

2021 Multi-Town Little League Softball Mini League Rules

1. This league is coach pitch only. There are no walks, however batters may strike out.
2. There is no stealing.
3. Before every game, Head Coaches meet to shake hands. All kids and coaches shake hands after game – please pay attention to this and emphasize SPORTSMANSHIP.
4. Players should have their shirts tucked in; respect for the game is shown in this manner.
5. Batting lineups will include all of the players available to play. Defensive substitutions will be totally free with no restrictions. Late arrivals will be added at the bottom of the lineup.
6. There is no “On Deck” or practice swings. No player on the bench should be holding a bat.
7. Outs: Players will leave the base if an out is recorded. Once 3 outs are recorded, teams will switch sides. Maximum of 6 runs per innings. Fewer will be allowed based on coaches’ decision prior to game time.
8. All batters and runners must wear a helmet at all times.
9. Two adult coaches are to be used as base coaches. A total of no more than four managers and coaches can be in the dugout.
10. No inning starts after 7:30 P.M. (An inning starts with the last putout of the previous inning. The official clock is held by the coaches.) All weekday games must end at 8:00. No inning will start 1.5 hours after the game has started, and the game must end 2 hours after the game begins.
11. The intent of the following rule is to develop good base running and fielding skills and to discourage the unnecessary exploitation of weak defensive situations:
 - a. The batter and/or runner may not advance more than one base beyond the last base legally touched after a thrown ball has entered the pitchers circle.
 - b. Any ball that is thrown past a fielder and into foul territory is in play and the batter and/or base runner(s) may advance at their own risk but not more than 2 bases from the last base legally touched when the throw was made regardless of any subsequent misplay.
12. Managers are strongly encouraged but not required to reschedule postponed games.
13. Rule 4.10(e) has been modified to read: If after 4 innings, 3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of 10 runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs **may** concede the victory to the opponent.
14. A minimum of 8 players is required or the game shall be declared a forfeit. A maximum of 10 players (4 outfielders).
15. There is a thirty minute wait from the time of the first sound of thunder and/or lightning, no exceptions. If another sound or sight of lightning happens in that time then another thirty minutes is added. All players and coaches should immediately go to their cars to wait out the storm or call of game.
16. After entering the batter’s box, the batter must remain in the box with at least one foot throughout the at bat.

2021 Multi-Town Little League Softball Minor League Rules

Minor League Softball Division will play by Little League "Minor League Softball" rules with the following exceptions:

1. Before every game, Head Coaches meet to shake hands. All kids and coaches shake hands after game – please pay attention to this and emphasize SPORTSMANSHIP.
2. Uniforms:
 - a. Shirts: player's shirts are to be tucked in; respect for the game is shown in this manner.
 - b. Pants: all players are to wear softball pants.
 - c. Cleats: cleats are recommended
3. Although cheering in the dugout is encouraged, cheers are to be respectful of other teams.
4. Batting lineups will include all of the players available to play. Defensive substitutions will be totally free with no restrictions. Late arrivals will be added at the bottom of the lineup. Pitchers removed from the mound are allowed to return as pitchers
5. Pitching: Coaches will discuss prior to game time which pitching option they prefer.

Option 1: This is to assist the Minor pitchers in developing. Yes, batters will "walk" but that is part of the game. As coaches, it will be important to encourage the batters to swing at strikes.

If a pitcher walks three (3) batters in an inning:

- a) The coach from the batter's team assumes the pitching duties for the remainder of the inning.
- b) Strikes only are counted until the batter either hits the ball or strikes out.
- c) The regular pitcher stands to the left or right of the coach-pitcher and assumes all fielding duties.
- d) The regular pitcher, or substitute pitcher, returns to pitch in the next inning.
- e) There will be NO continuous walk from 1st to 2nd. Batter must stop at 1st base

Option 2: This is to assist the Minor pitchers in developing. Batters **will not** walk. As coaches, it will be important to encourage the batters to swing at strikes.

- a) If a pitcher "walks" a batter the coach will come in and finish the at bat until the batter either hits the ball or strikes out. (The number of strikes will remain on the batter)
 - Ex. batter has a 3-1 count. Next pitch is a ball. Normally the batter would walk however instead the coach comes in and the batter still has 1 strike. They will complete the at bat.
- b) The pitcher will pitch again to the next batter.
- c) Pitchers will pitch to each batter in the inning with the coach coming in, in the case of a walk.

2021 Multi-Town Little League Softball Minor League Rules

6. Maximum of 3 innings per pitcher per game.
7. No more than 6 runs per inning per team will be allowed in a regular season game. Fewer will be allowed based on coaches' decision prior to game time.
8. No infield fly is in effect.
9. Stealing is allowed only when players are pitching. Stealing of 2nd and 3rd base is allowed once the pitch crosses the plate. Players may also advance to 2nd or 3rd base on a pass ball or wild pitch. Stealing of home is allowed on a passed ball/wild pitch. Stealing home is allowed on an errant throw back to the pitcher. No stealing or advancing bases with a coach pitching.
10. Bunting is allowed.
11. Two adult coaches are to be used as base coaches. A total of no more than four managers and coaches can be in the dugout.
12. No inning starts after 7:30 P.M. (An inning starts with the last putout of the previous inning. The official clock is held by the umpire.) All weekday games must end at 8:00. No inning will start 1.5 hours after the game has started, and the game must end 2 hours after the game begins. If the inning has not been completed when the game is called, the incomplete Little League inning rule is invoked.
13. The intent of the following rule is to develop good base running and fielding skills and to discourage the unnecessary exploitation of weak defensive situations:
 - a. The batter and/or runner may not advance more than one base beyond the last base legally touched after a thrown ball has entered the pitchers circle.
 - b. Any ball that is thrown past a fielder and into foul territory is in play and the batter and/or base runner(s) may advance at their own risk but not more than 2 bases from the last base legally touched when the throw was made regardless of any subsequent misplay.
14. Managers are strongly encouraged but not required to reschedule postponed games keeping in mind that little league requires a 12 game minimum schedule.
15. Rule 4.10(e) has been modified to read: If after 4 innings, 3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of 10 runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs may concede the victory to the opponent.
16. A minimum of 8 players is required or the game shall be declared a forfeit. A maximum of 10 players (4 outfielders).
17. There is a thirty minute wait from the time of the first sound of thunder and/or lightning, no exceptions. If another sound or sight of lightning happens in that time then another thirty minutes is added. All players and coaches should immediately go to their cars to wait out the storm or call of game.
18. After entering the batter's box, the batter must remain in the box with at least one foot throughout the at bat.

2021 Multi-Town Little League Softball Major League Rules

Major League Softball Division will play by Little League “Major League Softball” rules with the following exceptions:

1. Before every game, Head Coaches meet to shake hands. All kids and coaches shake hands after game – please pay attention to this and emphasize SPORTSMANSHIP.
2. Uniforms:
 - a. Shirts: player’s shirts are to be tucked in; respect for the game is shown in this manner.
 - b. Pants: all players are to wear softball pants.
 - c. Cleats: cleats are recommended
3. Although cheering in the dugout is encouraged, cheers are to be respectful of other teams.
4. Batting lineups will include all of the players available to play. Defensive substitutions will be totally free with no restrictions. Late arrivals will be added at the bottom of the lineup. Pitchers removed from the mound are allowed to return as pitchers
5. No more than 6 runs per inning per team will be allowed in a regular season game. Fewer will be allowed based on coaches’ decision prior to game time.
6. Two adult coaches may be used as base coaches. If players are used, they must wear a helmet. A total of no more than four managers and coaches can be in the dugout.
7. No inning starts after 8:00 P.M. (An inning starts with the last putout of the previous inning. The official clock is held by the umpire.) All weekday games must end at 8:30. No inning will start 2 hours after the game has started, and the game must end 2 1/2 hours after the game begins. If an inning has not been completed when the game is called, the incomplete Little League inning rule is invoked.
8. Managers are strongly encouraged but not required to reschedule postponed games keeping in mind that little league requires a 12 game minimum schedule.
9. Rule 4.10(e) has been modified to read: If after 4 innings, 3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead, one team has a lead of 10 runs or more, the manager of the team with the least runs may concede the victory to the opponent.
10. Instructional warnings should be given to the pitcher, manager, & coach for illegal pitch violations. A "ball" should be called for uncorrected repeat violations.
11. A minimum of 8 players is required or the game shall be rescheduled. A maximum of 10 players (4 outfielders).
12. No more than five (5) pitchers may pitch during a game unless an additional pitcher is required due to injury or illness.
13. Light rain should not be a reason for stopping a game. The game should be stopped as a result of heavy rain, or if field conditions are determined to be unsafe to continue play.
14. There is a thirty minute wait from the time of the first sound of thunder and/or lightning, no exceptions. If another sound or sight of lightning happens in that time then another thirty minutes is added. All players and coaches should immediately go to their cars to wait out the storm or call of game.
15. After entering the batter’s box, the batter must remain in the box with at least one foot throughout the at bat.