



Franklin Girls Softball Association (FGSA) Playing Rules – Senior Division 2017

All play is governed by USA/ASA Rules except as noted below.
In addition certain ASA Rules are noted for emphasis.

Senior Division Rules:

- Weekday games start at 6 PM and as scheduled on weekends
- 12" softball with 43 foot pitching distance
- 7 inning games
- 5 run limit rule per inning/ waived in the 7th or last inning
- No new inning to start after 1 hour 40 minute after scheduled start time with a 2 hour and 5 minute " drop dead" stop time
- Bunting is allowed
- 'Slashing' (presenting a bunt and then swinging away) is NOT allowed
- 'Slap Hitting' IS allowed
- Infield fly rule IS in effect
- Runners may leave the base on release from the pitcher's hand
- Base stealing, including home, is allowed
- No stealing of any base if a team is up by 10 runs or more
- Dropped 3rd Strike rule IS in effect
- 10 players may play in the field, with 4 players positioned in the outfield
- Pitchers may not pitch in more than 4 innings. Only the starting pitcher can re-enter (once) as a pitcher once during the game.
- Sanctioned USA/ASA umpires will be provided
- Mercy Rule – 18 runs after 5 innings or 12 runs after 6 innings.

Special Playing Rules that apply to all divisions:

- All players bat – a continuous batting order will be used. Players who arrive after the start of the game will be added to the end of the order.
- Minimum of eight players required to start and finish a game (forfeit if less)
- Games must start once the scheduled start time is reached and both teams have the minimum number of players
- Free substitution of players in the field (noted exception – only starting pitcher may return as pitcher (once) after being removed from the pitching position
- All players must play an equal amount of time in the field each game. No player will be on the bench for 2 consecutive innings. All players must play a minimum of 2 innings in the infield
- Players must slide or avoid contact. All sliding rule decisions are at the discretion of the umpire
- A courtesy runner may be used for the pitcher or catcher - runner shall be the last batter making an out (and second to last batter making an out if both pitcher and catcher are on base at the same time)