

Rules of Play August 2025

Rules: All divisions will follow USA Softball rules, except as modified below:

- **Pitch Height:** 6 – 12 feet for all divisions
- **Base Path Distance:** USA Softball rules will apply.
- **Game Time:** No new inning will start after 50 minutes. In the event of a tie breaker the 50-minute time period has expired, the game shall proceed as provided below under the “Tie Breaker” section.
- **Stealing:** Stealing is allowed in the Women’s C division only. In all other divisions, stealing is not allowed.

Home Runs: The number of homeruns allowed is defined below. Any homeruns in excess over the limit will result in an out, except in the Open A/B division, where it will be an inning ending out.

- Women’s B/C: 4 homeruns (in excess results in an out)
- Women’s D: 2 homeruns (in excess results in an out)
- Open A: 4 homeruns (in excess results in an inning ending out)
- Open B: 3 homeruns (in excess results in an inning ending out)
- Open C: 1 homerun (in excess results in an inning ending out)
- Open D/E: 0 homeruns (in excess results in an out)

Courtesy Runners: Teams are allowed 1 courtesy runner per inning. The runner may be any player on the team roster. If a courtesy runner is on base and their turn to bat comes up, the courtesy runner shall be called out and they shall bat in their correct spot.

Pitch Count: All batters will begin with a 1–1 count and are allowed one additional foul ball.

Short-Handed Rule: A team must have a minimum of 9 players to start the game. If a team has only 9 players, an out shall not be recorded for the 10th batting slot. If a team has 7 or 8 players, they may pick up 2 or players, respectively. The pickup players must adhere to divisional structure of each division. In the women’s division, the pickup player must be registered in the women’s division. If a player from the team’s roster shows up, they must immediately take the place of a pickup player. (For the interdivisional pickup player exception, see interdivisional play on the proceeding page)

- **Women Division:** Teams may pick up any player from the Women’s Division, as long as their roster, including the pickup player, still conforms to the roster guidelines for their division. Pickup players may only play the following positions: Pitcher, Catcher, or right field.
- **Open Division:** Teams may pick up any player from the open division as long as the individuals rating conforms to the rating guidelines for their division. The player must play catcher or right field.
- **Open D Division:** Pickup players may play pitcher, catcher, or right field.
- **Open E Division:** Pick up players may play anywhere on the field.
- **Women’s Division Pitcher Exception:** Teams without a pitcher in attendance may pick up a pitcher for a game. The pitcher must be on the roster of another women’s division team. The

division guidelines still apply, in which a women's D team can have a total of 3 C-rated players. The team picking up the pitcher is therefore still limited to a total of 3 C-rated players. The pick-up pitcher may therefore be a C-rated player, as long as the total number of C-rated players on the field remains at 3 or less for that respective game. The pitcher may be the 10th player on the field regardless of how many rostered players are present. A team may not sit rostered players who have previously pitched for said team, then claiming this hardship, to circumvent the intent of this pick-up exception. All ASANA Player Drop rules still apply.

Forfeit Time: A 10-minute grace period will be permitted from the scheduled start time for all games of the day. If the game in question is starting more than 10 minutes behind the originally scheduled starting time, the grace period will not be enacted (e.g., original starting time is 11 am, then a grace period will not be observed if the start time was already pushed back to 11:15 am). The grace period will also not be extended beyond 10 minutes of the original starting time (e.g., if a game is running 5 minutes behind the scheduled start time, then a 5-minute grace period can be observed; if a game is 7 minutes behind schedule, a 3-minute grace period can be observed).

Tie Breaker: Any game that is tied after regulation will continue using the following format:

- All women's division, open A/B, and open C divisions will use a Kansas City 1 pitch format.
- The open D and E divisions will continue with the pitch count as defined above (1- 1 count). The last out from the previous inning will be placed as a runner on second base to start any tie breaker inning.

Inter-Division Play: When teams from two different divisions play, both teams must abide by the rules relevant to the lower divisions team (i.e., if a B team plays a C team, the C divisions rules will apply to both teams). If the lower division team is shorthanded, they may pick up 1 to 3 additional players, respectively, to field 10 players and not conform to their divisional guidelines (i.e., an open C team could exceed the division cap). This exception may also apply to the women's interdivisional play as well.

- Interdivision play – D Women's Division: There will be a run limit of 5 runs per half inning imposed upon the upper division team. Once the 5th run crosses home plate the batting team's half of the inning is over. After the 5th inning, the run limit is no longer in place.
- To be permitted on the field of play as a base coach, you must be a member of the CFSL as a player or a non-player. If found to be in violation of this rule, the offender will be asked to leave the field of play.

Batting lineup: The following divisions may have up to 14 players in their batting line up:

- Open B
- Open D
- Open E
- Women's C
- Women's D

