

MORGAN COUNTY GIRLS OFFICAL SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES 2026

SECTIONS

- A. League Rules
- B. Player Eligibility
- C. Generic Game Rules
- D. Game Rules Unique to 8 & Under

A. LEAGUE RULES

1. All birth certificates or school records must be checked by the Parks and Recreation Department before the girls become eligible to play.
2. MCPR will reschedule games for school functions and life events for rostered coaching staff for school functions, if a team has enough to play a scheduled game, then the game shall be played. Game rescheduling shall be handled only by the MCPR with input by the reps. and not by the coaches.
3. Rain out and canceled games must be made up.
4. Protests must be turned in to the Parks and Recreation Department by the representative or the coach within 48 hours of the game. Exception to the 48-hour rule will be when a game is played on Friday or Saturday. In that case, protest must be submitted by 3:30 p.m. on the following Monday. A \$25.00 protest fee must accompany all protests. Protests during tournament play will be resolved at the tournament prior to play continuing.
5. If your community representative is not present for the organizing meeting, your community will be passed over for the tournament.
6. The community representative shall have one alternate.
7. To be eligible to host a tournament in a specific age group, your community must have that age group participating in the tournament.
8. Any coach, player or spectator that is ejected from a game will be suspended for a minimum of one game (next) or longer if action warrants. Any coach, player or spectator that is ejected from 2 games will be suspended for the remainder of the season. This will be taken care of by the League Softball Reps or community presidents. (If ejected from a game and you show up at the next game that game will be a forfeit. You will then be suspended for the next game.) (12-13-17)
9. The Park & Recreation Director, Athletic Director and Softball President, and Vice President have the authority to rule on league matters as necessary.
10. Teams will play East / West Divisions if there are at least 10 teams (2-4-09). 10 teams warrant 2 divisions (12.13.17) Divisions will play a 12 game season(12.7.22)

11. County Tournaments will be Double Eliminations (2-4-09)
 - a. Ring or trophies for the 1st place, 2nd place medals (this will be purchased by all communities) 1.2.19
 - b. League seeds for tournaments in the event of a tie 1- Head-to-Head, 2 -runs allowed, 3- run differential, 4 -coin flip (QuickScores generates this) All Communities will order to Awards together and split up the cost.
12. NO Time Limit in the Championship Game Only (2-4-09)
13. ALL INFIELD PLAYERS ALL AGES must wear a Facemask (1-9-13)
14. All coaches to include head coach, assistant coach, and any helpers must have completed a background check and have an up-to-date Coach Safely Certification before a community is allowed to practice. (12-10-2025)

B. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. To participate in the Morgan County Youth Girls Softball League, the child must live in a Morgan County school community or go to a Morgan County school. To be able to change communities from last season, the child must have moved. EXCEPTION: If a community does not offer an age division, the child can change communities.
Player has to Reg. with their home Community before they are eligible to play for another community. (12.13.17) Any coach playing a player that does not meet these requirements will forfeit all games played with an illegal player. Must play for the Morgan County School she is attending or play for the school community that she lives in.
2. All rosters must have a minimum of 8 names when turned in. If a roster drops below 10 due to a loss of a player (season ending injury, moved, etc.), then another player may be added to bring the roster back up to 10. Exception 8U can add up to 11 players. *If player is added after May 1st, the player must play outfield and bat last. (1/28/2026)
3. No player may be on more than one roster of the Morgan County Youth Softball League.
4. After the roster deadline, players can only be added by rule B.2 or if the player has just moved into the community. (12-10-2025)
5. Before a new player becomes eligible for play, she must be properly entered on a team roster on file at the Recreation Department.
6. Rosters must designate school players.
7. If a girl moves up to an older age division, she must remain there for the entire season, except for 8 & under where a player must be 6 by the birthday cutoff.

C. GENERIC GAME RULES

1. Will play by USSSA Fast Pitch rules except where noted herein. [USSSA RULES](#) (12-10-2025)
2. If a team is not ready to play ball or if umpires are not available 15 minutes (1st game only) after the scheduled game time, the game shall be declared a forfeit.
3. A Team must have 8 players to avoid a forfeit. A team will NOT be penalized for only having 8 players by having to take an out for the #9 (or #'s 9 and 10 for coach pitch) hitter in the lineup. (12-10-2025)
4. All divisions must bat a continuous lineup and will have free defensive substitutions. (1-28-2026)
5. NO Inning will start after 10:00 pm on any game Monday through Thursday games while school is in session. At the end of the season if there is a tie between teams for seeding of tournament, because of this rule those games will be rescheduled at the point where the game was stopped (4-20-06).
6. All divisions may earn a maximum of 6 runs per team per inning unless extra runs are a result of an over-the-fence home run. (1-28-2026)
7. Run Rules 12 after 3, 10 after 4 and 8 after 5.
8. All base-lengths shall be 60 feet. Age division parameters for playing are defined as follows:

DIVISIONS	PITCHING DISTANCE	GAME TIME LIMIT	BALL SIZE	INNINGS PER COMPLETED GAME
8 & Under	35 feet	1 hr 15 min	11 inch	6
10 & Under	35 feet	1 hr 15 min	11 inch	6
12 & Under	40 feet	1 hr 15 min	12 inch	6
14 & Under	43 feet	1 hr 15 min	12 inch	6

D. GAME RULES UNIQUE TO COACH PITCH (8 & UNDER)

1. In the 8 & under division, the coach (who must be listed on the roster) will pitch to his or her players. The batter gets 5 pitches or 3 swinging strikes. If she does not get a hit in 5 pitches, she is out. If a player fouls the 5th pitch; she is allowed additional pitches if she is fouling. There are no walks. If the ball hits the machine or pitching coach, it will be a dead ball. All runners advance one base if forced. The coach who is pitching may only coach the batter prior to each pitch. No other coaching is allowed. Also, there will be no infield fly rule for the 8 & under division.
2. In the 8 & under division, the pitcher shall stand in an 8-foot radius circle while the pitch is being delivered. The pitcher may stand on either side of the machine
3. In the 8 & under division, coaches will be responsible for getting out of the way when a defensive player is attempting to make a play. This is an umpire's judgment call. As a penalty for a coach interfering with play, the runner closest to home plate shall be out.

4. TIME WILL BE CALLED BY THE UMPIRE WHEN THE BALL IS IN THE CIRCLE, OR IN THE JUDGMENT OF THE UMPIRE, ALL PLAY HAS STOPPED.
5. No under roll will be allowed. If deemed an under roll and addition base will be given to the runner.