

GIRLS MAJOR LEAGUE RULES 2023

High School rules will be followed with these exceptions or clarifications:

1. The game will have a 1 hour and 30 minutes at which no new innings can be started after 1 hour and 15 minutes. The 15-run rule will be in affect after 3- and one-half innings. Maximum of 5 runs per inning or three outs for the first four innings. From the 5th inning on, the runs are unlimited or three outs.
2. The official ball is a 12” softball. (White or optic yellow)
3. Pitching distance is 40’ feet. Pitchers may pitch no more that 3 consecutive innings, may not pitch more than 3 innings in a game.
4. A team can start a game with no less than 8 players. Less than 8 players is a forfeit. The team with 8 players must place a designated OUT in their batting order. Any player that arrives late can enter the ball game as soon as the player can. If the arriving player is the 9th player, then she is placed in the batting order at the designated-OUT spot.
5. 9 defensive players and no designated hitter. Every player will play at least 2 defensive innings and 1 time at bat per game unless shortened by the run rule. If a coach has a discipline problem with one of his players and doesn’t feel the player has a right to play, the coach should discuss this problem with the opposing coach BEFORE the game. Also, if by mistake a player doesn’t get to play in a regular 6-inning game (coach’s error), that player will start and not be substituted for the next game.
6. Substitutions are unlimited.
7. All players will bat in the original batting order at all times (every player to be placed in the batting order). If a player bats out of turn, the batter is out, and any runner must return to their original positions at the bases before that batter. This must be caught before the fielding team pitches to the next batter.
8. Bunting is allowed. Bunt on third strike and fouled is an out.
9. Infield fly rule is in effect. Rule – If any time first or first and second is occupied and less than two outs, any pop fly hit in the infield is an out and the runners may advance at their own risk. The runners must tag up if the ball is caught but not if it is dropped.
10. No metal spikes.
11. Batters and base runners must wear their helmets at all times while on the playing field. The player will be warned in the first incident and then after the first incident, the player will be called out and if already out, the next batter will be called out.
12. If a player throws a bat – a warning will be issued the first time at bat, from that point on, the batter will be called out.

13. Sliding – all slides will be feet first except on a pick off play when trying to return to the base on a caught fly ball. (Line drive) If there is a possible play, the player must attempt to slide. If there is no play, no slide is required, and the fielder must not fake tags or block the bases if there is no play. **During the first week of the season, if there is a possible play at 2nd, 3rd or home base a player must slide. If a slide doesn't occur there will be a warning, then will be called out at the second occurrence. After first week if there is a possible play and runner does not slide the runner will be automatically out.**
14. Stealing is allowed and home is open. Dropped third strike is not an out if first base is unoccupied or the last out of the inning. The catcher must tag or throw the runner out at first. Base runner can lead off when the pitch is released from the pitchers' hand.
15. Base running – if runner rounds a base but stops with the pitcher in possession of the ball in the vicinity of the pitchers' mound or a fielder attempting to throw the ball to the pitcher, the player must return to that base unless the pitcher fails to field the ball. Any hesitation constitutes stopping. The pitcher is not required to look the runner back.
16. **A throw from the catcher to the pitcher is a live ball and runners can advance at their own risk.**
17. Each team can only have two coaches on the field and one coach / adult scorekeeper on the bench at all times. Coaches must remain inside the dugout while their team is on defense.
18. Any player that arrives late can enter the ball game as soon as the player can.
19. Warm-up before the game will be 7 minutes on the field for each team-visiting team goes first. The pitchers will get 8 pitches before the game and 5 pitches between innings.
20. Both teams must keep a scorebook and please check with the opposing team after each inning; but the home scorebook will be the official book in all disputes.
21. Any cheering should be positive and for your own team. No chants from the defensive team to distract the hitter at the time of the pitch.
22. Home team will supply game balls.

Home team is required to provide 2 umpires for each game. Umpires must have proper protection and be at least high school age.

MAJORS TOURNAMENT @ WILTON – Saturday, June 24
EACH TEAM WILL PROVIDE \$50 & 2 NEW GAME BALLS.