

MIDLAND UNITED GIRLS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC.
2021 LEAGUE PLAYING RULES

DIVISION 12 & Under and Older

The following are the Midland United Girls Softball Association 2021 Recreation League Playing Rules which were adopted by the Board of Directors. All League play will be governed by the 2020 USA Softball Rules, except as noted herein. **NO METAL CLEATS**

A. THE GAME

1. The game will consist of 7 innings or a time limit of 75 minutes, whichever occur first, except when one team is ahead by 10 runs at the end of five (5) innings.
2. There shall be a seven (7) runs per inning limitation, except for the 7th inning. A team's turn at bat shall end when three (3) outs have been made or seven (7) runs scored in a regular inning, whichever occurs first. Once time has expired and a team is behind by more runs than they can score in their half of that inning, the game will be over by run rule.
3. The 7th inning and/or any inning played beyond regulation shall be open – no run limit.
4. In the event of a tie at the end of regulation (8th inning or completed inning after time has expired) one extra will be played. The Tie-Breaker Rule shall apply in each subsequent inning.
5. Starting with the top of the Tie-Breaker inning, and each half inning thereafter, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that respective half inning being placed on second base.

B. Game Management

1. All players, when not on the playing field, shall remain in the dugout or outside the fence on the outfield side of the dugout during the game. Exceptions shall be made by the team manager or coaches only.
2. The home team will provide the official scorekeeper. The visiting team will provide the operator for the scoreboard.
3. Home team will occupy the third base dugout.
4. All players and teams must warm-up only in designated warm-up areas.

C. PLAY

1. DEFENSIVE PLAY:

- a) No player may sit out more than one inning per game until each player present has set out. You do not have to substitute each time for the same player.
- b) A player will not "sit out" more than one inning consecutively. A player sitting out must sit out the complete inning except in the case of illness or injury. EFFECT: Any illegal "sitting out" will result in the coach being removed from the game.

2. PITCHERS:

- a) Pitchers may have not more than five (5) pitches or one (1) minute warm-up at the beginning of each half inning. Players and coaches only may warm up the pitcher.
- b) A pitcher may be removed as a pitcher, move to a different defensive position and return as a pitcher only once per inning provided the return as a pitcher does not violate either the substitution or charged conference rule.
- c) THE PITCHER MAY NOT PITCH MORE THAN SEVEN (7) COMPLETE INNINGS (21 outs) IN A TWO GAME SET.

- d) The pitcher on the rubber shall be charged with the remaining outs in an inning stopped because of the run rule.
- e) A pitcher shall be charged with the out on a retired batter after pitching 2 strikes to that batter.
- f) When the limitation run rule is enforced, the pitcher on the mound is credited with the remaining outs not pitched, otherwise only the outs pitched will be charged to the pitcher.
- g) Two (2) games set will start with the first game her team plays. The next game her team is scheduled to play will be the second game of her two (2) game set. She may complete her remaining outs in this game.
EFFECT: A violation of the "OUTS PITCHED" rule occurs due to a multiple outs situation then, no violation has occurred.
- h) If a pitcher pitches any pitch beyond their legal outs in a "two game set" and the fact is discovered during a game, the last pitch will be declared an "Illegal Pitch". The offending team's pitcher may not continue pitching but can finish the game at another position and may play but not pitch in her team's next two games. The Coach responsible shall be ejected from the game and not be allowed to coach for that team's next two (2) games.
- i) If a game is allowed to be played and it was discovered that wrong information was given on the pitcher's outs which caused her to exceed her limit, then that pitcher may play but not pitch in her team's next two (2) games. That game played shall stand. The coach responsible shall not be allowed to coach for that team's next two (2) games.

3. **BATTING:**

- a) The batting lineup shall list each roster player present. Late arrivals should be added to the bottom of the lineup. The batting order will be determined by the coach prior to the game and cannot be adjusted.
- b) If a player is removed by sickness, injury, or disqualification, all batters will "move up" and remain in their respective batting order. No substitution will take place for a removed player in the batting order. The removed player cannot return to that game.
- c) No outs shall be taken for the removed player.
- d) If a batter has to be removed, all count on her is removed and the next batter will bat.
- e) Any substitute is allowed to replace an injured, sick, or disqualified base runner.
- f) Double ear flap NOCSAE approved batting helmets with a securely fastened NOCSAE approved facemask/guard must be worn by any youth participant on the field.

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