

## Middleboro Youth Softball League

### Minor League Rules

**8&U** ASA Rules are to be used with the following modifications

1. All players must play a minimum of three innings in the field and bat once per game (time permitting). The batting order will include the entire roster and teams will bat once through the entire before a second at bat.
2. Batters will be allowed 4 “hittable” pitches. No walks. If a batter strikes out she is not out, she then hits the ball off the T and the game continues with her hit.
3. All games will be six innings. A legal game is four complete innings (three and one half if the home team leads.)
4. Games begin promptly at 6:00 P. M.
5. **Ending Times:** No inning may start if the previous inning *ends after 7:30* until May 15th, beginning May 16, no inning may start if the previous inning *ends after 8:00*. Stop the game as soon as darkness becomes a factor of visibility and safety.
6. The score will be kept for each game, but no league standings or team records will be kept.
7. **Mercy Rule:** If after four or more complete innings (three and one half for the home team), one team is leading by twelve or more runs, the leading team is declared the winner.
8. There is a four run limit per inning per team. If there is a continuance of play when the fourth run is scored, then all subsequent runs count until the play is completed. The half inning ends Upon completion of this play. **EXCEPTION:** This rule does not apply to the last inning of the game in which a maximum of 10 runs may be scored. When the last inning is other than the sixth Inning, then there must be prior agreement between coaches and the umpire that the inning about to commence is the last inning of the game.
9. No stealing.
10. **Leading:** A runner is allowed, and should be encouraged, to take a short lead off the base. The lead can only be taken after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. If the ball is not batted the runner must return to the base.
11. Swearing, before or during the game, will lead to ejection from the game.
12. The distance from the front of the pitcher's plate to the front of home plate is 35 feet. Coaches must pitch from at least 35 feet.
13. No "Drop Third Strike" rule.
14. No "Infield Fly" rule.
15. There are ten defensive players (four must be outfielders).
16. Two coaches are allowed on the playing field for the purpose of instructing the defensive

players.

17. Outfielders must play their position on the outfield grass (not positioned as additional infielders).