

# Softball Majors League Rules 2018

PONY Fast Pitch Rules (Bronco League, girls 12 and under) apply with the following highlights/modifications:

- Home team provides umpires and balls.
- 6 inning games. No time limit on games except for darkness (at the discretion of the umpire) or for field time limitation (no new innings can be started if less than 20 minutes until next scheduled game). A game is official after 4 innings (home team does not need to bat in their half of the fourth inning if ahead).
- Scorebook is kept.
- Continuous batting order/ free substitution.
- 4 runs per inning rule/ waived in the 6th or last inning (no limit in last inning).
- A team must have eight players in order to play. Less than eight players will result in a forfeit.
- The home team is responsible for canceling the umpire on the day of the game in case of rainouts (no later than 4:00 PM).
- 12 run mercy rule (home team has last at bat if behind).
- Batters must wear helmets with cages and chin straps.
- Protective face cages for pitchers and 3<sup>rd</sup> basemen are mandatory.
- If a player is injured during a game and cannot continue or leaves in the middle of the game for other reasons, that player's position in the order is skipped for the remainder of the game without penalty (i.e. no automatic out). If a player is late to the game, the player should be inserted at the end of the batting order.
- A courtesy runner may be used for the pitcher or catcher - runner shall be the last batter of the previous inning (and second to last batter of the previous inning if both pitcher and catcher are on base at the same time).
- No slashing (faking bunt, then hitting away); slap hitting and drag bunting are allowed
- Infield fly rule in effect
- Free substitution of players in the field
- Players must slide or avoid contact. All sliding rule decisions are at the discretion of the umpire.
- Pitcher shall be removed from pitching after directly hitting 3 batters in an inning or 5 in the course of the game (bounced pitches will not count).
- "Live" ball format – dropped third strike in effect, steal home, ball in play on steal attempt.
- Pitching mound is 40 feet, bases are 60 feet distance.