

## **Division 2**

### **Medina Girls Softball Association**

UPDATED: 04/20/2024

#### **Game Length**

Games are 90 minutes, finish the inning. No new inning may be started after 90 minutes.

#### **Infield Fly Rule**

The infield fly rule is not in effect. Any fair fly ball will be treated as an in play ball.

#### **Dropped 3rd Strike**

The dropped 3rd strike rule is not in effect. The batter is out on strike 3 regardless if the catcher catches the ball.

#### **Run Limit**

There will be a 5 run limit per half inning. There is no mercy rule. Games will be allowed to reach their full time regardless of the score.

#### **Stealing Bases**

Home is allowed to be stolen once per half inning. No other base is allowed to be stolen. There is no dropped 3rd strike rule. (Batter is out on strike 3 regardless if the catcher catches the ball) There are no leadoffs.

#### **Base Running**

Once the ball has returned to the pitcher within the pitching circle, the base runner may not advance any additional bases. (Runner may continue to the base they were attempting or retreat to the previous base). Base runners may not leave the base anytime the pitcher has the ball within the circle.

Base runners may advance a total of 1 base on an overthrown ball, regardless of the number of overthrows on the same play. For example, a fielded ball overthrown to 1st base and then overthrown to the pitcher would still only allow base runners to advance one total base on that play rather than advancing multiple bases.

Batter should run to the orange 1st base and the fielder should use the white 1st base

Feet first sliding is allowed. Head first sliding is not allowed and will result in the runner being declared out.

Runner is out when running more than 3 feet from the base path. A runner is not out when running behind or in front of the fielder and outside the baseline in order to avoid interfering with the fielder attempting to field the ball in the base path.

Runner is out when struck with a fair untouched batted ball while not in contact with a base.

Runner is out when she interferes with a fielder attempting to field a batted ball or intentionally interferes with a thrown ball.

## **Batting Order**

All players in attendance will bat in a continuous rotation until 3 outs have been made. Players arriving after the start of the game will be added to the bottom of the batting order. Players leaving the game for any reason will be skipped in the batting order without penalty.

## **Fielding**

A fielder, without the ball, blocking a runner's path to a base is an "obstruction". The runner is not out and awarded the next base.

No player, including the pitcher, may play the same position for more than 3 innings or 9 outs per game. No player shall sit out 2 consecutive innings.

10 defensive players may be used (4 outfielders; no extra infielders). A minimum of seven (7) players are required to play a game (start to finish). If a team has less than 7 players to start the game, they may borrow players from the opposing team to add to their outfield. Borrowed players may still bat and field for their own team

## **Pitching**

The pitching distance is 35' measured from the back of the plate to the front of the pitching rubber.

The pitcher is encouraged to present the ball with her pivot foot on the rubber and the non-pivot foot either in contact with or behind the rubber. Upon bringing her hands together, she may begin the wind up. She may step either forward or backward with the non-pivot foot while keeping the pivot foot in contact with the rubber. The pivot foot should remain in contact with the ground until the ball is released. (Drag) Leaping or crow hopping off the pitcher's plate is discouraged as it will constitute an illegal pitch in older divisions. Illegal pitches will not be called at this age. We want to encourage proper pitching mechanics, but players will not be penalized for improper movements.

In the event of two walks in an inning, the offensive coach will pitch for the remainder of the inning, and the pitcher will stay in their defensive position. The coach may pitch from any distance they choose. The coach will make every attempt to avoid interfering with the defensive team's attempts to field the ball. If in the judgment of the umpire interference in making a play has occurred, the play will be declared "no pitch" and everyone will return to the same count and base running positions prior to the last pitch.

There is no "hit by pitch". Any ball that strikes the batter will be declared a "dead ball" and count as a ball.