

2013 Senior League Softball Rules

Key Rules from the Little League Softball Rule Book

- p. 38, Rule VI b - Pitching: max innings per game/week and rest required
- p. 39, Rule VI c – Pitcher remaining in game, then returning to pitch
- p. 39, Rule VI d – Number of pitchers in a game
- p. 49, Rule 1.07, Seniors pitching distance is 43 feet
- p. 50, Rookie and Minor League divisions use the 11” softball, Majors and Jr/Sr use the 12” softball
- p. 51, Rule 1.12, Catcher – mitt
- p. 53, Rule 2.00 in the Softball Rule Book regarding bunting:
BUNT is a batted ball not swung at but intentionally met with the bat and tapped slowly. Holding the bat in the strike zone is considered an attempted bunt. In order to take a pitch, the batter must withdraw the bat backwards away from the ball. Summary and Implementation: Beginning immediately for all softball divisions, this mandates that the umpire call a strike when the batter holds the bat in the strike zone when the pitch is delivered, even if the batter does not “offer” at the pitch.
- p. 61, Rule 3.04, Courtesy runner is not permitted.
- p. 62, Rule 3.09, Managers/Coaches cannot warm up pitchers
- p. 64, Rule 4.06, Manager, Coach, Player conduct.
- p. 65, Rule 4.08, Violent disapproval of umpire decision
- p. 65, Rule 4.10 – Game length
Regarding Rule 4.10e - conceding victory. Per Local Rules, this rule has been modified from 10 to 15 runs. Thus the losing team will concede the game if trailing by 15 or more runs per the number of innings in the rule book.
- p. 72, 6.05b-2 – a batter is out when a third strike is not caught by the catcher when first base is occupied before two are out. Note: the base is considered occupied even if the runner from first is trying to steal on the pitch.
- p. 75, 6.08b – rule regarding batter getting hit by ball. This rule obviously is dependent on umpire judgment
- p. 76, 6.09 b – runner can advance to 1st on 3rd strike not caught ruling for Major League division as well as Senior League
- p. 79, 7.08 a.5 – Runner leaving a base on release of pitch for the Major League division as well as Senior League
- p. 83, 7.13 Pitcher in the eight foot radius circle
- p. 85, 8.01 d – Pitcher’s feet – pitching rubber
- p. 86, 8.01 s – Pitcher’s pivot foot
- p. 87, 8.03 c – Intentional walk rule. *If the pitcher desires to walk a batter intentionally, all pitches must be legally delivered to the batter.*
- p. 87, 8.06 a,b – Visits to the pitcher’s mound
- p. 88, 8.07 Dropped ball

Local Rules

**All Managers and Coaches must wear ID Badges during games (Middletown only).
Authorized Managers and Coaches are the only adults allowed on the field and to instruct the players.**

Policing the parents is the responsibility of each Manager and their coaches.

- No one is allowed to stand behind the backstop
- All Parents, non-players should be away from the dugouts
- There should be no interference from the sidelines

Notes:

- **The mandatory infield play rule below is for Middletown teams only.**
- **Required face masks on helmets is a Sandy Hook only rule.**

The Home Team

The home team shall utilize the 1ST base dugout.

Time Slots

All time limits are based on the official start time. The only exception to this is if the game starts late due to the field not being available (for example due to a school game completing).

Weekday games: Games will start at 8:00pm and end at 10:00pm. No new innings will start after 7:50pm.

Weekend games will start at the schedule time and play a maximum of 2 hrs. No new innings will start after 1hr 50minutes.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- **For late games and Sunday games, all games have a drop dead time of 10:00 pm. Games should start at the scheduled start time.**
- **If umpires are late, start the game using coaches as the umpires. Do not sit around waiting for the umpires.**

SOFTBALL SENIOR LEAGUE

- 1) **Continuous Batting Order:** A continuous batting order will be played. The entire roster will be entered in the scorebook as the official batting order.
- 2) **Substituting: Rule 4.04 is in effect...** players may be subbed in and out defensively any time as long as they will have played their minimum play of 9 defensive (6 consecutive) outs by end of game. (note minimum play rule is for Middletown teams.)
- 3) **Less than 9 players may start a game:** It is allowable to borrow players from the opposing team in order to have 9 players in the field. The borrowed player would not bat for the team that is short players.