**Madison Softball League Rules**

**Madison Softball League follows the USSSA Rules to all age divisions unless specified below:**

**For all age groups: Protective masks are required for all infielders.**

**6U**

* Pitching
  + Coach Pitch for 3 pitches. Coach is allowed to pitch in front of the circle marked around the mound.
  + If the ball is not put in play after 3 pitches, batter will use a tee.
* Defense
  + One base is allowed on overthrows.
  + Time will be called when a defensive player has possession of the ball in advance of the lead runner or the ball is returned to the player pitcher with at least foot inside the pitcher’s circle. If a runner is more than half way to the next base when time is called, the runner will be awarded the next base
* Batting
  + Roster batting
  + 5 Run Limit per inning.
* Games are 60 minutes long. The last inning will be completed unless the home team is winning. (See also: USSSA Rule 4, Section3)
* USSSA Rule 4, Section 4 – Run Rule
  + - 12 runs lead after 3 completed innings or 2 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead
    - 10 runs after 4 completed innings or 3 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead
    - 8 runs lead after 5 completed innings or 4 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead.

**8U**

* Pitching
  + Coach Pitch for 3 swings or 5 pitches. Coach must start within the circle marked around the mound when pitching.
  + Additional pitches are allowed if the last pitch is hit foul
* Defense
  + One base is allowed on overthrows.
  + Time will be called when a defensive player has possession of the ball in advance of the lead runner or the ball is returned to the player pitcher with at least one foot inside the pitcher’s circle. If a runner is more than half-way to the next base when time is called, the runner will be awarded the next base
* Batting
  + Roster Batting
  + 5 Run Limit per inning
* Game Rules
  + Games are 75 minutes long. The last inning will be completed unless the home team is winning.
  + USSSA Rule 4, Section 4 – Run Rule
    - 12 runs lead after 3 completed innings or 2 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead
    - 10 runs after 4 completed innings or 3 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead
    - 8 runs lead after 5 completed innings or 4 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead.

**10U**

* Pitching
  + Kid pitch to each batter.
    - After 4 balls, the coach will come in for two pitches. Coach must pitch from the rubber on the mound. If the batter does not swing the pitch does not count. The batter will have 2 pitches or one strike.
    - 3 strikes and the batter is out.
    - Additional pitches are allowed if the last pitch is hit foul
* One base limit for stolen bases
* Batting
  + Roster batting
  + 5 Run Limit per inning.
* Game Rules
  + Games are 75 minutes long. The last inning will be completed unless the home team is winning.
  + USSSA Rule 4, Section 4 – Run Rule
    - 12 runs lead after 3 completed innings or 2 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead
    - 10 runs after 4 completed innings or 3 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead
    - 8 runs lead after 5 completed innings or 4 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead.

**12/14U**

* Batting
  + Roster Batting
  + 7 Run Limit per inning.
* Game Rules
  + Games are 75 minutes long. The last inning will be completed unless the home team is winning.
  + USSSA Rule 4, Section 4 – Run Rule
    - 12 runs lead after 3 completed innings or 2 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead
    - 10 runs after 4 completed innings or 3 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead
    - 8 runs lead after 5 completed innings or 4 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead.