



## Illinois District 13 Little League 2020 Minor A Softball Supplemental Rules

### League Composition

- The Minor A Division in Illinois District 13 is comprised of league age 8-10 year olds who are either new to softball and Little League or only have a year or two of experience.
  - If a family requests that a league age 11 or 12 year old play down in the Minor A Division due to safety concerns they can sign the Little League Document and have their league age 11 or 12 year old play down with the League's Approval. Any league age 11 or 12 year old that plays in Minor A via an approved waiver may *NOT* pitch. A league age 11 or 12 year old that plays at this level will *NOT* be eligible for Majors Allstars.
- The Minor A Division will be scheduled to play a total of 14 games.
- Games will be scheduled on Tues, Thurs, Sat.
- Games to start Week of **8/10**.

### Administration

- Illinois District 13 Staff will be the overall administrators of the District 13 Minor A Division.
  - Each League will be responsible for their own teams, managers, coaches, fields, etc. as they are all chartering at the league level.
- Illinois District 13 will serve as the protest committee for District 13 Softball. The District will act on all protests within 72 hours of notification that are presented in accordance with article 4.19 of the Little League International Official Playing Rules.
  - All decisions made by District 13 in regards to protests will be considered final and binding.

### Umpires

- The home team is responsible for umpires for their games.
- ***An umpire is required on the field for all games***
- In the Minor A Division many leagues use volunteer umpires or adolescents that are learning how to be umpires.
- *If the umpire is under the age of 18, there must be an adult in charge that is there to support the youth umpire. This adult does not have to be on the field but must be present at the game so that they may act in the young umpire's defense if needed.*

## Playing Rules

- The Little League Softball Rulebook will be used for the Minor A Division in all areas except when explicitly stated within this document.
- Below are amendments that will apply during the ***regular season only***.

## Time Limits

- The time limit for this division will be ***1 hour 45 minutes***. After this time **no new inning** will be started. The current inning will be completed unless the game has been called due to weather or darkness.
- In this division a game may start with less than 9 players, but no less than 7 players, for a specific team present at the game.
  - *This is an instructional level, if a team wishes to "donate" a player to the opposing team so that they may have 9 to start the game it will be allowed.*
- There is no Slaughter Rule for this division.
- This is a maximum of 5 runs scored per inning allowed.
- In the event of inclement weather the opposing team must provide at least 1 hour 30 minute notification of the game's cancellation.
  - This timeframe minimizes the negative impact of having to travel without playing a game.
- A Double Safety First Base will be used at this division.
- The Mandatory Play Rule will be ***strictly*** adhered to in accordance with Regulation IV (I) of the Little League Softball Rulebook.
- A team's official batting order, including names and numbers, must be provided to the opposing team at the manager's' meeting at home plate.

- **Bunting, Slap Bunting, and Stealing of Home are not allowed except after Labor Day weekend (9/7/2020) – Starting On 9/8/2020 until end of the season – it is allowed.**
  - There is NOT a Dropped 3rd Strike Rule, i.e. if a catcher catches or doesn't catch the 3rd strike, the batter is out.
- Only 1 extra base may be taken (in total) on an overthrow per live play from a batted ball or on a stolen base attempt.
- The Minor A Division will be using a continuous batting order.
  - Minimum play is met when a player plays 6 defensive outs and 1 at bat.
  - The outs do NOT need to be continuous.
  - Batting order for both teams will consist of the team with the most number of players at the game.
    - *If one team has 9 and the other team has 11, then 11 players will be considered as once through the order and the order stays as continuous.*
- An offensive inning will consist of batting 5 runs **or** three (3) outs, whichever occurs first.
- Minor A will use neon yellow 11 inch softballs, plush softballs are not allowed.

#### **Rule Amendment Approved on 8/6/2020:**

- **No Fake Bunts are allowed. If the batter shows bunt, the batter will have to either put the ball in play via a successful bunt or they can pull the bat back and take the pitch.**
- **If the batter shows bunt, pulls the bat back and then takes a full swing, this will be considered an illegal action and the batter will be called out.**

## **Pitching Rules -**

### **Beginning of each Inning Player Pitching:**

- The inning will begin with the player pitching the batters in their entirety and walks are allowed. Once the pitcher has walked 4 batters, then the coach pitch rules come into play for the remainder of the inning and no more walks are allowed for the remainder of the inning.
- *Game Management Suggestion: The first player pitching should be a player who has game time pitching experience. Once the first player pitcher has walked 4 batters, it is recommended that a beginner pitcher come in for the remainder of the inning with the coach pitch rules. The first player pitcher*

*can return at the beginning of the next inning. (Example: Pitcher 1 – walks 4 batters. Pitcher 2 comes in to replace Pitcher 1, no more walks are allowed, and the coach will come in to coach pitch when Pitcher 2 has pitched 4 balls. For the next inning, Pitcher 1 returns to start the next inning)*

- **Coach Pitch runs through Labor Day weekend. (9/7/2020) – Starting On 9/8/2020 until end of the season – Coach Pitch is discontinued.**

### **Player/Coach Pitching:**

- Once the pitcher has walked 4 batters in the inning, player/coach pitch rules will go into effect and no more walks will be allowed for the remainder of the inning.
- Once a batter reaches a count that includes 4 Balls, they will be replaced with a coach pitcher for the remainder of that batter's at bat and this will be followed for the remainder of the current inning.
- The coach will get **4 total pitches to the batter**, if after those 4 pitches the batter does not put the ball in play, the batter is out.
  - Coach pitches that are fouled off by the batter **DO** count in the 4 total pitches from the coach.
  - **No walks** are allowed as a result of coach pitch.
- After the at-bat is completed, the player pitcher would replace the coach pitcher for the new hitter.
- If a batter is hit by a pitch they will get the option of taking their base or continuing their at bat with the coach pitch rules of 4 pitches. Even if the batter decides to continue their at bat, the hit-by-pitch will count towards the total number allowed for that pitcher in a game.
- If a pitcher hits three (3) batters in an inning, they must be replaced with a new player pitcher. Pitchers are allowed (3) per inning and (5) total per game. Once a pitcher has hit five (5) batters, they are no longer eligible to pitch for the remainder of that game.

- Coaches must pitch underhand to batters.
- The Coach will pitch from 35 feet, the required distance for the Minor Divisions in Little League Softball.
  - Soft-Toss and / or pitching from a closer distance is NOT allowed at any time.
- While the coach is pitching the player / pitcher must remain within the 8 foot circle and be even with, or behind, the coach that is pitching.
- Managers and coaches are *NOT* allowed to warm up pitchers at any time.
- The Minor A Division will follow the Little League Rulebook in regards to pitching and will no longer be a Coach Pitch League.
- Managers and coaches are *NOT* allowed to warm up pitchers at any time.

### Pitching and Game Logs

- It is a **requirement** that managers for each team log their game scores within the League Admin Pro site.
  - <http://www.leagueadminpro.com/d13softball/>
- Managers are required to input their pitching information into the League Admin Pro website within **24 hours** of the game's conclusion.
  - Managers that become repeat offenders for not complying and not using the website, the following will be strongly suggested:
    - 1st Occurrence - Manager will receive a written warning
    - 2nd Occurrence - Manager will receive a one (1) game suspension
    - 3rd Occurrence - Manager will be suspended for five (5) games
    - 4th Occurrence - Manager will be removed for the remainder of the season
  - ***Please note that if a team hasn't uploaded their pitching information into the League Admin Pro website, pitches a player, and that player is found to be an ineligible pitcher, Little League Rules and Regulations will be followed in regards to ineligible pitchers.***

### Game Rescheduling

- No game will be rescheduled for any reason except rainouts or a school event. or inability to field less than 8 players. ***All Games will be rescheduled within 72 hours of the original game date.***
  - Once a makeup game is rescheduled the **VP or Rep** of the **HOME** team will contact District to make the appropriate changes to the time and date in the League Admin Pro program.

**\*\*If the game was originally scheduled prior to Labor Day Weekend and then rescheduled after Labor Day, you will abide by the rules starting on 9/8/2020 (Bunting, stealing and coach pitch).**

## **Good Sportsmanship**

- Teams may cheer or chant for their **OWN** team only.
- **NO inappropriate** comments will be made towards the opposing team.
- ***If inappropriate comments are made to an opposing team, the manager will receive a warning from the umpires. If the comments continue, the manager will be ejected from the game. This is subject to the Umpires' Discretion.***

## **League Resources**

- **IL District 13**
  - <http://www.illinoisdistrict13.com>
- **League Admin Pro**
  - <http://www.leagueadminpro.com/d13softball/>
- **Little League Softball**
  - <http://www.littleleague.org/media/softball.htm>

## **District 13 Contact Information**

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