineligible for the end of season tournament.

There will be a \$10 (per umpire) travel fee if umpires show up, but the fields are not playable due to rain. The host team pays this fee. The host team must notify the NCWA UIC by Noon on Saturday to cancel the Sunday game due to wet fields. If it's raining on Saturday or Sunday, the umpires will know not to show up.

8 INSURANCE

All teams are required to have Bollinger ASA youth insurance policies from their recreation league for all their players and coaches. Insurance policies should be with the team manager at all games. The umpires or opposing team manager have the right to see your team policy upon request. All players on your team need to be registered in your league and the team manager should carry the each player's league registration form with them to all games.

9 HOME TEAM/DUGOUTS

The host team will be the "home" team for the first game and will bat second. The traveling team will be the "home" team for the second game of the double-header. The host team has choice of dugouts and remains there for both games.

10 SUBSTITUTION/INJURY

A team must have 8 eligible players to start a game. If the team is reduced to 8 players for any reason other than the ejection of a player, the team may continue with 8 players, but not less than 8. When the absent 9th player is scheduled for her turn at bat, the automatic out will be recorded the first time only. When a team is reduced to 7 players because of ejection, that team forfeits the game.

If, after all available girls have been played, a player is forced to leave the game for any reason other than ejection, a player who has already played and been withdrawn from the game may re-enter if:

- a. All of the starting 9 players have been re-entered.
- b. The substitute player must be in the missing/injured player's batting order.
- c. The injured player **MAY NOT** re-enter the game.
- d. A player who has been ejected from the game **MAY NOT** re-enter the game.
- e. In all instances, when the 9th player is not available for any reason, other than ejection, a starter may return to her original position in the batting order. The substitute who replaces an injured player will go into the missing player's slot on the batting order.

11 BALLS

Each team will provide a new game ball and a backup ball each game day. Host team provides both balls for the first game. Visiting team provides both balls for the second game.

1. 8U will use the ten-inch optic yellow (green) Worth RIF level 1 ball.
2. 10U will use the eleven-inch optic yellow (green) Worth RIF level 1 ball.
3. 12U & 14U will use the twelve-inch yellow leather, red stitch Worth Dream Seam ball.

12 REGULATION GAME

A regulation game shall consist of 7 innings.

A full 7 innings will not be played if the home (second at bat) team is ahead after 6½ innings.

No new innings will start after 1½ hours after the official start time of the game. There is no “drop dead” rule.

In determining whether a new inning should be started, if the time had not expired when the last out of the preceding inning has been made, a new inning will be started even if the new inning will run past the 1½ hour limit. Once an inning starts, it will be completed in its entirety. The only exception is if the home team is ahead and is batting after 1½ hours. In which case, the umpire may call the game.

For regular season games, if a game is tied at the end of 7 innings or 1½ hours, whichever comes first, the game will end in a tie. Note: If time is remaining after 7 innings, one extra inning shall be played using International Tie-breaker rules.

The umpire may call a game because of darkness, rain, fire, panic, or other causes which place the payers or anyone else in peril.

An umpire may suspend a game and recommend a forfeit under these conditions:

1. If either team is not ready to play after a maximum time limit of 15 minutes after the scheduled start time has commenced. The 15-minute grace period is not subtracted from playing time.
2. If, after game time has started, one side refuses to play.
3. If, after a suspension, either side refuses to play within 2 minutes after an umpire calls “Play Ball.”
4. If, in the opinion of the umpire, either team employs tactics designed to delay or hasten the game.
5. If, after a warning by the umpire, one of the rules of the game is intentionally violated.
6. If the order of removal of a player or management personnel is not obeyed within 5 minutes of the order.

Up to 20 minutes will be given between the end of the first game and the start on the 2nd game of a double header, unless one team is waiting for a 9th player or pitcher who will arrive for the scheduled game time of the second game.

Note: NCWA does not keep track of scores or standings during the Winterball season.

13 MERCY RULE

This is Fall Ball – No Mercy Rules are in effect. Let the girls bat and play in the field as much as you can.

14 MAX RUNS/INNING

In the interest of keeping the game moving and getting more innings in for pitchers, there shall be a limit on the number of runs a team may score in an inning.

1. 8U – 4 runs/inning maximum
2. 10U, 12U, 14U – 6 runs/inning maximum

Note: If a team is losing by more than 6 runs as time expires, they still get to bat (even though it’s impossible for them to win) because the goal in Winterball is to get playing time. However, if the home team is ahead, and batting, when time expires, the umpire may call the game.

15 10U SPECIAL RULES

1. Teams will play with an optic yellow (green), eleven-inch, Worth RIF Level 1 ball.
2. Pitching distance is 35 feet.
3. Base paths can be 55 or 60 feet.

16 8U SPECIAL RULES

1. Some games (if pre-determined) will be 2 hour or 6 inning max 1 game played
2. Teams will play with an optic yellow (green), ten-inch, Worth RIF Level 1 ball.
3. Pitching distance 30 feet.
4. Base paths can be 55 or 60 feet.
5. Can steal only one base per pitch.
6. Cannot steal home.
7. Ball 4 walked runner gets 1st base only.

8. No dropped 3rd strike.
9. No infield fly rule.
10. 8U teams may score no more than 4 runs per inning.
11. 8U teams are allowed to have four outfielders. All four outfielders must be in the outfield when the ball is pitched. If any of the outfielders are in the infield before the ball is pitched, the umpire will award the batter first base.

17 POOLS

1. There will be separate pools where possible, Gold, Silver, maybe Bronze.
2. Leagues sending one team per division should have that team placed in the Gold Pool.
3. Leagues sending two or more teams per division will have one team placed in the Gold Pool. The other team(s) can be placed in the Silver Pool or placed in the Gold Pool.
4. If, in a division, there is a low number or odd number of teams in a pool, NCWA will combine pools. Typically, 8U and 14U is one pool while 10U and 12U have Gold and Silver pools.
5. When determining Gold and Silver for your league – always challenge the girls i.e. if you have a team of older girls put them in Gold, if you have a team of mostly returning All Star girls for that age group but are older or younger, put them in Gold. If you have a team playing up, then Silver seems more appropriate.

18 TOURNAMENTS

Typically the 8U & 10U Tournament will be handled by Carlsbad and the 12U & 14U Tournament will be handled by Escondido. Look for more information at a later time.

For those tournaments, each player on your tournament roster must have played in at least 50% of your Winter-ball games (e.g. 4 Saturdays or Sundays out of the 8).

The leagues hosting the playoffs will decide format and entry fees for the playoffs.