1. **SCHEDULES** - League schedules will be drawn up by the softball chairman and approved by the Columbia Basin Big 9 Athletic League.

2. **POSTPONED OR CANCELED GAMES** -
   
   A. In the event that game(s) are postponed, canceled, or suspended, they will be made up. The game(s) will be made up on the first playing date both teams have available. If it is a spring vacation game(s) it will be make up on the first available date following spring break.

   B. In the case of a suspended game, the game will resume **from the point of suspension.** *(6/03)*

   C. In the case where varsity games are completed before the non-varsity games on school nights, the non-varsity game may be called after 5 innings if mutually agreed upon by both head coaches.

3. **LEAGUE** - The league championship will be determined by the won-loss record in league play.

4. **UMPIRES** - W.I.A.A. officials will be used. The Big 9 requires two (2) officials for varsity league games.

5. **TEN (10) RUN RULE** - After five (5) completed innings of play, if either team is ahead by ten (10) runs, that team shall be the winner. This also includes full six (6) innings.

6. The CBBN Fastpitch League will use the courtesy runner in league and district play.

7. **TIE GAME** - All tie varsity games will be played out, **using the NFHS tie breaker procedure.** The tie-breaker procedure will be implemented after eight (8) full innings have been played. Each subsequent half-inning begins by placing a runner on second base. That runner is the player in the batting order who precedes the lead-off batter in that inning. Then the game proceeds a full inning or until a winner is determined that inning. *(6/03)*

8. **PRE-GAME WARM** -

   A. Approved pre-game warm-up schedule *(2/04)*.

   - 65 minutes before starting time - hitting for home team *(20 min)*
   - 45 minutes before starting time - hitting for visiting team *(20 min)*
   - 25 minutes before starting time - infield for home team *(10 min)*
   - 15 minutes before starting time - infield for visiting team *(10 min)*
   - 5 minutes before starting time - final prep of field *(5 min)*

   **Example of pre-game schedule approved to start this spring.** *(6/04)*

   Let's assume that a softball DH was scheduled to start at 4:00pm. This would be the pre-game schedule for that DH.
   - 2:55 home team hitting for 20 minutes
   - 3:15 visiting team hitting for 20 minutes
3:35 home team infield for 10 minutes
3:45 visiting team infield for 10 minutes
3:55 final prep of field for 5 minutes
4:00 play ball!

**Rules governing this pre-game warm-up schedule are:**

1. No visiting team may hit at their own school site before traveling on game day.
2. The home team may not starting hitting earlier than 65 minutes before the scheduled starting time to get in more than 20 minutes of batting practice on game day.
3. Both teams will hit under the same circumstances. That means if the home team hits in two cages and has protective screens. The visiting team will also be allowed two cages with protective screens. If the home team chooses to hit on the field or other fields then the visiting team may also hit on the field or other fields.
4. If, for whatever reason, either team chooses not to take batting practice the other team will still be allowed pre-game hitting if they so choose.
5. If a home school regularly announces starting line-ups and or plays the national anthem before the game the above schedule may be moved ahead 5 minutes as long as: a) both teams have arrived on the site and b) both coaches agree to the 5 minute adjustment. Realizing that all games should start promptly at the scheduled starting time the intent of this mutually agreed upon adjustment is to see that this happens. It is not to allow any additional pre-game team warm-up time.

9. CLEATS- No metal cleats may be worn by players.

10. BALLS- The official ball for varsity games will be the 12” Dudley State ball. (6-01)

11. PLAYING FIELD CONDITIONS

   A. The home team will be responsible for providing a safe playing surface for all games.

   B. There will be **NO** pitching rubber in front of the high school girls pitching rubber.

   C. Bases shall be 60 feet.

   D. There will be outfield foul lines. (6-01)

   E. Request 200” outfield fences.

12. DISTRICT TOURNAMENT FORMAT

   A. The district tournament format will be determined by a system to be agreed upon by the Big 9 Athletic Directors.

   B. Home team will be the highest finisher for league season; also selects dugout.
C. First round games will be at 5:00 pm on Thursday at the sites of the number 3 and number 4 teams. Second round games will be played at 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm on Saturday at the league-adopted site for the district tournament.

13. **LEAGUE TIES**- League standings will determine teams one through six. In cases of ties, the procedure for determining places is as follows:

A. Ties for a seeded position or a tie that involves the sixth place team in the final league standings must be played at a neutral site (6/03).

B. In ties that do not involve a seeded position or a sixth place team, the higher position will be awarded to the team that dominated the league contests between the schools involved in the tie. If the teams split their league contests, or in case of a multiple tie when it cannot be determined which team(s) dominated the league contests, the ties will be resolved by a flip or a draw.

C. Two-way ties for a second or sixth place will be played-off on the first Tuesday following the end of the regular season. Three and four-way ties involving a seeded position or sixth place will be played-off on Tuesday following the end of the regular season, at the site of the highest number draw team. (6/03)

D. Two, three and four-way ties for a seeded position or involving sixth place will be resolved by referring to the league tie breaking criteria.

14. **SELECTIONS OF THE BIG 9 FASTPITCH ALL CONFERENCE TEAM**

A. The following formula is recommended to be used to select the Big 9 All-League Team. Players should be ranked as to ability and team value.

1. Each team nominates players from their own school and are limited to the following numbers:
   a. Ten (10) positions (including the nine playing positions, plus designated-hitter; who must have 50% of AB’s as DH)
   b. A player can be nominated for only one position.
   c. Coaches may not vote for their own player.

2. Select players for each of three teams: First (1st), Second (2nd), and Honorable Mention and should be placed according to position as follows:
   a. Pitcher (2)
   b. Catcher
   c. 1st Base
   d. 2nd Base
   e. 3rd Base
   f. Shortstop
   g. 3 Outfielders
   h. Designated Hitter

3. Player selection points will be awarded as follow:
   - First team ....................... 3 points
   - 2nd team .......................... 2 points
4. Softball chairperson will provide a form for All-Conference nominations. The positions and statistics of each coach’s players will faxed to the softball chairperson by noon Monday prior to districts. Coaches will then discuss and select the official team using the lists and statistics.

5. An outstanding offensive and defensive player will be selected to represent the Big Nine. These awards are open to all Big Nine players.

6. A coach of the year will be selected by his/her peers.

7. A press release will be prepared at the time the Big 9 All-League Team is selected.