

Heart of America Softball League – Rules of Play

Game Play

- Games are 55 Minutes or a full 7 Innings, whichever comes first.
 - No new innings after 50 minutes.
 - Scorebook – The Home Team scorebook will be the official scorebook.
 - It is encouraged to verify scores after every half inning.
 - All games will start with a 1 ball / 1 strike count
 - Women's – No courtesy foul is allowed – a foul ball on strike 3 is an out.
 - Open – 1 courtesy foul is allowed.
 - Pitch Height – iPride, ASANA and HASL will remain 6' – 12'
 - Batting 12 – Teams may roster up to 12 players on the batting order with 10 playing defense at any given time. All other players shall be listed as substitutes and must be present upon submission of official lineup before the game.
-

Courtesy Runners

- Open Division – Any eligible player on the official lineup may be used. This includes any player listed as a substitute. Courtesy Runner may be used once per inning.
 - Courtesy Runner - WOMEN'S DIVISION ONLY
You may use a courtesy runner twice per inning, once for a non-pitcher and once for the pitcher, once they have reached base. Any eligible player on the official lineup, including available substitutes, may be used as a courtesy runner. A single player may only be a courtesy runner once per inning.
-

Substitutions/Pick-up Players

- If a team finds itself short of ten (10) players on the day of scheduled play, **the coach may pick up a registered and rated HASL member from another team if they are circled on the lineup card**, have their rating written next to their name, and are initialed by an Assistant Commissioner, Commissioner, or Governance for approval.
 - Pickup player(s) will be limited to two (2) per team per game and must not put the team over ten (10) total players for that game's roster. A team is not allowed to bench, substitute, or EH a rostered member of their own team in favor of a pickup player.
-

ADA Player/Runner Rule

- **The approved ADA player must have an asterisk next to their name on the lineup.** The manager must also verbally confirm the ADA player with the umpire at home plate prior to the start of each game.
- When a player utilizes the ADA accommodation at the beginning of a game, t must keep that designation for the entire game.
- The ADA player will be eligible to receive a runner once they have reached fir base and must take the runner each time they are designated as ADA on a lineup card.
- If the ADA player is not in the game, or has been removed from the game and replaced by a substitute, the ADA player may not re-enter the game as a base runner. They must earn the base, as stated above.
- The ADA player is not allowed to advance past first base, regardless of the outcome of their turn at bat.
- Should an ADA player advance past first base to any other bases, the opposing coach/manager may challenge that the player advanced to the next base.
If the challenge is upheld, the ADA player will be out.

- In the case of a dead ball play, the umpire may advance the runner to the proper location and then the ADA runner will be put in place.
-

Inter-Divisional Play

- When games are played between two teams from different divisions, the home run rule for the lower division team will be followed.
 - The lower division will also be spotted five runs to begin the game, unless coaches mutually agree to waive the spotted runs. There will be no runs per inning cap for the higher division.
-

Home Run Rules

- Women's B/C – Unlimited Home Runs Allowed.
- Women's D/E – No Home Runs Allowed – A Home Run hit over the fence will result in an inning ending out.
- Open C – 1 Home Run is allowed – Any additional Home Runs hit over the fence will result in an inning ending out.
- Open D – No Home Runs Allowed – A Home Run hit over the fence will result in an inning ending out. Any player who displays this talent is no longer able to play Open D.
- Open E – No Home Runs Allowed – A Home Run hit over the fence will result in an inning ending out. Any player who displays this talent is no longer able to play in Open D or E.

Short-Field Fences (Field 5 at Happy Rock Park)

For fields with 275-foot fences, the following diversions from USA/iPride/ASANA will apply:

- Open E – Over the fence in the air will be an out.
 - Women's E – Over the fence in the air will be an out.
 - Open D and up – Over the fence in the air will be a ground rule double.
 - Women's D and up – Over the fence in the air will be a ground rule double.
-

Tie Breaker Rule

- No regular season game shall end in a tie. ASA/USA International Tie Breaker Rule will apply.
 - The player who made the 3rd out in the previous inning will start on 2nd base. This player can be substituted in accordance with substitution rules.
 - The inning will start with 0 outs.
-

Mercy Rule / Run Rule – ASA/USA Rules Apply

- 20 Runs ahead after 3 innings
 - 15 Runs ahead after 4 innings
 - 10 Runs ahead after 5 innings
-

ASA/USA Rules and Regulations

- iPride, ASANA and HASL all operate under the rules and regulations for play and equipment as provided by the American Softball Association (ASA/USA) unless otherwise stated.
- Note that the ASA/USA regularly updates their certified equipment list. It is the responsibility of each coach/player participating in HASL to verify that their equipment meets ASA/USA requirements.
- Players/teams using non-regulation equipment risk forfeiting all games in which that equipment is used.