

2018 Majors Softball Rules

Ladies & Gentlemen
Let's have a fun season!

Majors Local Softball Rules:

1. Umpires: Zero tolerance for influencing, intimidating, persuading or questioning an umpire's judgment call. No coach will say "Nice Pitch" or "Good Eye" until **AFTER** the ump calls a ball or strike. Not a moan or groan. No Joke! Any coach violating this rule will be asked to leave the league "No Questions Asked". Coaches are responsible for advising parents and grandparents about this rule.
2. Games are 6 innings or 2 hours. No inning can start after 1 hour and 45 minutes. Use judgement. No infield or outfield ball after the first inning.
3. If a team does not have enough players to start the game, but has players on their way then to get the game started let the opposing team with sufficient players take the field so the game can begin. Hopefully by the time the team is to take the field they will have enough players. For the sake of getting the game started the team waiting for players becomes the home team.
4. Innings are 5 runs or 3 outs. Last inning is unlimited runs. The umpire must declare last inning if shortened by time and notify both managers before the start of that inning.
5. Pitching: A pitcher will only pitch 3 innings in total per game. Any pitcher may return to pitch. One pitch equals one inning. Pitching distance is 40' from the front of the pitching rubber to the back tip of the plate.
- 6 .Hit Batters: A maximum of three (3) hit batters per pitcher per game. In any case, the hit girl must make an attempt to avoid the pitch.
7. **Stealing is permitted on pitcher's release.**
8. Warm-up pitches – In order to speed up play – A new pitcher will be allowed 6 pitches to start a game and 3 warm up pitches per inning thereafter. A new pitcher entering a game after the first inning will also receive 6 pitches. Any pitcher returning after they have already pitched in a game will be given 3 warm up pitches.
9. 10 players can play the field, 4 outfielders (manager's option). No short fielder. Continuous batting order (all players may hit) applies. Williamsport Rules apply to all else.
10. As of the 2012 season all batters must wear a helmet with protective face mask.
11. Dropped third strike is in effect this year.
12. Catchers may be run for at any time during a game if a manager chooses to. Courtesy runner must either be the last batted out player or a player not currently in the game.
13. Have Fun!
14. Don't forget Rule #1