



BASIC SOFTBALL PLAYING RULES



The following rules are derived from the ASA Rule Book. Certain rules have been modified by Fusion Sport & Social and are listed below.

A. GAME

1. 3/2 Softball, which means each batter begins with a 1-1 count. Strike zone is 6' & 12'. At the judgement of the umpires, balls and strikes may be called for teams not pitching or batting when instructed to do so. Teams will hustle between innings.
2. There is a 10 run rule per inning. When a team brings in the 10th run, it is counted and designates the 3rd out. **This rule will not be in effect once the last inning is called.**
3. All games will last 7 innings; however, no new inning will begin after 60 minutes. (the moment the umpire calls the 3rd out of the bottom of the inning.)

B. LINEUPS, PLAYERS & SUBSTITUTIONS

1. Lineups must be presented to the umpire prior to the start of the game.
2. The standard lineup is 10 batters (Coed = 6 males/4 females) For coed, no more than 2 men may bat in a row.
3. Teams must have at least 8 players to start a game (min. 2 females for coed.) During the regular season teams may "pick up" players to avoid playing short handed; however a minimum of 8 players must be rostered players. Pick ups must be current participants of Fusion Sports Leagues.
4. EXTRA HITTERS: For Men's league play, teams may bat 3 extra hitters. ***NEW* as of 2016: COED may bat as many extra hitters as they choose as long as the rule of no more than 2 men batting in a row is adhered to.**
5. When batting, automatic outs are given to empty spots in the original batting order IN COED only (i.e. If a team does not have enough females, when it is time for the 3rd and/or 4th female to bat, an automatic out is assessed.) No penalty in men's.
6. The ASA walk rule will be used. In coed if a male is walked and a female follows in the batter order the male is automatically awarded second base. If there are two outs the female will have the choice to walk or hit.
7. Substitutions may enter the game during the top of an inning only. Example. If the home team would like a player to pinch hit that player must play in the field in the top of the inning.
8. During playoffs, players may be asked to provide ID prior to games. ONLY PLAYERS ON THE OFFICIAL TEAM ROSTER ARE ELIGIBLE FOR PLAYOFFS. Questions regarding player eligibility must be made prior to the start of the game or at the time the player enters the game if they are a late arrival.
9. LATE PLAYERS/DH's (COED ONLY): If the late player is a male and placing him at the bottom of the order results in having 3 males batting in a row, a female ghost player will be added to avoid three males batting in a row. That ghost player will be considered an automatic out.

C. FIELD

1. Umpires will be responsible for all "out of play" calls. (Brookhaven B&G Club: Any ball that hits a tree in foul territory will be considered a dead foul ball. Any ball that hits a tree in fair territory will be declared a no pitch dead ball.)

D. GENERAL

1. NO Stealing bases.
2. No jewelry may be worn on the field. NO metal cleats - wearing metal cleats will result in an ejection from the game.
3. Players ejected from a game must sit out the remainder of that game plus at least ONE additional game. At the discretion of the League Director, ejected players may be removed from league play.
4. No fake tags.
5. Throwing your bat may result in an automatic out and ejection from the game.
6. Positioning of outfielders: When a female is batting all outfielders must stay outside the outfield line until contact has been made. If this is violated the ball remains live until time is called. The umpire will then decide if it will be more advantageous to the batting team if the play stands or an automatic pass to first for the batter is needed.
7. Positioning of infielders: Teams may have no more than six players in the infield when a player is batting. (P, C, 1st, 2nd, 3rd SS.) Infielders CANNOT be in front of the baseline until a ball is hit. If the umpire deems an infielder to be inside the baseline prior to or during a pitch a "NO PITCH" will be called and the batter may choose to take first base. An infielder may be removed from the game for Unsportsmanlike Conduct if he/she continues to position themselves inside the baseline.
8. **PLAYS AT THE PLATE:** The catcher must be in position, not blocking the plate or baseline, prior to the runner arriving at the halfway point between 3rd base and home plate. If the catcher is not in position, the runner may automatically be called safe to avoid injury causing collisions. Runners DO NOT have to slide. Runners/defensive players MUST attempt to avoid contact and players may be ejected if they create contact regardless of intention. Umpires judgement on all plays at the plate and contact at the plate or in the field.
9. **FLIP RULE:** The "FLIP" Rule will be in effect in the last inning. If the Home team is behind at the start of the last inning they will bat in the top of the last inning. The Flip Rule will NOT be in effect during playoff games.
10. **MERCY RULE** is 15 runs after 4 innings & 10 runs after 5.
11. **HOME RUNS:** 3 home runs per game will be allowed per team. Subsequent home runs will be outs.
12. **FIRST BASE:** Runners must tag the outside bag at first when a play is being made at that base. A runner tagging the inside bag when there is a play at first may be called out.
13. **FORFEITS:** Fusion reserves the right to remove teams from playoffs that have forfeited 2 or more regular season games. Teams with a forfeit on their record will automatically drop to the bottom of any tie breakers.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS: Participants who have certain medical conditions, including pregnancy, may have heightened risks or may be susceptible to additional risks of injury from softball activities. Fusion Sports Leagues has no particular medical expertise and therefore cannot advise participants as to the risks associated with their participation in softball with a particular medical condition or pregnancy. However, once Fusion staff or officials are aware of a participant that is pregnant, Fusion will not allow further participation from that individual and will provide a refund to that individual if necessary.