

**2019 New Albany Little League Softball
Major League (10-12 Year Olds) Rules**

ALL PLAY IN THIS DIVISION WILL BE BY THE LITTLE LEAGUE RULEBOOK WITH THESE EXCEPTIONS

Division Basics

- Time limit is two hours with a drop dead time of two hours fifteen minutes from the first pitch.
- A Little League approved 12" softball will be used for all games.
- A team must have nine players at game time for the game to be official. Pool players can be used if needed and arranged through the division vice-president or player agent in advance.
- A game will last for (6) innings if time allows.
- Two ADULT base coaches are permitted in this division. Each team must have one ADULT in the dugout to assist players (i.e., keeping the girls in the dugout, keeping the batting order straight).
- Game is called after four innings if there is a ten (10) run lead.

Batting

- All players will be placed in the batting order (bat the bench).
- The batter becomes a runner and is entitled to first base without the liability to be put out when the batter is touched by a pitched ball which the batter is not attempting to hit unless the ball is in the strike zone when it touches the batter.
- **A BUNT is a batted ball not swung at but intentionally met with the bat and tapped slowly. Holding the bat in the strike zone is considered an attempted bunt. In order to take the pitch, the batter must withdraw the bat backwards away from the ball.**
- Pool players, if used, must bat last in the lineup.

Fielding

- Maximum nine (9) players on defense. Six (6) players in the infield and three (3) players in the grassy section of the outfield. Players may not obstruct the runners.
- No player sits the bench more than two consecutive innings unless they are injured/sick.
- Pool players, if used, must play in the outfield and bat last.

Base Running

- Catcher may have a substitute runner in order to speed up the game. The runner will be the last recorded out.
- A runner who is off the base after a pitch or as a result of a batter completing a turn at bat, and while the pitcher has the ball within the eight (8) foot radius circle, **must determine if they are going to try to advance or return to the last touched base upon stopping their momentum. The girl is not immediately called out but she must make an immediate decision. This is a judgment call by the umpire as to whether or not the girl has had sufficient time to make her decision and is not questionable.**

Pitching

- The pitching circle will be 8 feet in diameter with the center of the circle 40 feet from home plate.
- If the pitcher pitches in seven (7) or more innings a calendar day of rest is required.
- Pool players, if used, cannot pitch.

**IT IS EXPECTED THAT PLAY AND CONDUCT WILL BE SPORTSMANLIKE. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!
NO FOOD OR CANDY IN THE DUGOUT!!!! GATORADE AND WATER ONLY ARE ALLOWED!!!!**

Players, managers, coaches and appointed adults ONLY allowed in the dugouts. Players, managers and coaches are not allowed to leave the dugout during the game unless an injury occurs or excused by the umpire.

NO VERBAL ABUSE OR HARASSMENT TO AN UMPIRE, COACH, MANAGER, OPPOSING PLAYER OR PARENT WILL BE TOLERATED. REFER TO THE LEAGUES' CODE OF CONDUCT!!!!