

2024 Middle Girls Rules

These rules are to be followed along with the other Leelanau County Youth League Rules.

1. Ages 11, 12 & 13 on May 1st. Anyone violating this rule will be ejected from the league and all games played with that player will be forfeited. (10 year old option to move up, must be approved by LCYL Coordinators)
2. Coaches shall play all participants every game except for disciplinary reasons. Players must field two innings and bat every rotation. Unlimited substitution except pitcher.
3. Moderate fast pitch with less than 8 ft. arc. Official 12 inch softball.
4. Base length 60 ft. Pitching mound 40 ft.
5. Regulation game is 6 innings, with one extra inning allowed for a tie.
6. Four (4) innings (because of darkness or rain) complete a game.
7. Six (6) run limit except for the last inning which is unlimited.
8. A new inning cannot be started after 8:30 p.m. e.g. if it is 8:25 p.m. at the start of a new inning, that is the last inning and runs are unlimited. To speed the game up, players should run on and off the field.
9. Catcher's mask with helmet, chest protector and shin guards are mandatory. Batting helmets for batter, runners, and the on deck batter are also mandatory.
10. Pitchers starting position: one foot must be in contact with the pitcher's mound. Shoulders are to be square with first and third base. One step back and forward is permitted on delivery of pitch underhand motion. Wind up is optional. Face guard shall be worn.
11. Pitchers may only pitch 9 outs per game. If a pitcher pitches more than 9 outs they will be ejected from the game. Scorekeepers are to keep track of this. (Note: 9 outs are not the same as 3 innings.) Example: Sarah pitches 3 innings, but on 3rd inning the inning ends due to the run limit. Sarah gets to pitch the 4th inning as well until the 9th out is made.
12. When a pitcher is removed from the mound, she may re-enter as the pitcher once per game.
13. If the pitcher hits 3 batters in one game, she is to be removed from the mound and cannot be returned to the mound.
14. If the batter has been hit by a pitch and has made an attempt to get out of the way she gets first base.
15. No infield fly rule.
16. Batters may not advance to first base on any dropped third strike at any time. (5/23/24)
17. Bunting is allowed.
18. Rover is an outfield position only. Rover has to stay on the grass to start play. Can move off grass upon "crack of bat".
19. Runners may steal 2nd and 3rd base ONLY when the ball crosses the plate. A player leaving before the ball crosses the plate will be an automatic out. Stealing home is NOT allowed at any time. This rule does not apply to overthrows which are considered a live ball.
20. No "shagger", catchers and pitchers must play live ball. (Revised 6/4/19)
21. If a player misses their turn at bat, it is an automatic out. If the coach declares the player removed from the game, they are not out — but they may not return to the game.
22. It is recommended for the infield to use face guards.
23. Teams can field 10 players on defense using 4 outfielders (Left, Left Center, Right Center, Right) *Added 6/22*