

2021 Clover League Rules

GENERAL LEAGUE RULES:

- Home Team Responsibilities:
 - Brings two new, yellow, raised stitch, approved game balls (For 2021 Each team shall bring their own 2 games balls and maintain possession of those balls when on offense, balls shall NOT be restricted flight.)
 - Supplies Double First Base
 - Provides secured pitching rubber at division required distance.
 - Preps and lines field prior to game
- NO Metal Cleats
- No jewelry (medical alert jewelry must be taped to body)
- Minimum of eight players to start game (Majors is an automatic out for 9th position in lineup, Minors is no Automatic out)
- Free substitution for all players
- Continuous batting order.
- Courtesy runners are allowed for the pitcher and catcher, and shall be the last out.
- If a player arrives late for a game she will be inserted into the END of the batting order, regardless of what point in game she arrives.
- If a player is injured or ill and cannot take her scheduled turn at bat, she may be skipped with NO OUT recorded.
- Appropriate language and conduct will be displayed by players, coaches, parents, and spectators at all times
- Caged helmets required of all batters & baserunners.
- No new inning to start after 7:30pm (or 1:30 if game starts later than 6pm)
- Game results should be reported to Division director within 24 hours of completion.
- Standings Tie-Breakers: 1-Head-to-Head record, 2- run differential in head-to-head games, 3-least runs allowed for season, 4-coin flip

COVID SPECIFIC RULES:

* - ALL COACHES, PLAYERS, OFFICIALS & SPECTATORS MUST ADHERE TO ANY AND ALL STATE, CLOVER LEAGUE, AND LOCAL COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES. ANYONE NOT FOLLOWING THESE GUIDELINES MAY BE EJECTED FROM A GAME OR EXPELLED FROM THE LEAGUE.

- Dugouts shall be extended to allow for teams to have all players remain 6' separated.
- No spectators shall be allowed in the extended dugout or field.
- All coaches must have face coverings over their nose and mouth at all times, unless actively drinking.
- All players must have a face covering at all time while in the field of play, both offense and defense.
- Players must keep face coverings on while entering and exiting the field of play and in dugout area. While in dugout and socially distant a player may take a mask break for a short period.
- Hand sanitizer shall be available and used regularly.

- Each team will maintain their balls for pitching, make sure time is called if switching balls.
- Sharing of equipment must be limited as much as possible, but if shared, it must be sanitized before/after each use.
- Umpires will be allowed to be stationed behind the catcher, but must maintain a face covering over their mouth and nose. Between plays the umpire shall do their best to remain socially distant.
- Bleachers may only be used if family units can remain socially distant
- Foul Ball Retrieval shall be done by offensive team players/coaches. If a spectator does retrieve a ball make sure to sanitize it before returning to play

MAJORS DIVISION SPECIFIC RULES:

- 12 inch, yellow , raised stitch, ASA/USA approved game ball will be used
- 40 foot pitching distance (player can pitch from 43')
- Dropped third strike rule is in effect
- Infield Fly rule is in effect
- Stealing on the release of the pitch
- No limit on runners advancing bases on overthrow in play.
- If ball ends up out of play umpire will award proper base advancement.
- Bunting is allowed "Show Bunt, Then Swing" (punching/slashing) is prohibited. 1st offense batter is out, 2nd offense same batter, she is ejected
- 7 inning games 5 run per inning limit.
- No run limit for last scheduled inning (7th inning, unless clarified by both coaches prior to first pitch of inning, due to time).
- No Slaughter rule.
- If game is tied after 7 innings, use International tie-breaker for 8th and additional innings. Last recorded out of the team's 7th inning starts on 2nd base.
- Pitcher must be removed from pitching position after hitting three batters in an inning or four batters in a game.
- 9 Fielders, 3 must be positioned in the OF. OF's must start with feet in OF grass (or declared OF line)
- All other rules refer to USA rules

MINOR DIVISION SPECIFIC RULES:

- 11 inch, yellow , raised stitch, ASA/USA approved game ball
- will be used 35 foot pitching distance
- No metal cleats
- No dropped third strike rule
- No Infield Fly rule
- Runners can advance only one base on a steal, regardless of wild throw, etc
- Stealing on the release of the pitch
- No Stealing of home, player may be put out if off the base, but may only score on an offensive hit, or being forced home ie a walk with bases loaded.
- No limit on runners advancing bases on overthrow in play.
- If ball ends up out of play umpire will award proper base advancement.

- Bunting is allowed “Show Bunt, Then Swing” (punching/slashing) is prohibited. 1st offense batter is out, 2nd offense same batter, she is ejected
- No continuation on walks
- 6 inning games 4 run per inning limit.
- No run limit for last scheduled inning (6th inning, unless clarified by both coaches prior to 1st pitch of inning, due to time)
- No Slaughter rule.
- If game is tied after 6 innings, use International tie-breaker for 7th and additional innings. Last recorded out of the team’s 6th inning starts on 2nd base.
- Pitcher must be removed from pitching position after hitting three batters in an inning or four batters in a game.
- 10 Fielders, 4 must be positioned in the OF. OF’s must start with feet in OF grass (or declared OF line)
- All other rules refer to USA rules
- Pitching – Pitchers may only pitch a maximum of 3 innings per game. One pitch delivered in an inning shall constitute an inning pitched. Per USA rule 6.9 There is no limit on the number of times a player may return to the pitching position as long as they remain eligible otherwise. If returning to the pitching mound in the same half-inning, then no warm-up pitches are allowed.

MINORS UMPIRES

We use Junior umpires for Minor games

Mistakes are going to be made by these umpires. If both coaches agree then a call can be changed, if not the call made stands. Only the head coaches is allowed to speak with the umpire at any time. We are trying to keep these umpires and not scare them away.

No spectators are allowed to talk to or yell at the umpire. Each coach is responsible for their spectators. If they hear anything they should calmly and quietly approach the spectator and inform them to be quite or to go home. **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT,** due to the fact that these umpires will be new and we do not want to scare them off because without them we would be in a wicked jam.