

## **Majors – BILL Local Rules**

### **Majors Division Softball (ages 10-12)**

#### **Division Playing Philosophy:**

The Majors Division offers a higher level of competition where players learn and put into play the tactics and strategy of the game of softball. Playing time is determined by the manager subject to minimum requirements and may not be equal. Although winning games is a goal, the primary emphasis is for players to develop skills, physical fitness, and self confidence, to understand the rules of the game, and to learn the value of teamwork, sportsmanship, and fair play.

#### **Teams/Practice/Start of Season:**

Teams will be 12 players. Teams will practice two to three times per week preseason and once or twice per week during the season and play up to two to three games per week, once on Saturdays, which may include doubleheaders. Games begin before Spring Break.

#### **Local Rules**

1. Minimum Playing Time: Official Playing Rule 3.03 is modified as follows. Each player will participate in a minimum of three (3) innings in the field and one (1) at bat during a six-inning game. In a game that concludes in less than six innings, each player will participate in a minimum of two (2) innings in the field and one (1) at bat.
2. Regulation VI (i) of the Official Playing Rules is modified such that each player listed in a team's batting order shall participate in each game for a minimum of nine (9) defensive outs and bat at least one (1) time. If a game is shortened for any reason (this does not include the home team not requiring some or all of its half of the sixth inning), then every player listed in the team's batting order shall participate for a minimum of six (6) defensive outs and bat at least one (1) time.
3. In accordance with Official Playing Rule 4.04, all teams shall bat the line up using a continuous batting order. Any player arriving after the start of the game shall be added to the end of her team's batting order.
4. Official Playing Rule 3.03 is modified to allow "free substitution" so that managers have the flexibility of putting a different lineup on the field for defense each inning.
5. A pitcher is limited to a maximum of four innings per game. Delivery of a single pitch constitutes having pitched in an inning.
6. One (1) coach or volunteer approved by the league shall be in the dugout at all times. A team at bat is permitted to place up to two adult base coaches on the field. If a team does not have at least one coach and two volunteers approved by the league, then it will not be permitted to have two adult base coaches and must instead designate player(s) as base coaches.
7. In accordance with Official Playing Rule 7.08(a)(5), a runner is out when she fails to keep contact with the base to which the runner is entitled until the ball has been released on the delivery.
8. Games shall have no time limit and shall be played to completion.
9. Mercy Rule: Official Playing rule 4.10 (e) is modified to 12 runs rather than 10 runs.
10. Game scores and team standings shall be kept. The home team is responsible for the official score book and scorekeeper. The scorekeeper will record the pitchers used and innings pitched. The home team manager shall record the game score, pitchers used, and innings pitched on the league website within twenty-four (24) hours after completion of the game (including after the make-up or continuation of a game due to cancellation, postponement, or delay resulting from weather or darkness). If the home team manager fails to record this information as required, the visiting scorebook shall become the official scorebook for the game and the visiting

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manager shall record the required information on the league website. For interleague games` the Bainbridge team manager shall record the required information on the league website.

11. In accordance with Official Playing Rules 4.10(a), 4.10(d), 4.11(e), and 4.12, in the event an intraleague game is cancelled, postponed, delayed, or tied, the make up or completion of the game or innings shall take place the following Sunday, unless otherwise agreed by the teams' managers and approved by the Vice President of Softball. Home team and visiting team designations remain as per the schedule. Any games that are not concluded prior to the end of the season shall be recorded in the standings as a loss for both teams.

12. Umpires will be assigned to each game by the league.

13. There will be a post-season double elimination tournament to determine the League Champion. Local and Little League International regular season rules will be in effect during the tournament. Teams will be seeded in the tournament based upon their regular season intraleague record. If any teams finish with the same intraleague record, a tie breaker for tournament seeding shall apply in the following order: (a) combined head-to-head record, (b) runs allowed head-to-head, (c) runs scored head-to-head, (d) season runs allowed total, (e) season runs scored total, or (f) coin flip.

14. Interleague games shall be played in accordance with Washington District 2 Guidelines for Interleague Softball.

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