

MORE THAN SPORTS

CO-ED SOFTBALL RULES

(RULES NOT LISTED HERE CAN BE FOUND IN THE ASA RULE BOOK)



TABLE OF CONTENTS

RULE 1:	3
RULE 2:	3
RULE 3:	3
RULE 4:	3
RULE 5:	3
RULE 6:	4
RULE 7:	4
RULE 8:	4
RULE 9:	4
RULE 10:	4
RULE 11:	4
RULE 12:	4
RULE 13:	5
RULE 14:	5
RULE 15:	5
RULE 16:	5
RULE 17:	5
RULE 18:	5
RULE 19:	5
RULE 20:	6
LEAGUE POLICIES:	6
FORFEITS:	6
WAIVERS:	7
ALCOHOL:	7
PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:	7
SPORTSMANSHIP:	7
STAFF:	7
LEAGUE CANCELLATION/RAINOUT:	8

RULE 1: UMPIRE WILL DETERMINE ALL BALLS AND STRIKES. ALL JUDGMENT DECISIONS ARE FINAL. ONLY THE CAPTAIN MAY SPEAK TO THE UMPIRE REGARDING A CALL. ANY EXCESSIVE DISAGREEMENTS WILL RESULT IN AN EJECTION FROM THE GAME AND/OR LEAGUE IF DEEMED NECESSARY BY MORE THAN SPORTS.

RULE 2: ALL BATTERS WILL START WITH A ONE BALL, ONE STRIKE COUNT... *WITH A COURTESY FOUL BALL AFTER TWO STRIKES*

RULE 3: WALKING THE BATTER: IF THERE ARE NO OUTS OR ONLY 1 OUT AND A MALE WALKS, HE WILL TAKE FIRST BASE AND THE FEMALE MUST BAT. IF THERE ARE 2 OUTS AND THE MALE WALKS, HE WILL TAKE SECOND AUTOMATICALLY AND THE FEMALE HAS THE CHOICE OF BATTING OR WALKING. UMP'S WILL ENFORCE THIS RULE UPON REQUEST; HOWEVER, THEY WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR NOTIFYING THE BATTER IN EACH WALK SITUATION.

RULE 4: BATS - PLEASE VISIT ASA WEBSITE TO DETERMINE (ILLEGAL/LEGAL BATS)

<http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Softball/Play-ASA/Certified-ASA-Equipment.aspx>

NOTE: ASA IS CONSTANTLY CHANGING THE CERTIFICATION OF BATS CONSIDERED LEGAL/ILLEGAL. MORE THAN SPORTS WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO MONITOR THE BATS THAT ARE BEING USED, HOWEVER ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS REGARDING BATS OF TEAM OR OPPONENTS, NEED TO BE DISCUSSED WITH UMPIRE(S) IMMEDIATELY. ANY "HOT BATS" OR ISSUES REGARDING BATS NEED TO BE CHALLENGED BY OPPOSING TEAM. ANY BAT CAN BE REMOVED OR "NOT ALLOWED" DURING THE GAME AS DETERMINED BY THE UMPIRE(S) AND IS SOLELY THEIR DECISION. USING A "HOT BAT" WILL RESULT IN AN AUTOMATIC OUT!

RULE 5: TIES ARE POSSIBLE IN REGULAR SEASON LEAGUE PLAY... (BUT NOT IN PLAYOFFS).

EXTRA INNING FORMAT: EXTRA INNING WILL CONSIST OF A 1 PITCH AT BAT. A BALL WILL RESULT IN A WALK, WHILE A STRIKE WILL RESULT IN AN OUT. NO COURTESY FOULS IN EXTRA INNINGS. ALL FOUL BALLS IN EXTRA INNINGS WILL RESULT IN AN OUT.

NOTE: DUE TO DIFFERING CIRCUMSTANCES IN EACH AND EVERY GAME, SOME GAMES WILL FINISH SHORT OF TIME, WHILE OTHER GAMES MIGHT RUN OVER IN TIME. PLEASE RESPECT YOUR UMP'S CALL IN THIS MATTER. HE/SHE MUST KEEP ALL GAMES ON TIME IN FAIRNESS TO TEAMS PLAYING LATER HOURS AND DUE TO FACILITY PERMIT RESTRICTIONS. A COMPLETE GAME WILL CONSIST OF 45 MINUTES OF PLAY OR 4 FULL INNINGS WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. IF THE GAME IS CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER OR IF GAME IS CANCELLED FOR ANY OTHER REASON, THE GAME MAY BE MADE UP AND PLAYED AGAIN WITH THE REMAINING SCORE GOING INTO THE MAKE-UP GAME. THE MAKE-UP GAME WILL BE AT LEAST THE REMAINING TIME AND POSSIBLY A FULL TIME LIMIT IF CONDITIONS ALLOW. ***FIELD AVAILABILITY WILL BE DECIDING FACTOR FOR MAKE-UP GAMES***

RULE 6: PLAYER FORMAT - (6 MALE/4 FEMALES) ARE ALLOWED ON DEFENSE AT ANY TIME. A FEMALE PITCHER OR CATCHER IS REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES. 1 FEMALE MUST ALSO COVER ONE OF THE 3 BASES (1ST, 2ND, OR 3RD). REGULAR SEASON GAMES: IF NEEDED YOU MAY PICK UP TWO PLAYERS TO COMPLETE YOUR TEAM BUT NEVER GO OVER 10. EX IF YOU HAVE 9 PLAYERS THE TEAM MAY PICK UP 1 SUB NOT 2. MAX PICK UP IS TWO PLAYERS. **HOWEVER, THERE ARE NO PICK-UPS OF ANY SORT DURING THE PLAYOFFS!!!**

PLAYOFFS ROSTER: PLEASE STICK WITH YOUR ROSTER, **FINAL ROSTERS FOR PLAYOFFS MUST BE SET AND SUBMITTED BY WEEK 4!** FOR ANY CHANGES TO A ROSTER, IT MUST BE APPROVED IN ADVANCE BEFORE GAMES ARE PLAYED. IF A TEAM WANTS TO PROTEST A TEAM'S ROSTER OR PLAYER, IT MUST BE DONE "BEFORE" THE START OF THE GAME. *****DO NOT WAIT UNTIL AFTER A GAME TO PROTEST A PLAYER*****

ROSTER CAP IS 15 PLAYERS.

RULE 7: TEAMS MAY BAT MORE THAN TEN PLAYERS; HOWEVER, TEAMS MUST BAT THE SAME RATIO (6 TO 4) OF FIELDING MEN AND WOMEN IN THE LINEUP, UNLESS THEIR OPPONENT ALLOWS IT.

RULE 8: ALL PLAYERS ON THE FIELD MUST BE LISTED IN THE BATTING ORDER. NO PLAYERS CAN BE ADDED TO THE ROSTER AFTER THE 1ST PITCH.

RULE 9: BATTING RATIO (2:1) – NO MORE THAN 2 GUYS BATTING IN SEQUENCE. AN OUT WILL OCCUR IF GIRL IS NOT AVAILABLE TO KEEP RATIO IN ORDER.

IF PLAYING WITH THE MINIMAL PLAYER ALLOWED AVOIDING FORFEIT (6 TOTAL, 1 FEMALE) – SAME RATIO MUST APPLY EVEN IF SAME FEMALE HAS TO BAT MULTIPLE TIMES IN LINEUP. IF FEMALE IS ON BASE AND NO OTHER FEMALE IS PRESENT TO BAT IN LINEUP, THIS WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC OUT FOR EACH TIME FEMALE IS SUPPOSED TO BAT.

PINCH RUNNER – AT ANYTIME A TEAM NEEDS A PINCH RUNNER THEY MAY DO SO WITH THE LAST GIRL BATTED OUT. IF THE GIRL PINCH RUNNING IS DUE UP TO BAT AND SHE IS ON BASE THAT WILL BE DETERMINED AN OUT. SO SHE STAYS ON BASE AND YOU MOVE TO THE NEXT BATTER IN ORDER. ALSO IF THE BATTER HAS A PINCH RUNNER AND TAKES THREE STEPS TOWARD FIRST BASE THIS WILL BE AN OUT. UMPIRE WILL DETERMINE NUMBER OF STEPS.

RULE 10: HOME RUN RULE/ "MERCY RULE":

- HOME RUN RULE: **3** HOMERUN LIMIT PER GAME
- MERCY RULE: 19 RUNS AFTER 3 INNINGS AND/OR 15 RUNS AFTER 4 INNINGS.

RULE 11: INNING RUN LIMIT RULE: THERE WILL BE A NO RUN LIMIT PER INNING.

RULE 12: NO LEADOFFS OR STEALING ALLOWED.

RULE 13: GAMES START ON TIME!!! TEAMS MUST BE PREPARED TO PLAY AT THE SCHEDULED GAME TIMES
NOTE – THE CLOCK STARTS FOR THE 1ST GAME SCHEDULED THAT EVENING AT THE SCHEDULED GAME TIME
REGARDLESS OF ANY CIRCUMSTANCES EXCEPT FOR WHEN NO UMPIRE IS PRESENT!

FORFEIT RULE: 10 MINUTES AFTER GAME TIME. IF ONE TEAM HAS LESS THAN THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS (6 TOTAL-1 FEMALE) AT TEN PAST THE DESIGNATED START TIME, IT IS UP TO THE STAFF AND OPPOSING TEAM AS TO WHAT IS ALLOWABLE – THIS DECISION WILL ULTIMATELY BE MADE BY THE STAFF. (DURING LEAGUE PLAY TEAMS ARE ALLOWED TO PICK-UP PLAYERS FROM OTHER TEAMS IN ORDER TO START THE GAME ON TIME. A MAXIMUM OF TWO PLAYERS MAY BE PICKED UP)

RULE 14: BASE RUNNER TO DEFENSIVE PLAYER CONTACT WILL BE CLOSELY WATCHED. ANY EXCESSIVE CONTACT OR COLLISION WILL RESULT IN AN “OUT AND/OR EJECTION. THIS INCLUDES CONTACT WITH THE CATCHER. ANY ATTEMPT TO BREAK UP A DOUBLE PLAY, OR ANY INTENTIONAL (IN THE EYES OF THE MONITOR) INTERFERENCE WITH THE DEFENSIVE PLAYER WILL RESULT IN THE RUNNER AND THE RUNNER NEAREST TO HOME PLATE BEING CALLED OUT.

- NO HEAD FIRST SLIDING TO PREVENT INJURIES! ***AUTOMATIC OUT FOR HEAD-FIRST SLIDING***

RULE 15: NO METAL SPIKES ARE ALLOWED. ANY EQUIPMENT IN QUESTION SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE UMPIRE. THE UMPIRE WILL MAKE ALL FINAL DECISIONS WITH REGARD TO EQUIPMENT DISCREPANCIES. METAL CLEATS MAY RESULT IN EJECTION AND ADDITIONAL GAME SUSPENSION.

RULE 16: ON AN INFIELD FLY (ANY FLY BALL TO AN INFIELDER WITH SIGNIFICANT ARC AND DEEMED AN “EASY CATCH”) WITH LESS THAN 2 OUTS AND RUNNERS ON 1ST AND 2ND OR 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD, THE BATTER IS AUTOMATICALLY OUT AND RUNNERS CAN ADVANCE, BUT AT THEIR OWN RISK.

RULE 17: FORFEITS – IF A TEAM CALLS IN TO FORFEIT THERE IS A \$25 FEE. IF A TEAM NO CALLS/NO SHOWS THE FEE IS \$60 TO REMAIN IN GOOD STANDING.

RULE 18: ALL OUTFIELDERS MUST REMAIN 4 FEET FROM THE “DIAMOND”. IF THE “LINE” IS NOT CLEARLY MARKED IT IS UP TO THE UMPIRE’S DISCRETION IF AN OUTFIELDER IS TOO CLOSE TO THE INFIELDER. THERE CANNOT BE MORE THAN 6 PLAYERS ON THE INFIELDER WHEN A WOMAN IS BATTING. ALL INFIELDER MUST BE BEHIND THE BASE LINES AND IN FRONT OF THE OUTFIELD GRASS LINE WHEN A WOMAN IS BATTING. ONCE CONTACT HAS BEEN MADE THE OUTFIELDERS MAY CROSS THE LINE AND INFIELDER MAY CROSS THE BASE LINE AND/OR GO INTO THE OUTFIELD GRASS. IF AN OUTFIELDER CROSSES THE LINE BEFORE CONTACT HAS BEEN MADE OR AN INFIELDER CROSSES THE BASE LINE OR GOES ONTO THE OUTFIELD GRASS BEFORE CONTACT HAS BEEN MADE THE FEMALE MAY BE AWARDED FIRST BASE.

RULE 19: COURTESY RUNNERS: IS ALLOWED WHEN A PLAYER IS HURT DURING THE GAME. COURTESY RUNNERS CAN BE USED FROM HOME PLATE BUT CANNOT RUN FOR THE BATTER UNTIL AFTER THE BATTER HAS MADE CONTACT WITH THE BALL. THE UMPIRE WILL DRAW A LINE FOR THE COURTESY RUNNER TO

STAND BEHIND WHEN RUNNING FOR THE BATTER. THE COURTESY RUNNER MUST BE THE LAST OUT GIRL OUT.

RULE 20: *AT BAT/BOX RULE: LEAVING THE BOX DOES NOT GUARANTEE THAT THE UMPIRE WILL CALL TIME. IF BATTER CHOOSES TO LEAVE BOX BETWEEN PITCHES, PITCHER HAS THE RIGHT TO PITCH THE BALL. BATTERS CAN REQUEST TIME BETWEEN PITCHES, BUT IT MUST BE CALLED INSIDE THE BOX FOR THE UMP TO HONOR BEFORE STEPPING OUT. THIS RULE WILL ENSURE THAT NO TEAM IS TRYING TO RUN TIME OFF OF THE CLOCK AND WILL ALSO SPEED UP THE GAME.*

RULE 21: ANY HIT/BALL SENT DIRECTLY TO THE PITCHER WILL BE CALLED AN AUTOMATIC OUT (TO PROTECT THE SAFETY OF ALL PITCHERS). BALLS ON THE SIDE OF PITCHER ARE OK (UMPIRE HAS FINAL CALL AND WILL ENFORCE AS NEEDED)

LEAGUE POLICIES: DURING THE REGULAR SEASON, GAMES ARE TO BE PLAYED WITHIN TIME ALLOTTED (WARM UP INCLUDED *5 MINUTES*). ***45 MINUTES***

UMPIRES: AN UMPIRE WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE LEAGUE TO SUPERVISE AND CONTROL THE GAME. THE UMPIRE(S) HAS THE FINAL SAY-SO ON ALL CALLS MADE. IF THERE IS A DISAGREEMENT, THE TEAM CAPTAIN MUST DISCUSS WITH THE UMPIRE. IF UMPIRE CANNOT CLEAR UP THE SITUATION, THE MORE THAN SPORTS LEAGUE DIRECTOR ON SITE WILL THEN DISCUSS SITUATION WITH TEAM CAPTAIN AND UMPIRE. IT WILL BE THE UMPIRE'S RESPONSIBILITY TO COORDINATE AND RUN THE GAMES, WHICH INCLUDES BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING: STARTING GAMES ON TIME, CALLING OUTS, MAKING FINAL CALLS ON ANY DISPUTED BALLS OR STRIKES, SETTLING ALL DISPUTES AND OR DISPUTED CALLS. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT UMP'S WILL ASSIST IN THE TRACKING OF THE SCORE (I.E. ANNOUNCING IT BETWEEN INNINGS) AND ASSISTING IN ANY DISCREPANCIES WITH REGARDS TO THE CO-ED LINE-UP RATIOS. *HOWEVER, IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BOTH TEAMS TO MAINTAIN THEIR RESPECTIVE LINE-UPS AND SCORES EACH INNING.*

FORFEITS: IF YOUR TEAM FORFEITS A GAME DURING THE SEASON, THE FOLLOWING RULES APPLY:

- FIRST OFFENSE: LOSS OF GAME AND WARNING ISSUED.
- SECOND OFFENSE: LOSS OF GAME AND STAFF RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REMOVE TEAM FROM PLAYOFFS.
- THIRD OFFENSE: REMOVAL FROM THE LEAGUE.

IF YOU KNOW IN ADVANCE THAT YOUR TEAM IS GOING TO FORFEIT A GAME, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO CONTACT US SO AS TO HELP US SCHEDULE YOUR OPPONENT A GAME. TEAMS HAVE UNTIL TEN MINUTES PAST THE DESIGNATED START TIME TO FIELD A FULL SQUAD (MINIMUM NUMBERS OF PLAYERS REQUIRED TO PLAY ACCORDING TO THE RULES). REFER TO RULES REGARDING GUY/GIRL BATTING RATIO ABOVE. ANYTHING LESS THAN THE MINIMUM PLAYERS NEEDED MUST BE APPROVED BY THE OPPOSING TEAM AND MORE THAN SPORTS STAFF OR UMPIRES.

ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING RULES, POLICIES, OR ELIGIBILITY MUST BE ADDRESSED BEFORE THE START OF THE GAME. MORE THAN SPORTS RESERVES THE RIGHT AND MAY SCHEDULE PLAYOFF GAMES ON DAYS OTHER THAN YOUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED LEAGUE NIGHT (DUE TO FIELD AVAILABILITY.)

WAIVERS: IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LEAGUE, EACH PARTICIPANT MUST SIGN THE TEAM WAIVER. WAIVERS ARE PROVIDED AND MUST BE COMPLETED AND HANDED IN NO LATER THAN THE FIRST NIGHT OF PLAY. PLAYERS NOT PRESENT THE FIRST WEEK OF PLAY WILL STILL BE REQUIRED TO SIGN A WAIVER WITH OUR STAFF BEFORE PARTICIPATING.

ALCOHOL: WE RECOGNIZE THAT MANY TEAMS COME OUT TO THE BALLPARK TO DRINK AND HAVE FUN! IN SOME CASES TEAMS ENJOY DRINKING BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER GAMES. MORE THAN SPORTS ENCOURAGES AND SUPPORTS A FAMILY ATMOSPHERE WHERE KIDS AND FAMILY MAY BE PRESENT IN STANDS/PARKING LOT, SO WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT DRINKS ARE NOT VISIBLE AND KEPT IN KOOZIES, CUPS, YETTI, ETC. PLEASE DO NOT SMOKE OR DRINK NEAR CHILDREN. TEAM CAPTAINS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEANING UP THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY: A FORMAL PROTEST MAY BE FILED BEFORE A GAME IF AN OPPOSING PLAYER'S ELIGIBILITY IS IN QUESTION. THE PLAYER IN QUESTION WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE HIS/HER PLAYER INFORMATION (NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE #, AND SIGNATURE) IN WRITING TO MORE THAN SPORTS PRIOR TO THE START OF THE GAME. THIS QUALIFIES AS AN OFFICIAL PROTEST. THE GAME WILL THEN BE PLAYED IN ITS ENTIRETY AS SCHEDULED. TEAMS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF ALL RULINGS ON THE IDENTIFIED ELIGIBILITY DISCREPANCY BY THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS DAY AND DECISIONS WILL NOT BE MADE ON SITE. IF THE PROTEST IS PROVEN TO BE LEGITIMATE, IT WILL RESULT IN THE FORFEITURE OF THE GAME IN QUESTION WHICH WILL RESULT IN A LOSS. GAMES SUBSEQUENT TO THE PROTESTED GAME MAY BE RESCHEDULED. THE ABOVE PROCEDURE WILL ALSO APPLY FOR ANY OTHER "LOGGED" PROTESTS. ALL RULINGS BY MORE THAN SPORTS ARE CONSIDERED FINAL.

SPORTSMANSHIP: THE IDEA OF MORE THAN SPORTS IS TO HAVE FUN! WE HOPE THAT ALL PARTICIPANTS KEEP THAT IN MIND WHEN JOINING OUR LEAGUE. ALTHOUGH THE GAMES MAY BECOME INTENSE, YOU STILL CAN BE COMPETITIVE WHILE MAINTAINING GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP. WITH THIS SAID, ANY BEHAVIOR DEEMED UNACCEPTABLE BY MORE THAN SPORTS MAY RESULT IN SUSPENSION AND/OR EJECTION FROM A GAME OR THE LEAGUE. IF A PLAYER IS KICKED OUT, THE PLAYER MUST LEAVE THE FIELD PREMISES WITHIN 2 MINUTES OR THE SUSPENDED PLAYER WILL EARN HIS TEAM A FORFEIT. ALSO THE SUSPENDED PLAYER MAY NOT ATTEND THE FIELD PREMISES THE NEXT SCHEDULED GAME OR THE PLAYERS TEAM WILL FORFEIT ON NOTICE. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TEAM CAPTAIN TO ENFORCE ALL RULES PROVIDED BY MORE THAN SPORTS.

STAFF: TO COORDINATE AND RUN THE LEAGUE, OUR UMPIRES AND/OR MORE THAN SPORTS STAFF WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL TIMES TO HELP THE LEAGUE RUN AS SMOOTHLY AS POSSIBLE. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING SCHEDULES, POLICIES, RULE INTERPRETATIONS, DIRECTIONS TO THE FIELD, ETC. PLEASE CONTACT US.

LEAGUE CANCELLATION/RAINOUT: LEAGUES MAY BE CANCELLED DUE TO EXISTING WEATHER CONDITIONS, DANGEROUS OR UNPLAYABLE FIELD CONDITIONS, FACILITY CONSTRAINTS, ETC. OUR STAFF MAKES EVERY EFFORT TO PLAY ALL SCHEDULED GAMES, THUS WE WILL NOT CANCEL GAMES UNTIL ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. THEREFORE, IF YOU ARE CALLING CONCERNING A DECISION ON A CANCELLATION, REMEMBER WE WILL NOT HAVE AN ANSWER UNTIL CLOSE TO THE START OF THE GAME. IF THE GAME IS CANCELLED, OUR STAFF WILL NOTIFY TEAM CAPTAINS IMMEDIATELY BY CALL, TEXT AND E-MAIL. IF A LEAGUE IS CANCELLED ON SITE, THE STAFF WILL ATTEMPT TO CONTACT THOSE TEAMS STILL SCHEDULED TO PLAY THE REMAINDER OF THE LEAGUE DAY/NIGHT. DEPENDING ON THE TIME OF CANCELLATION, SOME TEAMS WILL HAVE TO BE NOTIFIED ON SITE. IF WE DO CANCEL, SIMPLY FOLLOW NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE. THE GAMES THAT ARE CANCELLED WILL BE MADE UP AT THE END OF THE SEASON, "IF" TIME/FIELD AVAILABILITY ALLOWS.

MORE THAN SPORTS UNDERSTANDS YOU SIGN UP TO PLAY A CERTAIN DAY BUT SOMETIMES THE WEATHER DOES NOT ACCOMMODATE. SO IN THE SITUATION ABOVE DUE TO "EXTREME" NUMBER OF CANCELLATIONS, TEAMS WILL MAY BE SCHEDULED TO PLAY ANOTHER DAY OUTSIDE OF NORMAL LEAGUE NIGHT DAY TO TRY AND HELP FINISH THE SEASON.

RULES NOT LISTED HERE CAN BE FOUND IN THE ASA RULE BOOK



MORE THAN SPORTS