

## 2025 Gilman Little League Softball Rules

Please remember these are kids. This is just a game. Parents should cheer for everyone. The umpires are kids too. You or your child do not play or coach in the MLB, therefore we expect respect to everyone who chooses to play, coach and umpire. We are here to have fun.

- Eligible players must have completed grades 1-4 in the 2024/2025 school year
- 5 runs per inning maximum
- Games are limited to earlier of 1 hour or 5 innings. Games can end in a tie. Games will start and end on time
  - Do not start another inning within 5 minutes of the start time of the next game
- Second team listed on the schedule is the home team
- No warmups on the infield – outfield grass only. No batting in open grass areas in the park outside of the field fences
- 11 inch ball used for all players
- Everyone present on the roster MUST be in the batting order
- Everyone on the roster must play a minimum of 2 innings in the field within the first 5 innings; 3 innings of a 7-inning playoff game
- A team may play a game with a minimum of 8 players with 9 and 10 spots in the batting order being an out
- Coach's choice if there will be 12 players on the field with the extra 2 in the outfield
- Outfield players must be on the grass
- Batting order will alternate gender until only one gender remains
- Each team will have at least 3 girls in the field. If playing with less than 3 girls, the spot in the batting order will be an out
- 2 girls must play in the infield other than catcher. One of the 2 girls can be the pitcher.
- Automatic time out when any infielder (1<sup>st</sup> base, 2<sup>nd</sup> base, short stop, 3<sup>rd</sup> base, pitcher or catcher) has control of the ball (within the infield) or attempts a throw to the pitcher. A time out is not called on a throw from an outfielder to the pitcher. (Umpire to call time but also need base coaches to stop kids from advancing to additional bases)
- One base maximum on an overthrow (per overthrow).
- Arc Limit: batters height to 10 feet. (Umpires will call flat or illegal and it will count as a ball)
- Catchers must wear a mask
- No infield fly rule
- A tipped ball back to the catch must go above the batter's head and be caught to be an out. A tipped ball that is caught by the catcher but does not go above the batter's head is a regular foul ball.
- 4-3 count. To allow more playing time, have an adult/coach behind the umpire to return missed pitches, unlimited fouls
- Weather is out of our control and the Summer is busy for all. The first week cancelled due to weather will not be made up. If additional weeks are cancelled, we will attempt to schedule at the league director's discretion.
  - Rainouts will be called @ 5 PM of gameday
  - If a team chooses not to participate in a make-up game, it will be a forfeit for that team and opposing team will be awarded the win
- Rosters are set by Park & Rec. Any additional players must be added through league coordinator
- No Dogs allowed at the ballfield/park
- Must use the bats provided by Park & Rec
- Only players on the bench
- Base coach cannot be anyone playing in the little/middle leagues
- Head coach (or acting head coach) is the ONLY person who may dispute a call or present an issue with the ump. If anyone else involves themselves (assistant coaches, players, parents, guardians, etc.) it is an automatic out
- Swearing from the team/benches/coaches/parents will be an automatic out for the first offense, second offense automatic forfeit. No further discussion
- A player who is disrespectful to teammates, coaches or ump will be sat at the discretion of the coach or Park & Rec
- Teams must clean up field/bench after their game. Coaches put any equipment away
- Each team keeps book, any disputes will follow home team book
- A coin flip determines home team for playoffs – No matter the team placing
- Playoffs Only – No run limit per inning. 5 inning game. 20 runs after 3, 15 after 4, 10 after 5 applies