

2019 Minor Girls Rules
Harlan/Hoagland/Monroeville/New Haven/Woodburn

1. The 11-inch softball will be used. Facemasks are mandatory on batting helmets, pitchers, and encouraged for defensive players.
2. The bases will be sixty (60) feet. Pitching distance from home plate to the pitching rubber will be thirty-five (35) feet. Twenty-four (24) inch rubbers will be used for all play.
3. A sixteen (16) foot diameter circle with the pitching rubber as the center will be used. When the pitcher is in the circle with the ball, play is stopped. If a runner has passed a base as the pitcher is going into the circle, the runner may continue to the next base, but is fair play for the next base if she has not touched the base to which she was initially running before the pitcher entered the circle. Once the pitcher is clearly in the circle, the runner must immediately commit to either advance to the next base or return to the previous base. If they advance, the runner must be tagged as it is not a force play.
4. Games will be 6 innings. Run rule are as follows, 15 after 4 and 10 after 5 unless the home team is up. Then the game ends a half inning prior. 4 complete innings or 3 1/2 with home team ahead will constitute a complete game in case of rainout. If not to this point, entire game will be replayed.
5. 1 hour and 45 minute time limit for regular and season ending tournament games.(2019 Amendment) For the purposes of time, the next inning begins at the time of the third out of the previous inning. No new inning will be started after the time limit, unless the game is tied. If the game is tied, the last player that was out will be placed on second base as written under international rules. After that inning the game will be rescheduled and played from the point where the tied game stopped. A tied game may be played out if there isn't a game scheduled after it or if it is the last game of the night, not to exceed 2 1/2 hours. After that it will be rescheduled and played exactly where it left off.
6. Players may lead off after the ball crosses the plate. The runner may steal 2nd and 3rd base. Only one stolen base is allowed per runner per pitch; unless a play is attempted on the base runner and the ball is overthrown. In the event of an overthrow, play stops when the ball is in the pitcher's possession in the circle (refer to rule #3). An overthrow to the pitcher constitutes a live ball and base runner may advance at their own risk. Runners may not steal home until May 20th, unless a play is being made on them at third. May 20th and after, a runner may steal home for any reason. The base runner must slide into home if there is a play being attempted on her. It will be at the umpires' discretion as to whether a play is being made. Each team will be allowed one (1) warning per game, each subsequent infraction of this rule will be declared an out.
7. Field ten (10) players on defense. A minimum of 8 players is required per team to start a game, with an option to make 10 from an 8U team. 8U participants can be brought up with approval of the parents. The same players may not practice with the team and are only called on when needed. Teams may not "borrow" members from other teams.
8. There will be free substitutions. A pitcher may not re-enter a game as a pitcher, unless she is the starting pitcher. The pitcher is allowed four (4) innings per game to pitch. 1 pitch constitutes an inning.
9. When pitching, pitcher may step back on non pivot foot without penalty.
10. Base runners to 1st base may be considered at risk or live and may be tagged out for turning toward second while in fair territory. Coaches should encourage teaching runners to run out the play and turn toward the 1st base dugout.

11. 6 runs or 3 outs will constitute an inning (whichever occurs first). The team is allowed unlimited runs in the sixth (6th) or if last inning is called by umpire at the beginning of the inning (for time limit reasons) and both coaches have been informed of final inning.
12. Minor girl teams will bat the entire roster. Each player is required to serve in the field for 6 defensive outs in a complete six inning game.
13. No infield fly rule.
14. No "dropped third strike" rule.
15. There will not be an out if a sick or injured player's spot must be skipped in the lineup. If on base, the last recorded out will take the place of sick/injured player.
16. It is an automatic out if a player intentionally takes off her helmet. Players are to keep their helmet on until they are in the dugout.
17. A batter will be warned for throwing the bat. The second team infraction will result in the batter being declared out and all runners being returned to their previous bases.
18. Players will be allowed to bunt (from the beginning of the season).
A third strike bunt that goes foul is an out. For the safety of the infielders, there will be no slashing (a batter may not "show bunt", pull back and swing away).
Slapping is allowed all year. Slapping is when the hitter is moving through the box while swinging.
19. No metal cleats allowed in this league.
20. In an effort to promote good sportsmanship, cheers and chants from players in the dugout are allowed and should always be in direct support of your own team.
Negative cheering directed at the opposing teams players, including the pitcher, is not acceptable. Coaches are always responsible for the good sportsmanship of their players.
21. First and second place league and tournament trophies (or other awards) only, will be awarded.
League standings are based on the following: teams overall record, head to head record, defensive runs allowed, offensive runs allowed
Coaches are responsible for reporting game scores to the division representative or "rep".
The division rep will gather and maintain standings for tournament seeding. (2019 Revision).
These standings are only against teams in that league.
22. There will be no "coaches' option" in regards to these rules.