



## Adult Slow Pitch Softball League Rules



All play this season will be conducted in accord with the Amateur Softball Association's *Official Rules of Softball: 2014\**, with the following modifications and exceptions. Also, notable ASA rule changes are included.

### Rule 2. The Playing Field

- All Adult Slow Pitch Classifications shall have a base distance of 70 feet.

### Rule 3. Equipment

- **Metal spikes are prohibited in all league play.** Team uniforms are recommended, but not required.
- For league play, any bat not on the banned bat list below may be used. Men must use a yellow optic cover, red stitch 12-inch ball with a COR of .52 and a compression of 300. Women must use the yellow optic cover, red stitch 11-inch ball with a COR of .44 and a compression of 375. Coed teams must use both balls.
- All bats must meet ASA specifications and requirements. For a list of approved Women's bats, please go to the National ASA website [http://www.asasoftball.com/about/certified\\_equipment.asp](http://www.asasoftball.com/about/certified_equipment.asp)
- Because men use a COR .52 ball, the bat list is different. For a list of non-approved bats in the Men's league, go to [http://www.rollacity.org/parks/schedules\\_standing/banned-bats.pdf](http://www.rollacity.org/parks/schedules_standing/banned-bats.pdf)
- The Men's bat list will also govern Coed play.

### Rule 4. Players, Coaches, and Substitutes

- Teams in Men's and Women's Leagues may compete with as few as **seven** players, but must continue with at least seven players or the game will be forfeited. If a team has fewer than **10** players, the umpire will call an automatic out for each missing batter.
- Teams in the Coed Leagues may also compete with as few as **seven** players, provided that no more than five are of the same sex. Since the sexes must alternate in the batting order, automatic outs will be called for missing batters up through the **tenth** spot.
- Players **not** on a team roster may play for that team, provided that such a starting lineup substitution is announced at the coin flip and that the opposing manager does not object. This rule is intended to help teams avoid forfeits, not to load up with superior players.
- Unreported substitutes will neither be called out nor ejected. However, coaches are reminded that they should report substitutes.
- Men's and Women's teams may add an EP to the starting lineup at any time during the game.

# Adult Slow Pitch Softball League Rules

Likewise, Coed teams may add a **male and female pair** of EPs at any time during the game.

## Rule 5. The Game

- If one or both teams begin the game short-handed, that team with the most players present will be the home team.
- A **one hour time limit** will be in effect for all games. Game time begins when the umpire calls the coaches to home plate for the coin flip, not when they eventually get there.
- The **Run Ahead Rule** for all games is 15 after 3 innings, or 10 after five.
- A game called by the umpire shall be a **regulation** game if four or more innings have been played, or three and one-half innings if the home team is ahead. (Games decided by the Run Ahead Rule will be considered regulation games.)

- **Home Run limits:**

Men's B	6
Men's C and Church, Women's C, Coed C	4
Men's D, Coed D	2
Men's Over-50, Coed Church	1
Men's E, Coed E	0

**ALL** balls hit over the fence by a team in excess of the above limitations per game will be ruled as outs. In Men's E and Coed E, however, any ball hit over the fence will be ruled a half-inning ending out.

In all divisions (except seniors) in which home runs are allowed, the batter and baserunner(s) are not required to run the bases.

## Rule 6. Pitching

- Pitchers may have up to 5 warm-up pitches in the first inning. After that, they get one per inning (exception: relief pitchers may have 5 warm-ups when first taking the mound). Infield warm-up is allowed during the first inning only.
- Pitchers in Senior League may take a position from the front edge of the pitcher's plate to six feet behind the pitcher's plate within the 24 inch width of the pitcher's plate with both feet firmly on the ground.

## Rule 7. Batting

- Batters will begin with a 1-1 count when they enter the batter's box.
- Inadvertent bat throwing: in the interest of safety, any player who releases a bat in a

# Adult Slow Pitch Softball League Rules

dangerous manner after swinging at a pitch may be called out for offensive interference and disqualified for the remainder of the game.

## **Rule 8. Batter-Runner and Runner**

- Players are permitted to steal bases in all Men's and Women's Slow Pitch Classifications. However, players in the Over-50 and Coed leagues are not permitted to steal.

## **Rule 9. Protests**

- A protest must be made known to the home plate umpire at the time the protested incident occurs, and it will be resolved as soon as possible by the Umpire in Chief.

\*Rules **1** (Definitions), **10** (The Umpires), and **11** (Scoring) remain unchanged.

## **Additional Rules for the Over 50 Softball League**

- Players must be 50 years of age or older sometime during the season. If a team feels that a player on another team is not of age, that team must protest the game at the time it is played. The player in question will then be asked to show proof of age at that time.
- A double home plate will be used.
- Free substitution will be used.
- Teams may bat their entire rosters.
- Each team is allowed one courtesy runner per inning. If that runner is on base when it is his turn to bat, he will be called out.
- Teams may play with eleven defensive players.
- Each team is allowed one home run per game.
- A 5-Run Rule will be used. For all games, there will be a five (5) run per inning rule, with unlimited runs allowed in the seventh or final inning. When a team scores 5 runs, the half inning ends. Exception: if more than 5 runs score as the result of an out of the park home run, all runs count and the half-inning ends.