

MINOR B SOFTBALL

In addition to the Little League rules the following also apply. *All Great Falls Leagues have adopted these rules.

*****There MUST be 1 adult in the dugout at all times!! No exceptions.**

PITCHING

- The start of the season is a coach-pitch league. Beginning May 28th, managers have the option to allow players to pitch. Players are allowed to pitch a maximum of 4 balls, if a hit is not made then the coach must complete with up to an additional 3 balls to stick to the original 7 pitches per player. Player pitch is optional and managers reserve the right to play coach pitch for the entire season if they choose. If both teams can provide players to pitch, the pitcher will throw 4 pitches to each batter on the opposing team. If a hit is not made then the coach will pitch the remaining 3 balls. **Player pitch is only an option if both teams are providing player pitchers.**
- Coaches will pitch to the player's ability. Pitches must be made from the pitching plate unless player's ability dictates pitches should be made from in front of pitcher's plate. Players pitching do not have the option to stand in front of the pitching plate for safety reasons. Players must pitch from the pitching plate only!
- Teams will use 11" softball. (Yellow)
- Pitchers will pitch from 35' or 40'

BATTING

- All players present at the game are put in the batting order. An inning ends when 3 outs are made or every player has batted, whichever comes first.
- **Batter gets 7 pitches to hit the ball.**

BASE RUNNING

- Stealing is not allowed.
- Base runners must stay in contact with the base until the pitched ball is hit. Runner is out if they leave early.
- Any runner is out when sliding head first while moving forward regardless if a play is being made on that runner or not. See Rule 7.08.
- Runners may not continue to run the bases once they have been put out.

OVERTHROWS

- Runners will be permitted to advance at their own risk on an overthrow that remains in play but not more than one base. An overthrow by the catcher to the pitcher is not considered an overthrow, but rather a dead ball.

OTHER

- **DEFENSE**
 - **Only 9 players are allowed on defense at any one time, unless the coaches agree otherwise.** (See Rule 1.01).
 - A team may play with fewer than 9 players.
 - Each player must play a minimum of 9 defensive outs for each game during regular season.
 - A team may have adult coaches in the field to verbally assist players. They must position themselves in the outfield behind the bases.
 - Coaches must rotate players to different positions during game.
- **OFFENSE**
 - Offensive team may have 2 adult base coaches. Coaches may not physically assist any base runner. If there is only 1 adult base coach the other base coach must be a uniformed player wearing a helmet.
 - Every player must participate in each game for a minimum of 2 at bats. See Regulation IV(I).
 - **There must be 1 adult in the dugout at all times.**
- Teams are responsible for officiating their own games. The home team is responsible for providing the official scorekeeper, if the teams elect to score the games.
- Games are 5 innings.
- No inning may be started after 8:00pm on school nights