GAME LIMITATIONS

FIVE RUN LIMIT PER INNING
Teams are limited to five (5) runs per inning, except for the final inning of the game in which each team can score an unlimited number. The umpire must announce the last inning unless it is the seventh inning. **(2008 time limit/game rule removed)**

WARM-UP PITCHES
At the beginning of each half inning, or when a pitcher relieves another, not more than one minute may be used to deliver not more than three warm-up pitches. Play shall be suspended during this time. For excessive warm-up pitches, a pitcher shall be penalized by awarding a ball to the batter for each pitch. This does not apply if the umpire delays the start of play due to substitution, conference, injuries, etc. NOTE: A pitcher returning to pitch in the same half inning will not receive warm-up pitches.

CHAMPIONSHIP & PLAYOFF GAMES
** No time limit or 5 run limit per inning in play-off or championship games, defined as:
  a. A Championship game is a game in which the winner is declared champion.
  b. A play-off game is defined as a game where the winning team advances to a championship game.

COURTESY RUNNER

USING COURTESY RUNNERS
Any player on the roster and present may be a courtesy runner if listed on the Official Lineup. A courtesy runner may be used for a base runner at any time, but the same courtesy runner may not be used more than once per inning. Any courtesy runner found running more than once per inning will be called out. Any player on the Team Roster may be a courtesy runner; she does not have to be playing defense or in the batting order.

USING A RUNNER ON BASE
A runner who is replaced with a courtesy runner may not be used as a courtesy runner for the remainder of the inning.

COURTESY RUNNER REPLACEMENT
A courtesy runner may not be replaced by another courtesy runner except for injury causing removal of the original courtesy runner permanently from the game.

COURTESY RUNNER COMING TO BAT WHILE ON BASE
A courtesy runner on base when it is her turn to bat will be declared out. The runner will be removed from the base and a second courtesy runner cannot be substituted. The courtesy runner called out does not lose her turn at bat.

COURTESY RUNNER OFFICIALLY IN THE GAME
A courtesy runner is in the game when she touches the base. If a courtesy runner is determined illegal, she will be called out upon touching the base and no other courtesy runner is allowed. The original runner may not now return as the runner.

RETIRING RUNNER AT HOME
** NON-FORCE SITUATION PLAYING RULES:** A base runner may be retired at Home Plate in a non-force situation. The defensive player must have possession of the ball while touching Home Plate after the runner has passed the Commitment Line, but does not yet have a foot down on or over the Scoring Plate (Scoring Line).

CROSSING OR TOUCHING HOME PLATE/MAT
The runner shall also be called out if she touches or crosses over any portion of the Strike Zone Mat. The ball remains live.

TAG BY DEFENSIVE PLAYER NOT ALLOWED
To score, a base runner must have a foot down on the Scoring Plate or scoring line before a defensive player in possession of the ball touches Home Plate. Tag of the runner by a defensive player will not be allowed. The runner will be called safe and the ball remains live.

* SCORING PLATE
A Scoring Plate replaces the Scoring Line. A foot down on the Scoring Plate prior to the ball being received by a defensive player touching Home Plate is the same as a foot down on Home Plate for the purpose of scoring a run. (See Official Dimensions.)
FIELD LAYOUT

COMMITTMENT LINE
A three (3) foot Commitment Line shall be marked across and perpendicular to the foul line and placed twenty (20) feet from the third base corner of home plate.

SCORING PLATE
The scoring plate shall be of the same composition and have the same dimensions as home plate, and shall be placed with its back tip 9 feet 5 inches from the third-base corner of home plate, and its front edge parallel to that of home plate as shown in the Official Dimensions Diagram. A line shall be drawn from the commitment line to the scoring plate.

FIRST BASE
The double base shall be used at first base. This base is 15 by 30 inches and made of canvas or other suitable material. Half the base is white (over fair territory) and half is orange or green (over foul territory). It should not be more than five inches (12.70cm) in thickness. NOTE: With the double base at first, the following rules should be enforced: A batted ball hitting or bounding over the white portion is declared fair and a batted ball hitting or bounding over the colored portion is declared foul.

a. When tagging up on a fly ball, the white portion must be used.

b. Whenever a play is being made on the batter-runner, the defense must use the white portion and the batter-runner the colored portion. If the ball is overthrown, the batter/runner may use the white portion of the bag to avoid contact or collision. On extra base hits or balls hit to the outfield when there is no play being made at the double base, the runner may touch the white or colored portion.

c. Should the batter-runner round the base on a hit to the infield or the outfield, he must return to the white portion.

HOME PLATE
Home plate shall be made of rubber or other suitable material. It shall be a five-sided figure, 17 inches wide across the edge facing the pitcher’s plate. The sides shall be parallel to the inside lines of the batter’s box and shall be 8 ½ inches long. The sides of the point facing the catcher shall be 12 inches long.

STRIKE MAT
A mat 24” long with a V shaped cut out with the edges 12” long to fit tight with the point of home plate.

STRIKE ZONE
A rectangle 17” x 32.5” which includes the plate (noted above) and the plate extension (mat). Any legally pitched ball not swung at that lands on any part of the plate or mat will be ruled a strike. The shoulder to the knee strike zone has been eliminated.

Above content From Official Senior Softball-USA 2013 Rulebook. Binghamton City Recreational Leagues follow ASA rules. Be sure to have a current ASA Rule Book along with these supplemental rules at each game. The supplemental rules listed in this document supersede any ASA ruling.

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