

2018 PTE Softball Rules Summary

NOTE: All playing rules described in the *2018 Little League Softball Official Regulations, Playing Rules, and Policies* handbook apply unless otherwise amended below.

	Rookies Softball	Minors Softball	Majors Softball	Seniors Softball
League Age	6-8	8-10	10-12	13-16
Regulation Game Length (completed)	4-6 innings	6 innings (5½ if home team is ahead)	6 innings (5½ if home team is ahead)	7 innings (6½ if home team is ahead)
Regulation Game Length (called/ incomplete)	N/A	4 innings (3½ if home team is ahead)	4 innings (3½ if home team is ahead)	5 innings (4½ if home team is ahead)
Game Ending During Incomplete Inning (regulation game)	N/A	Score reverts back to last complete inning (EXCEPTION: If home team ties score/ takes lead in home half of incomplete inning, game ends at that point)	Score reverts back to last complete inning (EXCEPTION: If home team ties score/ takes lead in home half of incomplete inning, game ends at that point)	Score reverts back to last complete inning (EXCEPTION: If home team ties score/ takes lead in home half of incomplete inning, game ends at that point)
Curfew (may not start a new inning after curfew time)	Prior to April 25: 7:40 pm; April 26 to May 6: 8:00 pm; May 7 to May 27: 8:15 pm; May 28 to end: 8:30 pm (Dates/ times may vary)			
Weeknight Time Limit (must end game when it reaches its time limit)	1 Hour 45 Minutes	None	None	2 Hours 30 Minutes
Weekend Time Limit (must end game when it reaches its time limit)	1 Hour 45 Minutes	2 Hours	2 Hours	2 Hours 30 Minutes

Pitching Limits	N/A	12 innings per day	12 innings per day	None
Pitching Rest	N/A	1 calendar day of rest if a player pitches 7 or more innings in a calendar day	1 calendar day of rest if a player pitches 7 or more innings in a calendar day	None
Pitchers Returning	N/A	A pitcher in the game can be removed and can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game but only once in the same inning as she was removed.	A pitcher in the game can be removed and can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game but only once in the same inning as she was removed.	A pitcher in the game can be removed and can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game but only once in the same inning as she was removed.
Batting Order	Continuous Batting Order (does not reset/ picks up from previous game)	Continuous Batting Order (Regular Season: does not reset/ picks up from previous game. Playoffs: resets each game)	Continuous Batting Order (resets each game)	Continuous Batting Order (resets each game)
Batting Around	Not allowed (inning ends once everyone has batted)	Not allowed (inning ends once everyone has batted)	Allowed	Allowed
Runs per Inning Limit	4 Runs	4 Runs	None	None
Ten-Run Rule	None	After 4 innings (3½ if home team is ahead)	After 4 innings (3½ if home team is ahead)	After 5 innings (4½ if home team is ahead)

Base Running	<p>When a ball is hit to the outfield and it passes all fielders, that runner can try to advance to 2nd base. If there are runners already on base when this occurs, those runners can advance one more base.</p>	<p>Prior to May 9th: Runner Stops at base they are approaching when ball thrown from the outfield reaches the pitcher and has the ball in the circle.</p> <p>Starting May 9th: Continuation on walks is allowed.</p>	No limits	No Limits
Stealing	N/A	<p>Prior to May 9th: 2nd and 3rd only (ball must cross plate)</p> <p>Starting May 9th: All Bases</p>	All bases (when pitch is released)	All bases (when pitch is released)
Advancing on an Overthrow (during batted ball)	0 Bases	<p>Prior to May 9th: 0 Bases</p> <p>Starting May 9th: Unlimited (until ball is controlled by pitcher in circle)</p>	Unlimited	Unlimited
Advancing on a Catcher's Overthrow (during steal)	N/A	<p>Prior to May 9th: 0 Bases</p> <p>Starting May 9th: Unlimited (until ball is controlled by pitcher in circle)</p>	Unlimited	Unlimited
Bunting	None	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Sliding	Feet First Only	Feet First Only (may slide head first when returning to a base)	Feet First Only (may slide head first when returning to a base)	Head or Feet First
Infield Fly Rule	None	None	In Effect	In Effect

Speed-Up Runner for Catcher	When there are 2 outs and the catcher is on base, a speed-up runner may be used. Speed-up runner must be last out made that half-inning.	When there are 2 outs and the catcher is on base, a speed-up runner may be used. Speed-up runner must be last out made that half-inning.	When there are 2 outs and the catcher is on base, a speed-up runner may be used. Speed-up runner must be last out made that half-inning.	When there are 2 outs and the catcher is on base, a speed-up runner may be used. Speed-up runner must be last out made that half-inning.
Defensive Conferences (visits) with pitcher or any other defensive player	N/A	3 rd time in an inning, 4 th time in a game, pitcher must be removed (resets when new pitcher enters game)	3 rd time in an inning, 4 th time in a game, pitcher must be removed (resets when new pitcher enters game)	3 rd time in an inning, 4 th time in a game, pitcher must be removed (resets when new pitcher enters game)
Maximum Number of Coaches in Dugout/ on Field	4	3	3	3

General Rules:

- New pitchers will be allowed to throw 8 warm-up pitches. Returning pitchers are allowed to throw 5 warm-up pitches.
- Managers/ coaches must not warm up pitchers prior to or during a game.
- All catchers' helmets must have a "dangling" type throat protector attached.
- On-deck batters are prohibited (EXCEPTION: The on-deck position is permitted in Seniors). This means no player should handle a bat, even while in an enclosure, until it is his/ her time to bat.
- Scorebooks must be kept for Minors, Majors, and Seniors. They must be accurate for Post-Season (All-Star) play.
- Only the rostered players and coaches are allowed in the dugout. All siblings, friends, etc. must remain outside the dugout at all times.
- All managers, coaches, and players must remain in the dugout at all times. Leaving the dugout is prohibited.