

2025 MAJORS SOFTBALL RULES

NOTE: These rules are not comprehensive. These are primarily the ways in which our league differs from standard Little League Softball rules. Please refer to the official Little League Softball Majors rules ([download the free Little League Rulebook App](#)) for anything not covered in this document.

1. A player cannot play in both Minor and Major league without consultation and approval of league officials and coaches of each town. Violating this rule will be subject to forfeiture of games in which infraction occurred.
2. Games are 7 innings or if visibility becomes an issue (umpire's discretion). Weekday games must start by 6:00 pm. If one team cannot field a team of at least 8 players by 6:15 pm the game shall be declared a forfeit.
3. No new innings can be started after 8:00 pm. Innings started before 8:00 pm may be completed.
4. A rained out game is considered complete after 5 innings (4 ½ if the home team leads).
5. Coaches must agree to cancel a game ahead of time due to rain. If they have not confirmed a cancellation with the opposing coach at least one hour before the scheduled start of the game, then both teams must show up for the game or be subject to normal rules of forfeiture.
6. Thunder and Lightning – The instant that thunder is heard or lightning is seen, the game will stop. All players need to seek shelter. Coaches need to make sure their teams are safe. The game may resume at the umpire and coaches agreed discretion (suggested to wait until 30 minutes has passed without seeing lightning or hearing thunder).
7. If a game must be rescheduled due to a stoppage for thunder and lightning, the game will resume at the same point at the next available time (i.e. bottom of the second, 2 outs). Attempt to verify this information before leaving the area with the head coaches. Scheduler must be notified of rescheduling time.
8. Postponed games should be made up the same week either Friday evening or Saturday morning. All make-ups need to be completed prior to final regular season game.
9. The maximum number of runs a team can score in one inning is 5, except in the final inning when there is no limit.
10. Teams can play 4 outfielders. "Roster Batting" should be used meaning all players who come to game should be in the lineup, both during the regular season and postseason.
11. Every player should play at least 3 innings on defense. Unlimited defensive substitutions from inning to inning.
12. Leading and stealing is allowed after the ball leaves the pitchers hand. No stealing home. Batter cannot advance on dropped third strike but other runners can.
13. A base runner must attempt to avoid a collision with the defensive fielder when there is a play at a base. A runner that collides with a fielder without attempting to avoid a collision may be called out at the umpire's discretion.
14. The runner must slide at home if there is a play at the plate.
15. Fielders may not block a base without the ball. Runner will be awarded the base safely at the umpire's discretion.
16. Bunting is allowed.
17. No Infield Fly Rule
18. Pitching distance is 43' as measured from the front of the pitching rubber to the apex of home plate.
19. Once a pitcher has the ball in the circle all runners must immediately return to their previous base or go directly to the next base. Any hesitation or change of direction once the ball is in the circle the runner is out.

2024 MAJORS SOFTBALL RULES

20. Umpires for ALL games will be supplied by the home team.
21. If a player throws a bat or other equipment so that, in the opinion of the umpire, another player, umpire, coach, or spectator could have been injured or equipment damaged, then the umpire must rule the batter out and no runners advance.
22. An umpire or a player's coach may eject a player from a game for poor sportsmanship. Continued or persistent poor behavior shall give a coach the right to dismiss a player from the league after review and agreement by the team's league commissioner and board members. Also, a coach may require a player who damages equipment to repair or replace that equipment prior to being eligible to participate in games or practice. An umpire may eject a coach for poor sportsmanship. All ejections must be reported to your league officials and commissioners.

Updated 5/21/25