

MINOR LEAGUE (formerly Gidget) GIRL'S SOFTBALL GENERAL RULES

★ *Indicates changes made for 2009*

General Playing Rules

1. ONLY players and certified coaches are allowed on the field area. All spectators are to be in the bleacher area. It is the responsibility of the parent to control any other children they have with them and to keep them away from player's benches, dugouts, and playing areas. The umpire will have the right to stop the game and if necessary call the game should this not be followed.
2. Only girls are allowed to play. This is a girl's league only.
3. Weekday games will begin at 6:00pm; no innings will start after 7:45pm (unless field is under lights).
Clarification - No **new** inning can start after 7:45pm. The "last inning" should be determined by the coaches of both teams before an inning is started. At that time a joint decision can be made stating that this is going to be the last inning.
- ★ 4. There will be no more than 4 runs allowed in any half-inning up until the last inning which will allow unlimited runs. A half-inning is over after 3 outs or 4 runs scored.
Clarification - Once the "last inning" is determined by the umpire, the unlimited rule then goes into effect.
5. Batting tees will not be used.
- ★ 6. Girls will pitch and Umpires will be used to call balls and strikes. A batter can strike out, but can not walk.
After 4 balls, the coach will pitch a maximum of 3 additional pitches. After that the batter is out.
7. All players must wear their uniforms (pants, shirts and hat). The hitter, catcher and all base runners must wear full helmets. Teams will share equipment if necessary.
8. If a player brings her own equipment, only she is allowed to use that equipment. *(review this with league)*
9. The home team will keep the official score. The visiting team will check the score between innings. There will be no official standing.
10. Ten (10) girls will play at one time, if the team does not have ten (10) girls at game time, they can start the game with seven (7). Forfeiture of games will be discouraged. Our prime concern is to play the game.
11. If a player permanently leaves the game before the conclusion, just cross her name off the batting order. *An out will not be recorded when the vacant spot comes up in the batting order provided the opposing team has been notified prior to the first pitch of the following batter.*

12. There will be 1 base on an overthrow if the ball is thrown out of bounds. On an overthrow where the ball stays in fair territory, the runner can advance as far as she dares.
13. Play ends when the pitcher has possession of the ball in the 'pitching circle'. A runner who violates this must go back to the prior base.
14. There will be no sliding.
15. There will be no stealing bases.
16. There will be no walks.
17. No infield fly rule is in effect in the Minor league division. A runner will be allowed to tag up on a fly ball whether it is in the infield or outfield.
18. Defensive players may not stand in the baseline and interfere with the base runners.
19. There is no leading. A base runner may not the leave base until the ball has crossed the plate.
- ★ 20. The ball to be used in the Minor league division is an 11-inch softball
21. The pitching rubber will be 30 feet from home plate when girls are pitching. It will be 35 feet from home plate when adults are pitching.
- ★ 22. The bases will be 60 feet apart.
23. No jewelry may be worn during practice or games.
24. Players should not eat or chew gum while participating in practices or games.
25. The team managers will reschedule rainouts of games if/when possible.

Additional Rules

1. There will be "NO SMOKING" on the playing field boundaries, including the team bench area and the stands.
2. Fans shall not harass umpires, coaches or players. Belligerent fans will be asked to leave the playing field boundaries, or risk forfeiting the game.
3. At least one parent or Guardian must remain at the game at all times.

The recreation department will determine if the playing fields are OK to play on in the event of inclement weather.

Call into the following telephone #'s for Rainout messages:

East Brunswick	732-432-9308
Highland Park	732-819-0052
Milltown	732-220-1755 or http://www.leaguelineup.com/ml
New Brunswick	732-249-9200
North Brunswick	http://www.nbbsa.net
South River	732-254-4412
Spotswood	http://www.spotswoodboro.com/recreation.html