

**MARLBORO GIRLS SOFTBALL ASSOC.
MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

| MAJOR LEAGUE | SPRING | SUMMER | FALL |
|----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| LEAGUE AGES | 13-15 | 12-15 | 12-15 |
| | <i>League age is a player's age as of January 1 of the current season</i> | | |
| Game Days | Monday-Saturday | Monday-Thursday | Saturdays (two games) |
| Make-up Days | Any available day | Fridays/Weekends | Sundays |
| Rosters | ----- Re-draft each season ----- | | |
| Ball Size | ----- 12 inch ----- | | |
| Pitcher's Mound | ----- 43 feet ----- | | |
| Bases | ----- 60 feet ----- | | |
| Metal Spikes | ----- Not permitted ----- | | |
| Batting helmets: | ----- Optional ----- | | |
| Chin Straps | ----- Required ----- | | |
| Faceguards | ----- Required ----- | | |
| Fielders: Facemasks | ----- Required for pitchers; strongly encouraged for infielders ----- | | |
| Catcher's helmet/facemask | ----- Required for pitcher warm-ups and during game ----- <i>(Warm-ups include practice + games)</i> | | |
| Maximum game length | ----- 7 innings ----- | | |
| Extra Innings | ----- Playoffs only; with international tiebreaker ----- | | |
| Playoff Format | Double elimination | Single elimination | Single elimination |
| Time Limits: | | | |
| Regular Season | After 1:20 , finish the Inning, then play final inning, or ½ if home team is ahead. | After 1:10 , finish the Inning, then play final inning, or ½ if home team is ahead. | No new inning after 1:25; |
| | | Drop dead at 1:45 | Drop dead at 1:40 |
| | | (current at bat will be played out; if inning not completed, score reverts to previous inning if home team is not ahead) | |
| Playoffs | No time limit | No new inning after 1:30 (No time limits in finals) | No new inning after 1:25 (No time limits in finals) |
| Official Time: | | | |
| Start of Game | ----- At first warm-up pitch ----- | | |
| New Inning | ----- Last out made of previous inning ----- | | |
| Grace period | ----- 15 minutes after start time; otherwise, the game is forfeited ----- <i>(first game only)</i> | | |

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| Run Limits: | | | |
| Regular Season | ----- Unlimited ----- | | --- 6 runs per inning --- |
| Playoffs | ----- Unlimited ----- | | Unlimited in final inning (as called by umpire); for Finals, 7th inning is unlimited |
| Mercy Rule: | | | |
| Regular Season | 13+ runs after 5 innings | ----- No Mercy rule ----- | |
| Playoffs | ----- 13+ runs after 5 innings ----- | | |
| Dropped Third Strike | ----- In effect at all times ----- | | |
| Infield Fly Rule | ----- In effect ----- | | |
| "Look Back" Rule | ----- In effect ----- | | |
| # Fielders | ----- 9 (outfielders start on grass) ----- | | |
| Substitutions | ----- Unlimited ----- | | |
| Pitching Inning limit | ----- 4 Innings per game (one pitch = one inning) ----- | | |
| Penalty: Inning limit violation | Forefeit | 6 runs added to opponent's score for each inning violation | |
| Pitcher's Return | ----- Yes ----- | | |
| Hit batters | ----- 3 in an Inning , pitcher is removed for inning ----- ----- 5 in a game , pitcher is removed for game ----- <i>Note: If ball hits ground first and no attempt is made by batter to get out of the way, then it is up to the umpire's discretion to award the base or not</i> | | |
| Continuous Batting Order | ----- Yes ----- | | |
| Injured Player/Players leaving games early | ----- If reported, no automatic out occurs ----- | | |
| Players arriving late | ----- Added to bottom of batting order ----- | | |
| Bunting | ----- Permitted ----- | | |
| Slash Bunting | ----- Not Permitted (batter is out) ----- | | |
| Slap Hitting | ----- Permitted ----- | | |
| Thrown Bats | ----- Not Permitted ----- (First Offense - Team warning; Second Offense - Batter is out) | | |
| Courtesy Runners | --- Permitted for injured players and next inning pitcher and catcher --- (runner = last out made) | | |
| Lead/steal when... | ----- Ball leaves pitcher's hand ----- | | |
| Stealing Bases | ----- Unlimited; multiple bases (if able); all bases ----- (exception: no stealing or advancement for teams leading by 10+ runs) | | |