

MIDLAND UNITED GIRLS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC.
2025 LEAGUE PLAYING RULES

6U

The following are the Midland United Girls Softball Association 2025 Recreation League Playing Rules which were adopted by the Board of Directors. All League play will be governed by the 2025 USA Softball Rules, except as noted herein.

A. THE GAME

1. BASES: Same as Division 10U
2. AN INNING: The side will be retired **after 8 batters** on offense or three outs are made by the defensive team.
3. REGULATION GAME: A regulation game will be five full innings or 1 hour, whichever comes first. Because win/loss records are not kept for the regular season, no cumulative score will be recorded during the game.
4. Conferences: Each team will be allowed 1 per inning, unless to care for an injured player.
5. PROTESTS: No protests are allowed in 6U.

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. Home team will occupy the third base dugout.
3. All players and teams must warm-up only in designated warm-up areas.

C. PLAY

DEFENSIVE PLAY:

1. Allow a maximum of 10 players on the field – the 9th and 10th players are the rover (infield) and flex outfielder.
2. A defensive player may not intentionally roll the ball to a base, or the Pitcher. If a ball is intentionally rolled to a base, the base runner will be safe. If the ball is intentionally rolled to the pitcher, the base runners will be given an extra base.
3. A defensive player will be allowed to run down (tag) the batter/runner or base runner or run the ball to a base if this would, constitute a normal play. If not a normal play, the runner shall be declared safe. *Example*
Normal play: Ball is hit to second base. Player at second base fields the ball, and tags runner advancing from first base to second base.
NOT normal play: Ball is hit to right field. Right fielder fields the ball and attempts to tag runner advancing from second to third base.
4. Each player present for the game must be given a position on the field, with substitutions made every inning. No player may sit out more than one inning per game until each player present has set out. A player will not "sit out" more than one inning consecutively. A single player cannot play a position more than one (1) inning per game. **Each player must play the infield at least one inning per game.**
5. A player, with the exception of the pitcher, may be moved from position to position during an inning without causing delay to the game. If the pitcher is removed from the circle during an inning, she cannot play the pitcher position again.
6. All defensive players must play their position from behind the base lines and outfielders must be on the outfield grass until the ball is hit.
7. If a fielder intentionally or unintentionally hinders or obstructs a base runner causing an out, the play is dead and runners advance to the base they were going to.
8. Force rules at all bases apply.

D. PLAYER PITCHERS:

1. The pitcher must stay behind the pitching rubber until the ball is hit.
2. The pitching circle will be the same as Division 8U & 10U. When the ball has been thrown back to the pitcher and the pitcher has control of the ball with both feet inside the circle, the play is stopped.
3. If the pitcher runs through the pitcher's circle with control of the ball after the initial play on the ball, the play will be stopped.
4. The pitcher will not be allowed to run down the batter or base runner to any base except home. The pitcher must throw the ball to the base or the runner will be called safe.
EXCEPTION: If a tag would be the normal play on a base runner, the pitcher would not have to throw the ball.

E. CATCHERS:

1. There is no catchers position in 6-U.

F. COACHES ON THE FIELD

1. The defensive team may have the head coach, assistant coach, or manager (MAX OF 2) on the field roaming in the outfield grass.
2. The offensive team may have the head coach, assistant coach, or manager (MAX OF 4) present in the pitching circle, at home plate, and coaching boxes at first and third bases.

G. BASE RUNNERS

1. Runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit. Once a runner is detected as being not in contact with the base, she will be called out.
2. When the ball is thrown back to the pitcher and the pitcher has control of the ball with both feet inside the circle, the play is stopped. At this time the runner will go to the nearest base (the base paths are marked designating a halfway point).
3. The runner is also out by running out of the path to avoid a tag.
4. There will be no stealing or sliding.
5. If a base runner intentionally tries to run, forcefully through a fielder, the base runner is out, regardless if the fielder is in possession of the ball or not.
6. An errant throw is one in which one fielder throws the ball past the intended receiving fielder. Base runners are not allowed to advance on errant throws.
7. If a defensive out is made the batter/runner or base runner must exit the field of play.

OFFENSIVE PLAY

H. COACH PITCHERS;

1. The Coach Pitcher must pitch with both feet in the pitching circle.
2. The Coach Pitcher will be responsible for exiting the field of play after a pitched ball is hit. Additionally, if the ball is being hit from the Tee, the Coach Pitcher should remain out of fair territory, until the next batter, when they may return to the pitching circle.
3. The Coach Pitcher must attempt to avoid interference with a live ball and the defensive player(s). If The Coach Pitcher does interfere, the result will be dead ball, no pitch, and the batter will return to the batters box to complete the at bat. Intent is not a factor.
4. The Coach Pitcher is allowed to talk to, coach, the batter from the pitching circle.

I. BATTING:

1. Batting in 6U will be a hybrid of coach pitch and hitting from the tee.
2. The designated Coach Pitcher will be responsible for taking 3 balls to the pitching circle at the beginning of their offensive half inning. The Coach Pitcher will underhand pitch 3 balls to the batter, if the ball is not hit into fair territory after 3 pitches, the tee will be placed on home plate.
3. The batter will be allowed 3 complete swings to hit the ball in to fair territory from the tee. If one of the swings results in a foul ball, the batter will be awarded a seventh attempt. If the ball is not put into play on the final attempt (6th if no foul, 7th with foul) the result is an out.
4. The batter/runner may only advance 1 base, unless the hit ball reaches the outfield grass, then the runner may advance a maximum of two bases, with liability of being tagged or thrown out.
5. It will be the responsibility of the offensive coach at home, to remove the tee from the home plate area should a play involve a player scoring from third base.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. No outs shall be taken for the removed player. All count on her is removed and the next batter will bat.
9. 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.
10. Only the batter, base runners, and on-deck player can be on the playing field.
11. Foul balls are treated the same as conventional softball. In addition, a ball that travels less than 15 feet in fair territory from home plate is called a foul (an arc 15 feet from home plate will be drawn, from the first base line to the third base line, designating a foul). If the ball comes to rest on any part of this line, it is a fair ball. The batter will not be allowed to bunt.
12. If the batter positions herself outside the batter's box, it will be the responsibility of the offensive coach to reposition the batter in the box. The offensive coach cannot physically position the batter in the batter's box.
13. If a player throws the bat during the game, the first offense shall result in a team warning. Each offense for that team thereafter shall result in the player being called out.
14. The infield fly rule does not apply in 6U.