**Rules**

**General Rules**

The Madison-Ridgeland Youth Softball Club (MRYSC) League is designed for girl’s ages 4 to 18 with a few 19’s depending on their birthdates. Age Groups are determined by the age of the child as of January 1 of the year that games are started. All games are played according to ASA fastpitch softball regulations with a few local rules designed to grow the girl’s in the game of softball. There is an emphasis on teaching the basics of throwing, hitting, catching, and running the bases as well as players stealing bases, going against player pitchers, and are learning all aspects of fastpitch softball.

1. See each age division rules for game time limits. If time expires during an inning, the inning will be completed unless the home team is ahead or becomes ahead. If at the completion of the game the score results in a tie, the game will end in a tie. A game will be called complete due to weather conditions after 4 innings or 3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead or thirty-five (35) minutes game time has expired. **Game Run rule: 15 runs after 3, 12 runs after 4, 10 runs after 5**
2. A maximum of five (5) runs will be allowed in any one-half inning.
3. Ten (10) players will be used on defense. All players are in the batting order.
4. Substitutions must be made no later than the third inning. All players must play at least two (2) consecutive innings, if time allows. It is the responsibility of the coach, not the umpire or scorekeeper, to make the required substitutions.
5. A team must have at least eight (8) players in order to avoid a forfeit. If there are only seven (7) players at game time, there is a 10 minute grace period to wait on the 8th player. If the player is a no show, then the game is considered a forfeit and will not be made up. However, the game can be played if the coaches decide to play it, but it is still recorded as a forfeit.
6. If only nine (9) players are in the line-up, there is no penalty for the offense. If only eight (8) players are in the line-up, an automatic out must be taken each time the ninth position in the batting order comes up.
7. If a player arrives after a game has started, she will be placed in the last position on the team’s batting order with no penalty assessed. Coach must notify umpire and scorekeeper that an additional batter has been added to the batting order. If a player is listed on the official batting order submitted to the scorekeeper, but is not present when her turn to bat comes up, she will be considered an automatic out.
8. On an overthrow to any base during a play where the batter puts the ball into play, all runners can advance at their own risk. The play is over when the pitcher has control of the ball in the pitcher's circle and the lead runner has stopped advancing or a defense player in control of the ball requests time from the umpire and the umpire grants time due to no base runners continuing to advance.
9. No composite bats except in the 12u & 18U League. All bats must have the ASA 2004 certification stamped on them.
10. No Steel Cleats allowed except in the 18U League
11. Rain outs may be rescheduled and played in order in which they were originally scheduled, unless: (1) The game is rained out again, or (2) One of the teams already has a game scheduled for the make-up date.
12. For purposes of making up a rain-out, a coach must be notified by at least 4:00 p.m. on the day before the make-up game is scheduled.
13. Overall win/loss records will determine the seeding of the season playoff games. If there is a tie after the overall records are considered, the first tie breaker will be the winner in head-to-head competition. The second tiebreaker will be a coin toss. All teams will compete at the end of the year tournament.
14. Equipment required to play in the league will be purchased by the parent or legal guardian: Helmet with face mask and chin strap, fielding glove ,Bats and cleats.
15. Items not required, but can be bought if the parent or legal guardian chooses to buy it: A Face Mask to play on defense is highly encouraged but not required.

**IF NO LEAGUE RULE EXISTS, THEN ASA RULES APPLY**