

**USA SOFTBALL MA Leagues
Hockomock League****HGSSL Division Rules****10U Division Playing Rules**

All play is governed by USA Softball Rules except as noted below. In addition certain USA Softball Rules are noted for emphasis.

1. 11 inch ball and 35 feet pitching distance
2. 6 inning games
3. No metal cleats allowed
4. Facemasks are required for pitchers, 1st and 3rd base players
5. 4 run limit per inning rule/ waived in the 6th or last inning
6. Run ahead rule is 12 after 5th inning completed
7. 10 fielders with 4 outfielders, each of whom must play at least 25 feet off the baseline
8. No slashing (faking a bunt, then hitting away)
9. Slap hitting and drag bunting are allowed
10. No infield fly rule
11. No dropped 3rd strike
12. No "continuation." Batter may only take one base when awarded a base on balls.
13. Advancing multiple bases on a steal attempt is not allowed. Runner on 3rd may steal home only if catcher attempts to throw out a runner at any base. Throws back to the pitcher do not count. No delay stealing of home plate, runner may not steal home on passed ball.
14. After 80 minutes of play, teams will finish that inning and play 1 additional inning. Inning begins immediately after last out of previous inning. No time limit

Special Playing Rules that apply to all divisions:

1. All players bat a continuous batting order will be used. If a player leaves a game for injury or any other reason (other than ejection), their spot in the order is skipped (no automatic out, except for players ejected). Players who arrive after the start of the game will be added to the end of the order. Injured players who miss a turn in the order may not reenter the game.
2. Teams playing one player short, or up to two players short if 10U, will not be penalized with an automatic out.
3. Minimum of eight players required to start and finish a game (forfeit if less)
4. Games must start once the scheduled start time is reached and both teams have the minimum number of players
5. Free substitution of players in the field
6. Players must slide or avoid contact. All sliding rule decisions are at the discretion of the umpire.
7. A courtesy runner may be used for the pitcher or catcher - runner shall be the last batter of the previous inning (and second to last batter of the previous inning if both pitcher and catcher are on base at the same time).
8. Pitcher shall be removed from pitching after directly hitting 3 batters in an inning or 5 in the course of the game (bounced pitches will not count).
9. Home team pays the umpire
10. Home teams supply two new leather, raised seam, optic yellow balls (USA Softball Approved)

12U Division Playing Rules

All play is governed by USA Softball Rules except as noted below. In addition certain USA Softball Rules are noted for emphasis.

1. 12 inch ball and 40 feet pitching distance
2. 7 inning games
3. No metal cleats allowed
4. Facemasks are required for pitcher, 1st and 3rd base players
5. 5 run limit rule per inning/ waived in the 7th or last inning
6. Run ahead rule is 12 after 5th inning completed
7. Slashing is NOT allowed (faking a bunt, then hitting away)
8. Slap hitting and drag bunting are allowed
9. Infield fly rule in effect
10. Game time. After 80 minutes of play, teams will finish that inning and play 1 additional inning. Inning begins immediately after last out of previous inning. No time limit.

Special Playing Rules that apply to all divisions:

1. All players bat a continuous batting order will be used. If a player leaves a game for injury or any other reason (other than ejection), their spot in the order is skipped (no automatic out, except for players ejected). Players who arrive after the start of the game will be added to the end of the order. Injured players who miss a turn in the order may not reenter the game.
2. Teams playing one player short, or up to two players short if 10U, will not be penalized with an automatic out.
3. Minimum of eight players required to start and finish a game (forfeit if less)
4. Games must start once the scheduled start time is reached and both teams have the minimum number of players
5. Free substitution of players in the field
6. Players must slide or avoid contact. All sliding rule decisions are at the discretion of the umpire.
7. A courtesy runner may be used for the pitcher or catcher - runner shall be the last batter of the previous inning (and second to last batter of the previous inning if both pitcher and catcher are on base at the same time).
8. Pitcher shall be removed from pitching after directly hitting 3 batters in an inning or 5 in the course of the game (bounced pitches will not count).
9. Home team pays the umpire
10. Home teams supply two new leather, raised seam, optic yellow balls (USA Softball approved)

14U Division Playing Rules

All play is governed by USA Softball Rules except as noted below. In addition certain USA Softball Rules are noted for emphasis.

14 & Under:

1. 12 inch ball and 43 feet pitching distance
2. Metal cleats are allowed

3. Facemasks are required for Pitcher, 1st and 3rd base players
4. 7 inning games
5. 5 run limit rule per inning/ waived in the 7th or last inning
6. Run ahead rule is 12 after 5th inning completed
7. Slashing is allowed (faking bunt, then hitting away)
8. Slap hitting and drag bunting are allowed
9. Infield fly rule in effect
10. Game Time. After 80 minutes of play, teams will finish current inning and play 1 additional inning.
Inning begins after last out or previous inning. No time limit.

Special Playing Rules that apply to all divisions:

1. All players bat a continuous batting order will be used. If a player leaves a game for injury or any other reason (other than ejection), their spot in the order is skipped (no automatic out, except for players ejected). Players who arrive after the start of the game will be added to the end of the order. Injured players who miss a turn in the order may not reenter the game.
2. Teams playing one player short, or up to two players short if 10U, will not be penalized with an automatic out.
3. Minimum of eight players required to start and finish a game (forfeit if less)
4. Games must start once the scheduled start time is reached and both teams have the minimum number of players
5. Free substitution of players in the field
6. Players must slide or avoid contact. All sliding rule decisions are at the discretion of the umpire.
7. A courtesy runner may be used for the pitcher or catcher - runner shall be the last batter of the previous inning (and second to last batter of the previous inning if both pitcher and catcher are on base at the same time).
8. Pitcher shall be removed from pitching after directly hitting 3 batters in an inning or 5 in the course of the game (bounced pitches will not count).
9. Home team pays the umpire
10. Home teams supply two new leather, raised seam, optic yellow balls (USA Softball approved)

18U Division Playing Rules

All play is governed by USA Softball except as noted below. In addition certain USA Softball Rules are noted for emphasis.

18 & Under:

1. 12 inch ball and 43 feet pitching distance
2. 7 inning games
3. Metal cleats are allowed
4. Facemasks are required for Pitcher, 1st and 3rd base players
5. 5 run limit rule per inning/ waived in the 7th or last inning
6. Run ahead rule is 12 after 5th inning completed
7. Slashing (faking bunt, then hitting away) is allowed
8. Infield fly rule in effect
9. Game time. After 80 minutes of play, teams will complete that inning and play 1 additional inning.
Inning begins immediately after the last out of the previous inning. No time limit.

Special Playing Rules that apply to all divisions:

1. All players bat a continuous batting order will be used. If a player leaves a game for injury or any other reason (other than ejection), their spot in the order is skipped (no automatic out, except for players ejected). Players who arrive after the start of the game will be added to the end of the order. Injured players who miss a turn in the order may not reenter the game.
2. Teams playing one player short, or up to two players short if 10U, will not be penalized with an automatic out.
3. Minimum of eight players required to start and finish a game (forfeit if less)
4. Games must start once the scheduled start time is reached and both teams have the minimum number of players
5. Free substitution of players in the field
6. Players must slide or avoid contact. All sliding rule decisions are at the discretion of the umpire.
7. A courtesy runner may be used for the pitcher or catcher - runner shall be the last batter of the previous inning (and second to last batter of the previous inning if both pitcher and catcher are on base at the same time).
8. Pitcher shall be removed from pitching after directly hitting 3 batters in an inning or 5 in the course of the game (bounced pitches will not count).
9. Home team pays the umpire
10. Home teams supply two new leather, raised seam, optic yellow balls (USA Softball approved)

**HOME TEAMS
ONLINE**