

## Minor League Rules 2011

1. **No new inning will start after 7:30 p.m. sharp. This is firm and coaches are expected to abide.**
2. **It is expected that all coaches, parents, fans and players treat each other and especially our umpires with the utmost respect. Non-compliance with this request will not be tolerated.**
3. **Use of tobacco products by any coaches or league representatives in and around the bench areas is expressly prohibited.**
4. **During the regular season, one pitcher may only pitch up to three (3) innings maximum per game. Coaches should work hard to develop girls who want to pitch and avoid using one or two girls all season. During the playoffs, there is no limit on the number of innings a pitcher can pitch.**
5. **All offensive players who are at bat must wear a caged helmet.** Failure to do so will result in a warning the first time. A second occasion and the batter will be declared out.
6. As a general rule a pitcher, after hitting two batters in one inning or three in one game, should be removed from the game. This should be done at the umpires discretion based on the likelihood of injury.
7. Stealing is not allowed. Base runners may leave the base when the ball crosses home plate. For April games only, the first time the umpire sees a runner leaving the base before the ball crosses the plate, the runner will receive a warning. The umpire will call the runner out upon a second occurrence of leaving the base early. Starting May 1 there will be no warning from the umpire for leaving the base early.
8. Running on dropped third strike is not allowed
9. The ball is dead when in the control of the pitcher in the pitchers circle.
10. There will be a limit of **four** runs per inning, which will be lifted for the final inning.
11. A slaughter rule will apply. At the end of three and one-half innings, if the home team is winning by fifteen runs or more, the game is over and the home team wins. If after four complete innings the away team is winning by fifteen runs or more the game is over and the away team wins.
12. A regulation game last six innings. A tie at the end of six innings will continue to the next inning until the game has a winner or is called for darkness. In the event that a tie game can not be completed because of darkness it will be recorded as a tie game.
13. Four innings must be completed for a game to be considered an official game. If the home team is winning at the end of three and one-half innings the game will be considered official. If a game is called for darkness or weather after four complete innings but before the completion of six innings the winner is determined by the score at the end of the last completed inning.
14. Each player must play three innings in the field of a six-inning game. No player should catch more than three innings.
15. A continuous batting order and free substitution will be effect.
16. The infield fly rule will not be in effect.
17. Ten players will play in the field. A team must have eight players for a game to count. A team must forfeit its game if at any time it can not field eight players.
18. Game must start on time. **Games through April 22 will start at 5:45 p.m. sharp. Starting April 25, games will begin at 6:00 p.m. sharp.** Players should arrive for games 30 minutes before the start time to ensure proper warm-up. Once the game has started the umpire is in complete control. A forfeit due to a lack of players will be called fifteen minutes after the scheduled game time. Games must be played as scheduled.
19. Pitcher must start with both feet on the pitching rubber.
20. Any player who throws a bat after hitting a ball in fair territory will be warned. The second time a player throws a bat during any single game the player will be called out with an explanation. Base runners can not advance in upon the second occurrence.
21. All offensive players, with the exception of the batter and base runners, as well as non-playing defensive players must remain behind the bench fences.
22. Players can wear shorts, however we would encourage those who do, to purchase a sliding shorts to minimize any chance of injury.
23. **Players should leave the bench area cleaner than when they arrived. Encourage the players to pick up after the game.**
24. **All pitchers, and first and third base players must wear a face mask in the field.**