## MUSKEGO ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION Junior Slow Pitch Softball League Specific Rules Ages 7 – 9 *Revised 4.25.18*

- 1. A regulation NFHS 11" softball will be used.
- 2. Bats must be 31 inches or less and softball league approved.
- 3. Game scores and team standing will not be kept.
- 4. An underhanded pitch by the coach targeting the strike zone will be used.
- 5. Up to three offensive coaches may be on the field during games (pitcher, 1<sup>st</sup> base coach, 3<sup>rd</sup> base coach). Up to two outfield coaches and one coach behind the catcher can be on the field during game play by the defense.
- 6. All games will be at Bay Lane and start at 6:00pm, except for picture night. Games will last 6 innings or 80 minutes, whichever comes first.
- 7. For the first 3 games of the season only: During the first full inning, all players on both teams will bat and run the bases once through the lineup. After the first inning, the 3 out rule or once through the lineup, whichever comes first, will apply.

After the first 3 games of the season:

The 3 out rule or once through the lineup, whichever comes first, will apply for all innings.

- 8. Teams will field 9 players. Exception: if both teams have 10 or more players, each team may play 4 outfielders. (Outfield is defined as the edge of the outfield grass).
- 9. No bunting allowed.
- 10. No leading off base until the ball is either hit or crosses home plate. A runner may not advance unless the ball is hit or batter is walked.
- 11. No infield fly rule is enforced.
- 12. After 6 swings without a hit, the batter will hit off of a tee.
- 13. The player in the pitcher position must stand inside the pitching circle until the ball is hit.
- 14. The bat must be dropped after hitting the ball. Throwing the bat is not allowed.
- 15. Base runners must stay in the base paths.
- 16. On an over throw at first base (out of the field of play), the runner is awarded the next base. On all other over throws, the runners advance at their own risk.
- 17. When a ball is thrown from the outfield toward home and crosses an imaginary line between 1 and 3, runners can not advance beyond the base they are in the process of heading to at their own risk.
- 18. The batter and base runners must avoid contact with defensive players.
- 19. Sliding is allowed and encouraged.
- 20. All players must wear pants, jersey, and hat. NO SHORTS ALLOWED.
- 21. The general rules of NFHS softball and the MAA General rules will be used.