



2013 SOFTBALL SPRING TRAINING RULES

BATTING CAGES

- Everyone in batting cages must wear a helmet.

OFFICIAL GAMES

There is No Time Limit on Official Games.

COLLEGE

- NCAA rules will be used for all games.
- Home and visitor for each game will be determined with a coin flip at the home-plate meeting.
- Run rule: 8 runs after 4½ or 5 innings
- The International Tiebreaker will be used starting in the 8th inning.
- Line-ups can be straight nine or DP/FLEX.
- No courtesy runners are allowed.
- Defensive Conference Rule: 1 visit per inning
- Re-Entry Rule: Only starters have re-entry privileges
- The orange safety base will NOT be used.

HIGH SCHOOL

- National Federation Rules (NFHS) will apply for games.
- Home and visitor for each game will be determined with a coin flip at the home-plate meeting..
- ASA rules can be accommodated as long as both teams are in agreement at the pre-game home plate meeting.
- The International Tiebreaker will be used starting in the 8th inning.
- The orange safety base WILL be used.
- All games will be played with the 43 ft pitching distance.

	<u>NFHS Rules</u>	<u>ASA Rules</u>
• Run Rule	10 runs after 4½ or 5 innings 15 runs after 2½ or 3 innings	15 after 2½ or 3 innings 8 runs after 4½ or 5 innings
• DP/FLEX	Can be used	Can be used
• Courtesy Runners	Used for pitcher and catcher	Used for pitcher and catcher
• Defensive Conference Rule	3 visits per seven innings	3 visits per seven innings
• Re-Entry Rule	Allow for starters and substitutes	Allow for starters and substitutes
• Cleats	Metal cleats ARE allowed	Metal cleats are NOT allowed (only plastic)

Please note, if teams can not agree, then NFHS rules will be used. It is recommended teams bring both plastic and metal cleats.

NON-OFFICIAL GAMES (informal games)

If both teams wish to play an “informal game” (i.e. unlimited substitutions, batting everyone in the line-up, or other agreed upon rule changes) this can be allowed. Please note, in such circumstances, both coaches must agree at the pre-game home-plate umpire meeting on the specific rule changes. If both coaches can not agree, then a regulation game using standard NFHS rules will apply.

Home and visitor for each game will be determined with a coin flip at the pre-game home-plate meeting. Non-official games will be played, no new inning after **1-hour 45-minutes**. The umpires will keep the time on the field. Games can only be called after a COMPLETED inning.

SCRIMMAGES

Please note, that scrimmages do not have umpires, scorekeepers, scoreboards or announcers. Coaches must agree upon the rules prior to starting, and there is **no new inning after 1-hour 45-minutes**.