

Clark Girls Softball Recreation League Rules 2025

Minors Division - Play governed by 2025 USA Softball rules, with the following modifications:

1. Roster batting is mandatory.
2. Regulation game is 6 innings. Game may be called, and is official, after four innings, or if the home team is winning after 3 1/2 innings.
3. Games are six innings with no new inning starting after the 2-hour mark.
4. Run Ahead Rule - 15 runs after the losing team has batted at least four times, 10 after 5.
5. Teams may use 10 fielders. If ten players are used, there must be four outfielders and they must be on the grass when the ball is pitched.
6. Players must play 5 games to be eligible for playoffs.
7. Club pitchers are allowed to pitch 3 innings per game.
8. Four runs maximum per inning. There will be no runs limit for the last inning of the game.
9. There is no infield fly or dropped 3rd strike rule.
10. Stealing 3rd base is allowed on release of the ball by the pitcher. The runner may not advance home on a defensive misplay on the steal. Overthrows on pick off attempts to all bases are dead balls (i.e., the baserunner may not advance).
11. The runner need not leave 2nd base to steal immediately as the ball is released by the pitcher. As long as she leaves the base before the ball is again controlled by the pitcher in the circle, that is a legal steal.
12. Courtesy runners may be used for the pitcher and/or catcher scheduled to play that position in the subsequent inning. The player who made the last batted out must be the courtesy runner.
13. Baserunners may leave the base as the ball is released by the pitcher.
14. The USA Softball "Look Back" rule will not be strictly enforced. However, coaches and umpires should instruct players appropriately as a development

point to inform them that they must immediately return, or advance, to a base once a pitcher has the ball in the circle after a pitched ball.

15. USA rules will apply to advance or return to a base on live balls (i.e., umpires do NOT need to determine if a runner is at least half way to the next base on a live play to determine which base to award). The ball is not "dead" when held in the circle. Play continues, and runners who are between bases when the ball is returned to the circle are in jeopardy of being put out, and must choose whether to advance or retreat.
16. There is no fake bunting/swinging away. A fake bunt means that a player may not position herself for a bunt then take a full swing at the pitch. If she positions herself for a bunt she must either attempt to bunt the ball or pull back the bat. The penalty for a fake bunt/swing is dead ball-batter out.
17. If a team roster bats with 9 or more players - and so no substitute is available - when a girl leaves the lineup for any reason, the batting order is compressed without penalty.
18. The minimum number of players to begin the game is 7, if an 8th player's arrival is expected. If a team has 8 players, when a girl leaves that lineup for any reason, NO out will be recorded in her spot. If the 8th girl's spot in the order comes up before she arrives, NO out will be recorded. Teams who are short-handed may borrow players from other teams. You cannot ask the same player twice.