

LAKESHORE AREA GIRLS LITTLE LEAGUE SOFTBALL

LOCAL RULES – MAJORS

(Updated: March 27, 2023)

1. Each player shall play at least 6 consecutive outs. The goal is comparable and equitable playing time over the course of the season. Managers should give each player opportunities to play infield and outfield positions.
2. Line-up shall be submitted to scorekeeper before each game. Substitutions must be reported. Home team keeps official score book (see rule 17).
3. Roster batting with 3 outs per inning; 4 balls, 3 strikes in an expanded strike zone (shoulders to mid-shin). Managers should attempt to equalize the number of at-bats for each player over the course of the season.
4. Six inning game. No new inning may start after 80 minutes. Umpire announces starting time. Inning starts after 3rd out.
5. Nine players in the field.
6. Five run limit completes the half-inning until May 18th. Mercy Rule: 10 runs advantage after 4 complete innings.
7. Play is complete when the pitcher has the ball inside the pitching circle and is not making a play on the runner. Runner must either attempt to advance or retreat to previous base (see National Rule).
8. Pitching rubber is 40 feet from the back corner of home plate. A 12-inch diameter softball is used for Majors Level.
9. All National pitching rules apply. This includes maximum innings and rest requirements for pitchers. One pitch in an inning constitutes an inning pitched.
10. A pitcher remaining in the game, but moving to a different position, can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game, but only once in the same inning as she was removed.
11. Coach may warm-up pitchers (while catcher puts on gear).
12. All batters must wear batting helmets with face guards.
13. Base stealing (including home) is permitted after the pitcher releases the ball.
14. Runner's foot must be in contact with the base they occupy until the ball is released. Runner is called out if not in compliance.
15. Plays at home plate – avoiding contact supersedes a 'mandatory' slide.
16. 2 coaches allowed on the field when batting (in coaches' box).
17. Home team keeps official score book & pitch count for Home Team and Visiting Team. Scorekeeper will sit in score booth for games and must arrive 10 minutes early to verify line-ups.
18. Pitching logs must be signed by Umpire or Field Director at the completion of the game. Pitching log will be checked by the opposing Manager before each game.
19. Infield Fly Rule is in effect.
20. A courtesy runner is allowed for the catcher to allow them to put on their gear so they are prepared for the start of the next half inning.
21. Players may not wear watches, rings, jewelry, or any metal objects (unless for medical purposes).
22. At the majors level, we encourage coaches to play 4 outfielders to increase playing time and coaches should err on the side of providing more playing time.
23. All National Little league Rules apply. When in conflict, Local Rules prevail.