

## Middleborough/Raynham Youth Softball Leagues Major League Rules

Modified March 2012 for Middleboro/Raynham

12&U ASA Rules are to be used with the following modifications.

Games are to be played even if there is no official umpire.

1. A complete game is 6 innings. In case of rain or darkness, 4 innings is a legal game. Postponed games or games that were interrupted before an official number of innings were completed, must be played from the point at which the game ended, and finish until 6 innings are played.
2. Pitchers may pitch only 3 inning per game. Innings may be consecutive or non-consecutive in any one game. Once a pitcher is pulled she may not return to pitch in that same inning. A single pitch by a pitcher in an inning constitutes an inning pitched. A coach is allowed one visit pr inning to the mound. A second visit in the inning requires a change. (ASA) **Note:** A pitcher that hits a batsman directly by a wild pitch will be warned after the second wild pitch. After the third direct wild pitch, the pitcher will be removed from the game as the pitcher but may return in the game at another position. **Balls that hit the ground prior to striking the batsman will not be considered a wild pitch and will not count as a hit batsman.** All pitchers will pitch from 40 feet using a 12-inch ball.
1. Ending Times – 1 hour and 45 minutes. If 6pm Start, No inning may start if the previous inning *ends after 7:45 p.m.* There is no time limit to end games when they are played during the day without darkness being a consideration.
3. Runs per game. If after 4 innings (or at the end of the fifth inning) a team is ahead by 12 runs or more, the game ends and that team wins.
4. Runs per inning. Except for the last inning in the game, only 5 runs may be scored per inning. Once the 5<sup>th</sup> run crosses the plate in an inning, no more runs will be counted. The play may continue until complete, BUT ONLY 5 runs will count. The inning ends when the play is complete. In the last inning of the game there is no limit to the number of runs that may be scored. If the last inning is not the sixth inning, due to rain or darkness, both coaches and the umpire must agree at the start of the inning that it will be the last inning. **Every game should have a last inning declared of unlimited runs to be complete.**

**Stealing** – of all bases is allowed. ASA rules apply. Runners are allowed to leave on the release.

5. **Leading** – is allowed, ASA rules apply. Runners are allowed to leave the base on the release
6. Swearing at any time before or during the game, on or off the playing field, results in immediate ejection from the game.
7. Dropped Third Strike rule is in effect.
8. No Infield Fly rule.
9. **Batting Rotation** - Use a full team batting rotation. All players bat whether they are playing defense or not. No changes are allowed in the batting order during the game. If a player arrives late to a game, she must be placed at the end of the batting order. If a player leaves the game for any reason, everyone in the rotation moves up one spot. No outs will be recorded.
10. Substitutes must play three innings in the field. If a short game results in a player not playing three innings, playing time just be made up the next game. (If a player had a history of EXCESSIVE absences from games she may only be allowed to play two innings.)
11. Ten players will play defense. The tenth player must play in the outfield.
12. A team must have at least seven players to play a game by 6:20. At that time, the team without enough players forfeits.
13. Outfielders must play on the grass. If no grass exists, then coaches must exercise common sense as to where the outfield would be.
14. To stop a play: it will stop when the ball is in the possession of the pitcher in or on the pitcher's circle.
15. The tiebreaker rule will take effect in the seventh inning. International Tie Breaker rules apply.
16. All games will begin promptly at 6:00.
17. With 2 outs in any inning, coaches are encouraged to use a courtesy runner for their pitcher or catcher. Player that made the last out is the runner.
18. ASA slide rules apply. Players must slide or avoid the fielder to avoid injury. Umpires discretion
19. No slash hitting allowed. Players cannot show bunt, pull back and take a full swing.

