

WCSA Softball Rules 8U

WCSA softball is not currently affiliated with any organization (i.e. Little League, ASA, etc.). However, ASA rules will serve as the primary set of rules for WCSA softball except as modified herein. If no modification to the applicable rule is incorporated, the ASA rules will prevail.

1. Max Roster Size: 13 Maximum

2. Age Verification: All players on a team must be registered within the age boundaries of the division they are playing for as of January 1 of that year.

3. Season Format: Per schedule

a. Teams may interleague and travel to other parks.

4. Pitching Distance: Plate @35 feet

5. Softballs: 11-inch softball ASA approved .47 core ball

6. Coaching Staff: 1 manager and 3 adults (coaches/team mom) allowed regardless of number of players. One must stay in the dugout at all times. The manager is responsible for the actions of their assistant coaches and team mom.

7. Mandatory Play: Minimum of 1 at bat and 6 defensive outs. You may play with 10 players on the field. 6 infielders and 4 outfielders. Outfielders must start play on the outfield grass.

8. Time Limits: Games 5 innings or 1 hour, 15 minutes, finishing the inning.

*****Games will be required to play minimum of 4 innings for regulation game or time limit takes effect.*****

9. Coach Pitching, Player Pitcher, Batter, Runner:

A. Coach Pitcher:

- The coach pitcher has to have one foot within the circle. The circle should be 13' in diameter, with the center being the pitching rubber or 35' from home plate. Violation: One warning then removal from that inning
- Once the ball is hit the coach pitcher is to get out of the field of play.
- The coach pitcher will not be allowed to coach the batter as long as he/she remains in the circle. Once a batter becomes a runner (or hit) the coach may continue to coach as long as they are moving to foul territory and does not interfere with the play. Violation: one warning and then removal of coach pitcher from the game.
- Intentional Interference: The coach pitcher will try to avoid interfering with the play after the ball has been hit by moving to foul territory, away from the play. If in the judgement of the umpire, the coach pitcher intentionally interferes with the play:
 1. The ball is declared dead.
 2. The batter is awarded first base.
 3. All other base runners will advance one base if forced by the award of 1st base by the runner.
 4. The batting team is given an out.
 5. No run will be awarded because of the coach pitchers interference. That runner will be the out mentioned above.

- Unintentional Interference:
 1. Dead ball.
 2. No out will be charged.
 3. Forced run may score.

B. Player Pitcher:

- Must stay in the back half of the pitching circle until the ball is hit.
- She must wear a helmet with face guard or a fielder's mask.
- A play will be considered dead once the player pitcher has possession of the ball in the pitching circle, unless she is attempting to make a play. This is an Umpire judgement call. Should the ball be hit directly back to the pitcher and she makes no effort to attempt to get a batter/runner out the ball shall be declared dead at the umpires call. If the runner has reach halfway she will be awarded the next base, if not she will return to the previous base. If it's a force when the dead ball is called she will advance one base.

C. Batter:

- Batter will receive 5 pitches or 3 strikes to put the ball in play or she is out (no walks). Batter has unlimited fouls.
- Batter must have face guard on helmet.
- No bunting, slap bunting, slap hitting, or slash hitting (show bunt and swing away).

D. Runner:

- If a runner has reached or passed the halfway point before time has been called they will be awarded the next base, if not they will return to the previous base.
- A runner must maintain contact with the base until the pitcher has released the ball. A runner may then lead off but not steal the next base. If contact is not maintained a warning will be issued. A second offense will result in the runner being called out. One warning per team per game.

10. Run Limit: 5 run limit per ½ inning.

11. Mercy Rule: 10 run's after 4 innings.

12. Safety Equipment:

- A. Pitchers must wear a fielder's facemask or batting helmet with face guard.
- B. Catchers must have full helmet with throat protection, chest protector and catcher's shin guards.
- C. Infielders are required to wear fielders mask.

13. Batting Order: Will bat full roster.

14. Players Re-enter: Any player who has been removed for a substitute may re-enter the game.

15. Conferences:

- A. Defensive: Two in an inning,
- B. Offensive: Two per inning. Courtesy runner not charged.

16. Base Stealing: Not allowed. Lead offs allowed.

17. Overthrows: Bases are not limited on overthrows.

18. Sliding: A player must slide at home plate if a play is being made. This is an Umpires judgement call.

19. On Deck Batters: NOT ALLOWED. Only the leadoff batter is permitted outside the dugout between innings.

20. Infield Fly Rule: NO infield fly rule.

21. Courtesy Runner: A Courtesy runner can be used with two (2) outs for the catcher. The courtesy runner must be the last recorded out.

22. Replacement player: If a replacement player (pool) is needed they must play the outfield and bat last. Pool players cannot play in consecutive games for the same team. Maximum of two per game.

23. Throwing the bat: A player who throws a bat will be personally warned, the first time by the Umpire, any time after that warning she will be called out. This is Umpire's judgement call.

24. Bat rule: Bat must be marked Official Softball Fast Pitch by the manufacture and not be more than 2 ¼" in diameter. The bat must bear an ASA certified stamp.

25. Cleats: NO METAL CLEATS.

26. Jewelry: All players are prohibited from wearing jewelry during the playing of any game.

27. Disruptive Behavior: WCSA will not tolerate any fighting or disruptive behavior by anyone (players, parents, managers, and fans) during any WCSA sponsored activity at ANY playing Field. THIS RULE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED AND VIOLATORS WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE PREMISES. Any violator not leaving voluntarily will be escorted away by local enforcement authorities and banned from all future involvement in WCSA activities.

28. Weather delays: In the event of inclement weather, or other delays beyond our control, cancellations will be posted on social media (Facebook etc.). All attempts will be made to rescheduled games if season permits.

29. Team Responsibility's

A. Home Team is responsible for furnishing the official scorekeeper, returning the official book to the equipment room, prepping and marking the field before the game and cleaning the dugout/stands after the game.

B. Visiting Team is responsible for operating the scoreboard, returning the control box back to the equipment room, racking the field after the game, and cleaning the dugout/stands after the game.

C. Managers are to ensure that this gets done. First violation will be a warning. Second will be a one game suspension for the manager.