

2019

Greater

Miami

Softball

League



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www.gmssoftball.com

Greater Miami Softball League

Rules apply to both modified fast pitch and fast pitch unless stated otherwise.

These are exceptions to USSSA rules.

The annual cutoff date is Jan. 1. For example: A U8 girl cannot be 9 on or before Jan. 1 of that current year. Three players will be eligible to play down without being voted on, but not allowed to pitch or catch. Select players are eligible to play but can't pitch or catch.

Field and Game rules:

Class	Inning	Legal Game	Base Distance	Pitching Distance	Ball Size	Number of Fielders
U8	5	3.5 Innings	60 Feet	32 Feet	11 Inch	9
U10	6	3.5 Innings	60 Feet	35 Feet	11 Inch	9
U12L	7	4.5 Innings	60 Feet	39 Feet	12 Inch	9
U12U	7	4.5 Innings	60 Feet	39 Feet	12 Inch	9
U14 - U18	7	4.5 Innings	60 Feet	43 Feet	12 Inch	9

Time Limits

No weeknight game shall start before 5:45.

Time limit for U8-U10 - No new inning shall start after 1:25 minutes. Any inning started will be played to completion.

Time limit for U12-U14 - No new inning shall start after 1:35 minutes. Any inning started will be played to completion.

Time limit for U18 – No new inning shall start after 1:50 minutes. Any inning started will be played to completion.

General Rules:

A) First Base:

1. A double base (safety base) shall be used at all levels. Two standard bases may be attached together if teams do not have one.

B) Protective Helmet:

1. All players must wear a protective helmet (with face mask in fast pitch) while batting, on base, or while in the on deck circle. (A one size fits all helmet with a chin strap is recommended.) Intentional removing the helmet by the batter/runner will result in the umpire declaring them out.

C) Legal Game:

1. A legal game is one that is called because of darkness, rain or run rule. The run rule is 12 runs, (Remember the losing team need only bat the specified number.) Example: U8 home team leads by 13 runs, after visiting team finishes Their 4th bat in the top of the 4th inning, the game shall end.
2. When a game ends due to time limit it is a legal game no matter how many innings have been completed. If the game ends in a tie due to time limit, rain, or darkness, and this is a legal game it shall be recorded as a tie. If a game ends due to weather or darkness and it is not a legal game, it shall be continued at the point it was left at. Coaches are responsible for checking all game situations before leaving.

D) Continuous Batting:

1. U8 through U12 - Mandatory
U14 through U18 – Optional

E) Playing Requirements:

1. All players in attendance must play two innings on the field.
As a courtesy please give all girls a chance to bat.
2. Any Select player on the team can't pitch or catch.

F) Substitutions:

1. There is a free substitution in the field every half inning. The pitcher or injured players are the only ones that may be replaced at any time. The pitcher may come out and go back in just like any other player.

G) Scoring:

1. A maximum of 6 runs may be scored in one inning. This applies for all ages.
2. A maximum of 7 runs may be scored in one inning in U18. There will be unlimited runs in the 7th inning only.

H) Only the High School division can where metal spikes.

Pitching

A) Hitting Batters:

1. Once a pitcher strikes 3 batters in one inning, she must be removed for the remainder of the inning. If a pitcher hits 6 batters total, she cannot pitch the remainder of the game.
2. A ball that hits the ground then hits the batter is a hit by pitch and the batter is awarded first base.

B) Modified Fast Pitch (U8)

1. There is no Arc requirement.
2. Back swing or sling shot pitch is allowed.
3. Both feet must start on the rubber.
4. Back foot must stay on the ground and in contact with rubber at all times.

C) Fast Pitch (U10 to High School)

1. Back swing or sling shot pitch is allowed
2. Both feet must start on the rubber.
3. Back foot must stay on the ground and in contact with rubber at all times.

Base Running

A) U8 Modified Fast Pitch

1. There is no stealing.
2. The runners may leave the base once the ball leaves the pitchers hand.
3. The batter is out on the 3rd strike.
4. There are no walks, after 4 balls coach will pitch. The batter's strikes will still be in effect.

B) U10 Fast Pitch

1. The runners must wait until the ball leaves the pitchers hand to leave the base.
2. The batter is automatically out on the 3rd strike.
3. They may only steal 1 base per pitch and they cannot steal home unless an attempt is made to pick the runner off of 3rd base.

C) U12-U18 Fast pitch

1. The runner must wait until the ball leaves the pitchers hand to leave the base.
2. They may advance more than one base per pitch, and they can steal home.
3. The catcher must catch the 3rd strike.

D) The penalty for violating base running rules: A, B, or C is dead ball 1 out recorded. If 2 or more runners leave early on a single pitch, the lead runner only shall be called out. The pitch does not count, as the ball has been declared dead before it crosses the plate.

E) Courtesy runner:

1. A courtesy runner may be used for the catcher and the pitcher at any time.

F) Runner Contact (Base Crashing)

1. When a fielder is in possession of the ball, the base runner must avoid contact. She may slide, slow down or run around. Disregard of this is penalized by the runner being called out and possible ejection from the game. This is known as base crashing. It is a judgment call.

G) Infield Fly Rule

1. The infield fly rule is only in effect for U12-U18.

Forfeits

A) Minimum Number of Players

1. Fast pitch teams may start and finish with 8 players. Any team must notify the umpire in advance that they cannot field a team. If a team starts with less than the normal number of players, all later players must arrive before the team has completed their batting order to be added.

BATS **Effective in 2015 Any unaltered commercially manufactured bats used in the GMSL must have the following stickers: Any bat being used must have USSSA and 1.20 BPF on the bat. If the bat is not marked it must be approved by the manufacture. You will need a copy of the approval letter. Penalty 1st time batter is out, 2nd time batter is out and coach is ejected.**



Face Masks

Effective in 2016 all infielders must wear a face mask while playing the field.

TEAM AND COACHES RESPONSIBILITY

- A) Each team may warm up for 5 minutes prior to the games schedule to start, (Not if games are running behind.)
- B) If an umpire fails to show up, a parent or fan may be selected if both coaches agree. Once they agree it counts as a regular game. If both coaches cannot agree, the game will be rescheduled following rainout procedures.
- C) Rainouts shall be rescheduled within 2 weeks of the original date. Home coach is responsible for coordinating the date with the visiting team. If a date cannot be reached, the area supervisors will choose a date. If the home team chooses not to play, they are charged with a game not played. The Visiting team will receive a win.
- D) Each manager is responsible for having a roster and a copy of league rules with them at every game.
- E) Each manager is responsible for the conduct of their fans and players. Alcohol and smoking are not permitted on the bench or playing field.
- F) Home team will pay the umpire fees and supply a ball.
- G) The home team is responsible for laying out the field and furnishing the bases
- H) The winning team is responsible for reporting the score on the website within 72 hours.
- I) Anyone {Player, Coach, or Fan}, who has been ejected from a game may not attend the next game. This is the manager's responsibility.
- J) Each area will police their own roster. No new player can be added after the 2nd week of the regular season has been completed.
- K) All coaches must pass the concussion class. The website is NFHS Learning Center.**

Protests

- A) The protest board will consist of at least 3 members of the board who do not have a team involved.
- B) A protest fee of \$75.00 cash is due at the time of protest.
- C) To protest a call you must stop the game inform the umpire and the opposing coach what rule you are protesting. Then you make sure that it is marked in both scorebooks what the protest is, the inning, runners on base, outs, pitch count. The protesting manager must tell his supervisor after the game. When both scorebooks have all the information the game will continue.

Progression of Supervisors

The three League Supervisors will be assigned by area. One supervisor will serve two consecutive years according to the progression, to obtain the necessary training and experience to assume the duties of the second year.

2014: Bridgetown, Colerain, and CCAA

2015: Delhi, Harrison, and Colerain

2016: Monfort Heights, Olympian Club, and Harrison

2017: Pleasant Run Farms, St. Johns, and Olympian Club

2018: TCYO, Three Rivers, and Pleasant Run Farms

2019: White Oak, Delhi, and TCYO

2020: Monfort Heights, Three Rivers, and White Oak

Post Season Tournament

An entry fee will be charged for each team that plays in the post season. The tournament fee will cover umpires and trophies. Home team provides a game ball. All teams must carry extra softballs for the tournament.

Protest Format: For all post season GMSL tournament play, to make a formal protest, the manager of the team must notify the tournament director or his/her designee at the time of the disputed play. All protest shall be settled on the spot by the tournament director or his/her designee. The tournament director or his/her designee's decision is final. The cost of the protest is \$75.00 paid at the time of the protest. If the protest is won then the \$75.00 is returned.

Tournament Format: All tournaments will be a double elimination format. For every game of the tournament, the team with the higher seeding shall be the home team.

Eligible Player: To be eligible to play in any post season tournament game, a player must have played in a minimum of two regular season games and be on the original roster. There will be a mandatory roster check before each tournament game by the tournament director or there designee. Team will forfeit tournament if they have an illegal player.

Each game must be played in its entirety. If a game is stopped because of darkness, rain, or lightning, it will be picked up from that point. Run rule still in effect for each game.

Fields and Addresses

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rain out #</u>	<u>Address</u>
AOC/Arches Oak Hills	574-8832	6453 Bridgetown Road Cincy 45248
BP/Bicentennial Park		2885 Diehl Rd. Cincy 45211
BTP/Brookville Town Park		1290 Fairfield Ave, Brookville 47012
CC/CCAA	825-0236	2175 Springdale Rd Cincy 45231
CD/Covedale School		5130 Sidney Rd Cincy 45238
CG/Clifford George (PRF)	305-4271	12089 Mill Rd. Cincy 45240
CGP/Cleves Gulf Comm Park		Henderson Kupfer Rd. Cleves 45002
CO/Harrison Ele School	684-GAME	585 Neeb Rd. Cincy 45251
CP/Colerain Park	385-1956	4725 Sprindale Rd. Cincy 45251
DMS/Delhi Middle School	684-GAME	5280 Foley Rd. Cincy 45238
DP/Delhi Park	684-GAME	5113 Foley Rd. Cincy 45238
DUL/Dulles Elementary		6481 Bridgetown Rd. Cincy 45238
FF/Farwick Fields (TCYO)	353-1900	8015 Furlong Dr. Cleves 45002
GB/Groesbeck Fields		8296 Clair Ave Cincy 45239
HB/Haubner Field	385-1840	3649 Whiteoak Dr. Cincy 45247
HCC/Harrison Comm. Ctr		300 George St. Harrison 45030
HHS/Harrison High School		9860 West Rd. Harrison 45030
HJB/Harrison Jr BB Field		10845 Campbell Rd. Harrison 45030
JHP/John Heisler Park		1851 Kirbett Road, Goshen 45122
KUL/Kuliga Park		6717 Bridgetown Rd. Cincy 45248
LF/Little Flower	588-8186	5555 Little Flower Ave. Cincy 45239

Fields and Addresses

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rain out #</u>	<u>Address</u>
MH/Monfort Heights Elem.		3711 West Fork Road. Cincy 45247
MTCC/Miami Township Comm Ctr		3780 Shady Lane, North Bend 45052
MW/Miami Township West Park		4063 East Miami River Rd. Cleves 45002
OC/Olympian Club	825-2501	10054 Pippin Rd. Cincy 45231
OHHS/Oak Hills HS JV		3200 Ebenezer Rd Cincy 45248
RRMS/Rapid Run Middle		6345 Rapid Run Rd. Cincy 45233
S/Schottlekotte Park		Fields 3 & 4 Ruth Ave off Roosevelt - one block west of Hamilton ½ mile south of I-275 Fields 1 & 2 ¼ mile south of roosevelt on Hamilton to main park entrance on right.
SP/Springmeyer Elem.		4179 Ebenezer Rd. Cincy 45248
STJ/St. Johns	385-7595	5361 Dry Ridge Rd. Cincy 45252
TE/Taylor Elementary		3173 Springdale Rd. Cincy 45251
WP/Wurzelbacher Park	738-8100	2679 Chapel Rd. Okeana 45053