

Tri-Conference Rules Major Girls (11-13)

1. IHSA Rule Book will govern play with the following exceptions.
2. A standard game will not exceed six (6) innings in length except in the case of a tie. If a Game is called due to inclement weather, then four (4) innings is considered a complete game. The first game will begin at 6:00p.m and the second at 8:00p.m or 10 minutes after the completion of the first game if it runs over. No new inning shall begin after one hour and forty-five minutes of play has elapsed, at which time the game will be determined to be a complete game. In the case of a tie the game will proceed until a winner is determined. Teams may start a game with a minimum of eight (8) players. Teams may not finish a game with less than eight (8) players. If starting with 8 players, an out does not have to be taken when the ninth spot comes up in the batting order. The only way an out shall be taken is when a team starts with 9 players and one is ejected or leaves the game for reasons other than illness or injury
3. Suspended games will resume at the point at which it was suspended and will continue in accordance with the amount of time and innings that are remaining for a standard game.
4. **New Mercy Rule: If a team is behind 12 runs in the 3rd inning, 10 runs in the 4th inning, or 8 runs in the 5th inning the mercy rule is in effect. The home team must bat in the bottom half of the inning if behind.**
5. Pitching mounds are set at 40 feet.
6. If a team wished to use the Intentional Walk they must pitch to the batter. The catcher may stand and take the pitch.
7. In a six (6) inning game each player must play at least six (6) outs, that is two full innings. To aide the coaches we are allowing you 3 options to play by this year.
 1. Bat your entire roster with free substitution throughout the game.
 2. Use the Extra player rule where she is listed in the batting order as your 10th batter and she can go in and out of the game defensively at will.
 3. Play regular substitution softball. With this option players will still be required to play the minimum playing requirements as stated above.Coaches do not have to agree on which way to play, but it does have to be stated at the start of the game which way you will be playing to the home plate umpire. You cannot switch once the game has started. You will need to report all defensive subs to the opposing coach.
8. Hats and visors are a optional part of the uniform.
9. No designated hitter.
10. No dropped third strike.

11. If a player is not allowed to participate and yet sits in the dugout dressed to play, the a written explanation must be received by the umpire prior to the start of the game.
12. All players must stay in their respective dugout when not participating in the field.
13. Every player must wear protective headgear while batting or running the bases. If a helmet is taken off purposely, the runner is out. Protective headgear must be worn when players or legal minors are used to coach the bases. Face masks are required on every batting helmet. No player shall be allowed to come to the plate without one.
14. Steel spikes are not allowed.
15. Both teams will receive the same warning from the umpire for leaving the base too early. The next infraction of this rule by either team the player is out. Runners may leave when the ball leaves the pitchers hand.
16. If a team is short players, the coach may pick up players (limit 4) from the Minor Girls (9-10) division (respective towns). Picked up players may play any position but pitcher and bat after regular rostered players. A player may not be picked up when the time of the game is in conflict with the player's regularly scheduled game. Players that are picked up may not start before a regular roster player. The consequences of an infraction of this paragraph are forfeiture. **Teams may only pull up players if they have less than 10 players at game time.**
17. Games will be cancelled for weather related reasons only. Any sign of lightening by an umpire, coach, or league administrator, the game will be cancelled. The second game will then be placed on a "wait and see" alert. If weather is still threatening near the game time of the second game, it shall be cancelled as well. If weather breaks, and grounds permit, the second game may resume as scheduled. Games will not be cancelled due to a lack of players, or so called "coaches' agreements." When rainouts occur it is the responsibility of the home team's board to reschedule games. Games must be made up before the second Saturday following the rainout.
18. If the game is not rescheduled it is a forfeiture by the home team. If the game is rescheduled and any team fails to show, the game is forfeiture for the team(s) that fail to show.
19. It is important that if you wish to file a protest that you follow the following rules:
 1. The coach must notify the umpire at the time of the rule infraction that he/she is protesting that rule violation.
 2. You have 24 hours to submit a Tri-Conference Protest form to a Tri-Conference board member , along with the protest fee of \$20.00.
20. Runners may steal when the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. Runners may advance at their own risk on an overthrow.
21. New for the 2002 season, as mandated by the National Federation Rule Book (IHSA Rule Book), any player may re-enter the game one time. Before, only the starter was allowed to re-enter, now substitutes may re-enter one time. However, the sub and the

starter are locked in the same position in the batting order. For further information refer to you IHSA Rule Book.

22. The courtesy runner may be used for the catcher. The person making the most recent out shall be used as the courtesy runner for the catcher if the catcher is on base with 2 outs.
23. These rules are intended for the benefit of the young athletes and timely proceedings of The game. These rules are not in place to be manipulated for personal gain. Any protest will be handled with the intent of this rule.