

Mid-Central Illinois League

Girls Softball - 2018

President Branden Crowl bvtcrowl@yahoo.com

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Treasurer Mark Anderson waverlyballclub@gmail.com

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10U thru 14U Softball General League Rules

1) General Rules & Facility Guidelines:

- a. Girls Softball age cut-off date is January 1st of the current year.
- b. All divisions will be scheduled to play a minimum of twelve (12) games.
- c. Games will be played with a time limit of one (1) hour and forty-five (45) minutes or the number of innings specified for each division, whichever occurs first. No new inning can begin after the time limit has been triggered. Games that are tied following the completion of an inning when a time limit or maximum innings has been triggered will end in a tie.
- d. No inning will be allowed to start after 8:15 on an unlit field.
- e. There will be NO must slide rule, but we strongly urge action against any obvious attempt to hurt anyone or running over the catcher.
- f. A Double Safety base is required for all games.
- g. An eight foot (8'-0") radius pitching circle is required for all softball games.
- h. There will be at least two (2) umpires for each game. It is recommended, but not required, that the umpires be at least three (3) years older than the players that they are umpiring.

2) League Rules:

- a. Each team wishing to participate in a MCIL league will pay a fifty dollar (\$50.00) fee, unless they participated in MCIL in 2014. Returning team fees are \$0. Each team will be responsible for purchasing their own scorebook and team equipment.
- b. All League Divisions will be structured in an A / B format provided there are an adequate number of teams entered to play within each age division. In the event there are not enough teams then there will be only one division, and all teams will be scheduled together.
- i. "A" Teams will be defined as a team having six (6) or more second (2nd) year players. For example a 10U team has fourteen (14) players on its roster. Out of the fourteen (14) players on the roster, if at least six (6) of them are ten (10) years old then the team is an "A" Team.
- c. Schedules will be made available on or before **May 1, 2018**. Schedules will be emailed to the individual town's league presidents, or their representative as requested.

3) Roster Rules:

- a. Teams are required to bat their entire roster of all players present at the game. Late arrivals will be placed at the end of the roster.
- b. Free substitution is allowed anywhere in the field.
- c. Rosters and team fees will be handed in to the MCIL at the league meeting scheduled for **April 8, 2018**.
- d. Any changes to a team's roster must be submitted by **May 23, 2018** and needs to be approved by the league president.
- e. All rosters should include two (2) contact numbers for the team manager and an email address, if available.
- f. NO out of town players will be allowed on any team, which has fifteen (15) on its roster without the permission of the league president.
- g. A player can only be on one (1) roster for the end of season tournaments and must have been rostered with that team and the MCIL as of **May 23, 2018**.
- h. Any team that attempts to load a team for the end of the season tournament will be disqualified and forfeit all of their tournament games, ten (10) to zero (0). Rosters for the end of the season tournaments will be those that the MCIL has on record as of **May 23, 2018**.
- i. The number of players on the roster is unlimited.

4) Team Rules:

- a. It is optional for the girls to wear ball caps or visors, but they do not need to be the same color as the rest of the team.
- b. No metal spikes will be allowed, rubber spikes may be worn.
- c. Batting helmets with facemasks must be worn while at bat, in the on deck area and while on the bases. If a player is used as a coach on the baselines, they must wear a batting helmet with facemask.
- d. All catchers must wear a chest protector, shin guards, catcher's helmet and throat guard. Any type of glove may be used to catch.
- e. Teams are encouraged, but not required, to utilize a courtesy runner for the team's catcher anytime during the inning.
- f. The courtesy runner will be the player who made the teams last batted out of the current inning.

ASA Rules will be the official rules unless superseded by the General or Specific Division Rules of the MCIL

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Specific Division Rules

5) 10U Division:

- a. 11" softballs will be used. The home team will supply 2 good softballs that are acceptable to the visiting coach.
- b. Pitching Distance: Thirty-Five foot (35'-0").
- c. Base Distance: Sixty foot (60'-0").
- d. Game Length: Six (6) innings.
- e. Mercy Rule: Twelve (12) or more run lead after the fourth (4th) or fifth (5th) innings, or before if both Head Coaches agree.
- f. A game will be considered official following the completion of:
 - i. The Visitor half of the fourth (4th) inning if the Home team is leading.
 - ii. The end of the fourth (4th) inning if the Visiting team is leading.
 - iii. Before the fourth (4th) inning if both Head Coaches agree on implementing the Mercy Rule beforehand.
- g. Dropped third (3rd) strikes will be considered an out for the batter and a dead ball for all base runners.
- h. Each team can score a maximum of eight (8) runs per inning with the exception of the final inning, as determined by the home plate umpire, where there will be unlimited runs for both teams.
- i. There will be NO infield fly rule.
- j. Players cannot steal second (2nd) or third (3rd) base but may lead off as soon as the ball has left the pitchers hand. The runners may not advance to the next base unless the ball is hit in play. Runners may be thrown out returning to the base previously occupied.
- k. No stealing of home on a pass ball is allowed.
- l. All base runners may advance on hit balls or on attempts to throw out a runner until the pitcher has the ball inside of the pitching circle.
- m. Ten (10) players will take the field to start the game, the tenth (10th) player, the rover, may play anywhere behind the baseline.
- n. A team must have a minimum of nine (9) players to begin the game. The rover is the fielding position eliminated. When at bat, the batting team must register an out for the tenth (10th) spot in the line-up.
- o. In the event of injury, a team can finish with eight (8) players, taking outs in the injured players spot and the tenth (10th) spot.
- p. A forfeit is called for teams with less than nine (9) players to start or eight (8) players to finish.
- q. Each batter will start each at bat with a 1-1 count.

6) 12U Division:

- a. 12" softballs will be used. The home team will supply 2 good softballs that are acceptable to the visiting coach.
- b. Pitching Distance: Forty foot (40'-0").
- c. Base Distance: Sixty foot (60'-0").
- d. Game Length: Seven (7) innings.
- e. Mercy Rule: Twelve (12) or more run lead after the fifth (5th) inning, or before the fifth (5th) inning if both Head Coaches agree.
- f. A game will be considered official following the completion of:
 - i. The Visitor half of the fifth (5th) inning if the Home team is leading.
 - ii. The end of the fifth (5th) inning if the Visiting team is leading.
 - iii. Before the fifth (5th) inning if both Head Coaches agree on implementing the Mercy Rule beforehand.
- g. Dropped third (3rd) strikes will be considered a live ball for the batter and all base runners. The batter may attempt advancement to first (1st) base, if it is unoccupied, or if the base is occupied with two (2) outs.
- h. There is NO LIMIT to the number of runs a team can score in an inning.
- i. The infield fly rule will be enforced.
- j. Players can steal second (2nd) or third (3rd) base as soon as the ball has left the pitchers hand.
- k. A runner on third (3rd) may attempt to steal home if there is a play made on another base runner, wild pitch or passed ball.
- l. Ten (10) players will take the field to start the game, the tenth (10th) player, the rover, may play anywhere behind the baseline.
- m. A team must have a minimum of nine (9) players to begin the game. The rover is the fielding position eliminated. When at bat, the batting team must register an out for the tenth (10th) spot in the line-up.
- n. In the event of injury, a team can finish with eight (8) players, taking outs in the injured players spot and the tenth (10th) spot.
- o. A forfeit is called for teams with less than nine (9) players to start or eight (8) players to finish.
- p. No runners may advance when a pitcher has control of the ball in the pitching circle.

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7) 14U Divisions:

- a. 12" softballs will be used. The home team will supply 2 good softballs that are acceptable to the visiting coach.
- b. Pitching Distance: Forty foot (40'-0").
- c. Base Distance: Sixty foot (60'-0").
- d. Game Length: Seven (7) innings.
- e. Mercy Rule: Twelve (12) or more run lead after the fifth (5th) inning, or before the fifth (5th) inning if both Head Coaches agree.
- f. A game will be considered official following the completion of:
 - i. The Visitor half of the fifth (5th) inning if the Home team is leading.
 - ii. The end of the fifth (5th) inning if the Visiting team is leading.
 - iii. Before the fifth (5th) inning if both Head Coaches agree on implementing the Mercy Rule beforehand.
- g. Dropped third (3rd) strikes will be considered a live ball for the batter and all base runners. The batter may attempt advancement to first (1st) base, if it is unoccupied, or if the base is occupied with two (2) outs.
- h. There is NO LIMIT to the number of runs a team can score in an inning.
 - i. The infield fly rule will be enforced.
- j. Players can steal second (2nd) or third (3rd) base as soon as the ball has left the pitchers hand.
- k. A runner on third (3rd) may attempt to steal home once a steal is permitted.
- l. A team must have a minimum of nine (9) players to begin the game.
- m. In the event of injury, a team can finish with eight (8) players, taking outs in the injured players spot.
- n. A forfeit is called for teams with less than nine (9) players to start or eight (8) players to finish.
- o. No runners may advance when a pitcher has control of the ball in the pitching circle.