



McHenry Pigtail League

Revised: July 2018

14U Division Rule Exceptions

The McHenry Pigtail Softball League has adopted to follow the rules of the IHSA (Illinois High School Association) with the following exceptions:

Pitching:

1. The pitching distance will be at 43 feet.
2. The strike zone is from the armpit to the knees.
3. Pitchers are limited to a maximum of 4 innings per game.
4. Only the starting pitcher may be reinserted back into the pitching position one time in a game. If the starting pitcher is removed before a full inning pitched, it is considered one full inning pitched.
5. After a third batter is hit she must be removed from the pitching position for the rest of the game.

Batting:

- 1) A game shall consist of 7 innings or 1 hour 30 minutes. In weather situations, an official game is 4 innings. (3 ½ if home team is ahead.)
- 2) No new inning is to be started after 1 hour 30 minutes. Drop dead is 1 hour 45 minutes. When drop dead time is reached, if inning is not completed then you revert back to the score of the previous inning. Ties are ok.
 - A. POOL PLAY: After 1 hour and 45 minutes, score will revert back to the previous full inning. That score is final and can result in a tie.
 - B. PLAYOFFS: If the score was tied at the end of the previous inning, game will proceed with the International Tie Breaker play** until there is a winner.
 - C. TROPHY/MEDAL GAMES: No time limit. Play will continue until a winner is determined. International Tie Breaker play** will be implemented in the 8th inning and beyond, if necessary.** International Tie Breaker – Each half inning starts with the last batted out from previous inning starting as a base runner on 2nd base, also each batting teams starts with 1 out recorded.
- 3) There is a 6 run rule per inning for the 1st through 4th innings. 5th inning on will be allowed unlimited runs.
- 4) There is a 12 run mercy rule after 4 innings (3 ½ if home team is ahead).
- 5) Team chanting and comments can only be directed to players on your own team and must be of a positive manner. NO chanting during the opposing team pitcher's windup.
- 6) The infield fly rule is in effect. Remember runners may advance, after touch of ball or ball touching the ground, at their own risk.

- 7) Bunting is allowed. The batter cannot take a bunt stance and then pull back and take a full swing at the pitch. If the batter attempts this, she is out. This is for the infielders' safety.
- 8) Full roster batting shall be used and kept for the entire game. The maximum number of batters allowed in each ½ inning will be once through the lineup or to a number equal to the team having the greater number of players.
- 9) Multi walled bats are not allowed in the McHenry Pigtail Softball League.
- 10) Any batter injured during their turn at bat and can't continue playing will be replaced for the rest of her turn at bat by the player who made the last batted out. If there are no outs made the last batter in the order will be used.
- 11) If for any reason a player leaves the game, you will only have to take an out in their lineup spot if you don't have enough players to field a regulation team of 8 players. Players arriving late, after the first pitch of the game, will bat at the bottom of the order and play any position in the field.
- 12) If the last batter in an inning draws a walk, all base runners can only advance one base as forced by the hitter.
- 13) On deck batters must be behind batter.
- 14) Protective headwear that includes facemask must be worn by all batters on the bases and in the on-deck circle.

Base Running:

1. The bases will be at 60 feet.
2. Runners may lead off after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. They may steal any base. All base stealing per IHSA rules.
3. **All runners must slide to avoid contact. Umpire's discretion.**
4. You may use a courtesy runner if the batter reaches a base and is injured. The new runner will be the player to have made the last batted out. If there are no batted outs made, the runner will be the last player in the batting order. Also, when there are two outs in an inning YOU MAY use a courtesy runner for your catcher and pitcher.

Defense:

1. For the team on defense there will be two conferences allowed per inning. On the second conference, if not done on the first conference, the pitcher must be pulled from that position. Attending an injury will be constituted as an official's time out and not count as an official time out charged to the team.
2. Managers may substitute freely as long as each player plays at least 3 defensive innings. This does not apply to pitchers they adhere to the pitching rules seen above.

General:

1. The WINNING TEAM manager will text in the results (SCORE) of the game to the tournament coordinator
2. A minimum of 10 players per team. Each team will play with a maximum of 9 players on the field.
3. A new inning begins as soon as the home team makes the 3rd out.
4. Practice balls allowed on the field for one minute or five pitches per IHSA rules.
5. Game Length: 7 innings, but no new inning shall start after 1:30 Drop Dead at 1:45
No time limit for the championship game except if called due to weather.

Pool games shall remain tied. Playoff games shall be played until a winner is determined with one team score greater than the other.

6. The advantage rule will be a lead of 12 or more runs after 4 innings played (3½ if the home team is ahead).

7. All players must wear rubber sole non-slip or all-purpose rubber spiked shoes. All players must wear all parts of league issued attire. Visors/hats are optional. The issued jersey must be worn as the outer garment. No metal spikes are allowed.

8. No shorts except shorts with sliding pad, purchased independently, or jewelry may be worn at practices or games.

9. Medic alerts will be allowed but must be taped down.

10. Protective equipment must be worn at all games.

11. All team members are to stay in their dugout area unless they are warming up or on deck to bat. Managers or coaches are not allowed to sit, stand, or be behind home plate or backstop while game is in play.

12. If you do not have enough girls (8) to start an official game 15 minutes after your scheduled game time, it will result in a forfeit.

13. Any unsportsmanlike conduct (discretion of the Umpire) may lead to ejection from the game for any manager, coach, player, or attendee. They must leave the park entirely until the conclusion of the game. Failure to do so or further incidents is subject to forfeiture of the game by the offending team. If both teams are involved it will result in a double forfeiture.

14. The team managers are responsible for making sure all attendees connected in any way to their team act in accordance with the league rules. Failure to do so will result in ejections or possible forfeiture of the game.

15. A manager or coach may request a time-out but may not enter the playing field until the Umpire has granted time out.

16. Only rule interpretations may be discussed with an Umpire. This will be done ONLY by the team manager or an official team representative. This must be done in a discrete manner. After requesting a time out and it being granted, approach and talk to the umpire in a calm manner. Judgment calls cannot be argued or protested.

17. THERE IS NO SMOKING ON PUBLIC GROUNDS, and NO DOGS ALLOWED IN MCHENRY PARKS

18. No alcoholic beverages will be allowed.