

## 9-10 Softball Special Rules:

**Montana District 1 strongly encourages all leagues to place 11 and 12 year old players, regardless of past experience, in the Majors division. Special exceptions may be allowed, but only with District approval prior to the placement of the player on a 9-10 team.**

9-10 softball games will be played in accordance with LL rules, with the following exceptions (local league play rules):

1. 9-10 Division will include 8-10 yr. olds. Other players are allowed in the 9-10 Minors **with District approval only. Any team containing 11 or 12 year old players must submit a copy of the team roster to District ADA for approval.**
2. 9-10 Division will NOT use a pitching machine.
3. Minors Pitching rules will be followed – player pitching in seven or more innings must have a day of rest. See pages 45-46 of rulebook for more information.
  - a. 9-10 Minors will use an 11 inch hard softball.
  - b. **11 and 12 year olds are not allowed to pitch** in the 9-10 Minors Division.
4. TIME LIMIT:
  - a. No new inning after 1 ½ hours while school is still in session. After school is out, no new innings after 2 hours.
  - b. Any inning in progress at the time limit will be completed, unless darkness or weather conditions dictate otherwise, or unless the home team is ahead when it is their turn to bat
5. The **10-run rule** in the Little League rulebook (See Rule 4.10(e)) have been reinstated. This rule takes effect after 3 ½ innings if home team is ahead or 4 complete innings.
6. Runners in the 9-10 Minors division must maintain contact with the base until the pitched ball has reached the batter. Runners who break contact prior to the pitch reaching the batter shall be called out immediately. [7.08(a)(5)(b)]
7. Batters MAY NOT advance to first base when the third strike is not caught by the catcher. The batter is out on all third strikes. [6.05(b)(2)Minors]
8. **A 5 run limit is in effect which completes the half inning, regardless of the number of outs. This rule does not apply in the last inning of the game**, as determined by the time limit or by the maximum of six innings per game, whichever comes first. For proper administration of this rule, when approaching the time limit, managers must agree at the top of the inning whether the upcoming inning will be the final inning of the game. Once the inning has been designated as the final inning, no additional innings may be played in that game.
9. In accordance with the Montana District 1 policy, continuous batting and free substitution **MUST** be used in all interleague games.