

2019 Midland Girls Softball League (MGSL)
11U Pink Division Spring Playing Rules

11U PINK DIVISION (GAME)

The objective of the 10U division is to teach the complete game of softball. Emphasis must be placed on smart aggressive base running and quality pitching (strike throwing). An umpire will enforce standard ASA rules, with the following exceptions:

FIELD

- The pitching distance will be 35 feet.
- The base distance will be 60 feet.

GAME

- There will be no forfeits. If a team is short players, players from the opposing team or another MGSL 10U team may be added.
- If a team has less than 8 players during tournament play, the team may pick up a maximum of two players as approved by the division commissioner and league president. The added players may not pitch during the game.
- The official softball shall be an 11-inch softball approved by the Midland Girls Softball League.
- The dropped third strike rule will not apply to this division. Batters, and runners, may not advance when the catcher drops a called third strike.
- An inning is considered complete when the defensive team has acquired three outs or the offensive team has scored five runs.
- All games are six innings regulation. Tie games will go to extra innings, time permitting. If a game is tied at the time limit, it will be recorded as such.
- There is a 1 hour and 20 minute soft time limit. A new inning cannot start after 1 hour and 20 minutes. Innings which begin prior to the time limit will be completed. The umpire and score keepers are responsible for recording the start time.
- During the championship game only, there will be no time limit. A full 6 innings will be played unless shortened by the mercy rule (11 runs after 4 full innings, 6 runs after 5 full innings).
- There shall be free substitution of defensive players. Substitutes do not need to be reported to the opposing scorekeeper. All players should be given the opportunity to play infield as well as outfield positions. Players must not sit out more than 1 inning in any 3 inning stretch unless an injury occurs.
- The designated player rule is not used.
- There is no infield fly rule.

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- There shall be no smoking, swearing or alcoholic consumption by managers, coaches, parents, fans or players at any time during practices or games.
- Players must wear their team uniform.
- Equipment: Catching gear (helmet, face mask with throat protector, chest protector, and shin guards) is required. Helmets are required for the batter, base runners, and any youth base coaches. A chinstraps must be worn if the batting helmet wobbles upon shaking of the player's head.

PITCHING

- The pitching distance is 35 feet for both players and coaches.
- For each inning, a maximum of 3 walks (4 balls) are allowed, a 'hit by pitch' counts as a walk. For subsequent batters, after 4 balls or a HBP, the batter does not advance to 1B, rather a coach from the offensive team enters the game to pitch to the batter. Any strikes carry forward into the count and the batter either hits the ball into play or strikes out.
- There is a 2 inning maximum per pitcher, a single pitch thrown counts as an inning of work.
- If a pitcher hits four batters in one game, that pitcher will be removed from the pitching position and not allowed to return to pitcher for the remainder of the game.

DEFENSE

- There will be no more than ten defensive players on the field and no more than 6 players in the infield dirt.
- A play is considered over when the designated player - pitcher has control of the ball inside the pitching circle. Base runners must return or go to the nearest base at this time.

BASE RUNNING

- Leading off is permitted when the pitched ball crosses home plate.
- Runners may steal 2B and 3B only. Runners may only advance a single base per pitch. Home may only be stolen if the runner occupies 3B at the start of the pitch and an attempt is made to throw out a runner at 2B or 3B.
- Following a batted ball, runner's may advance until the ball is returned to the infield diamond. Runner's may advance a single base following the first error. Any runner's taking multiple bases following a fielding error may be sent back at the request of the defensive coach (umpire's discretion).
- A base runner will be called out if a collision (more than a gentle bump) occurs at 2B, 3B, HP, or while returning to 1B due to her failure to slide. Base runners must either slide or take measures to avoid a serious collision.

BATTING

- The batting order will consist of all players on the offensive team present at the game. Any player showing up after the start of the game will be inserted at the end of the lineup.

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- A single player with batting helmet is permitted in the on deck circle.
- If a batter is hit by a pitch that has not hit the ground prior to hitting the batter, the batter shall advance to 1B. If the batter is hit by a pitch after it hits the ground, the batter shall continue the at bat and the pitch is ruled a ball. The hands are considered part of the bat only if a swing or bunt is attempted by the batter.