

Girls Major Rules 2026

Age limit: This school year's 5th – 6th graders. (2026)

1. **Softballs:** The home team provides 1 new softball per game and it will be a **12 inch softball (2016)**.
2. **Pitching:** Follow high school rules. Pitchers may windmill.
3. **Distances:** The field will have 60-foot base paths and a **40-foot mound (Feb. 2015)**.
4. **Shoes:** Steel spikes are not allowed, Players must wear tennis/sport/baseball style shoes, socks must also be worn. No sandals
5. **Bats:** Must be softball bats
6. **Hitters:** The entire roster bats every game
7. **Batting helmets:** Must be worn at all times by any offensive player while on the field of play.
PROTECTIVE MASK: New Rule (2016) All pitchers, 1st and 3rd base positions must wear a mask on defense.
8. **Strike outs** - dropped 3rd strikes will be a live ball and the hitter may advance to 1st base unless it is occupied by a base runner or there are 2 outs they can run even with 1st base occupied. If runner commits to dugout they are out
9. **Suspended play:** There shall be a line with a 5-foot radius from the pitching rubber drawn around the rubber to form a 10-foot circle. Once the ball gets to the pitcher inside the circle the play shall be suspended and all runners at least half way to the next base shall have the right to advance to that base and only that base. Any runner not halfway to the next base shall have to go back to the last base they touched and shall return freely without risk.
10. **Overthrows:** Any ball that travels 10 or more feet into foul territory will be considered an overthrow, and runner may advance 1 base only. All overthrows on the field of play will be considered live play and the runners may advance at their own risk.
11. **Bunting:** – is allowed. No pull backs, automatic strikeout for fouled third strike bunt attempt.
12. **Thrown bats** – A thrown bat is one that is wildly propelled more than 6 feet. Violations will be automatic outs and play stopped *immediately* with no runners advancing.
13. **Leading off:** Runners may lead off or steal after the pitch leaves pitcher's hand. Leaving early is an automatic out. **2023**
14. **Stealing:** Runners can steal second and third base. Stealing home is NOT allowed **under any circumstances, even if a play is made to a base. (2025)**
15. **Wild pitches:** Base runners from 3rd base cannot score on a wild pitch. The other base runners may advance.
16. **Sliding:** All runners must avoid contact with fielders.
17. **Number of fielders:** There may be up to **10 defensive players** on the field. There shall be a maximum of **6 infielders** at one time. The **4 outfielders** must stay in the outfield grass. March/2010 **Outfielders MUST be a minimum of 15 ft back from the edge of dirt infield (in the GRASS). 2014**
18. **Defensive substitutions:** There will be free defensive substitutions.
19. **Pitchers:** get 8 warm up pitches per inning
20. **Pitchers:** Cannot pitch more than 3 innings (or 9 outs) unless the game goes to extra innings and then he/she can pitch 1 extra inning.
21. **Wild pitchers:** A pitcher shall be removed from **pitching (2024)** after hitting **5** batters at any time during the game.
22. **Players:** A team must have at least 8 to play a game. Less than 8 players is a forfeit.
23. **Catchers:** All catchers' equipment is required.
Scoring limits: 6 runs maximum per inning until the 6th or subsequent extra innings. The exception will be for a home run where all runs after 6 will be counted. There is a 10 run rule after completion of the 5th inning.
The last inning played a team can score up to 10 runs (No 6-run maximum rule in effect – allows for losing team to tie the game). (2026)
24. **Length of game:** Games begin at **6:15 p.m.** and no new innings started after 8:15 pm. **Game is complete after 6 innings (2025).** The home plate umpire is the official timekeeper.
25. **Rainouts** – Home coach will call game off by 5 p.m.
26. **Coaches:** Are not allowed to touch base runners. Violations will cause the runner to be out.
27. **Umpires:** Home team provides home plate umpire while visitors provide base umpire. Umpires are not to coach players during play.
28. **Ground rules:** Prior to the game the home team will describe the field's ground rules to the visiting coach and umpires. Additional rules must be agreed upon prior to the game.
29. **Scorekeepers:** Each team should have their own scorekeeper and scores should be compared every inning.
32. **Ejection from the game:** – The league will enforce rules of fair play and sportsmanship. Failure to follow these rules by *anyone* in attendance could cause a forfeit of the game. Any parent ejected from the game will cause his/her child to be ejected as well. That parent must leave the area immediately. The player may play in the next game. Any Coach ejected will leave the field immediately and will be suspended for the next game as well. The Coach may not be in the area of the field when ejected or suspended. Players ejected will leave the area when ejected and is also suspended for the next game. The

suspended player must sit on the bench in the next game he attends in order to fulfill his suspension. Failing to appear at the next game will not complete the player's suspension.

Dear Parents,

Please remember that this is a recreational program that stresses maximum participation. It is here so children can have fun. Poor sportsmanship, profanity, alcohol and tobacco are not allowed. If a parent is asked by the coaches or an umpire to leave the area his/her child will be immediately disqualified from that game.

Thank you,
Your League Coordinator