



SOFTBALL RULES

Format:

- 10 players (5 male + 5 female)
 - May play with 9 players (4 male + 4 female min.)
 - May play with a minimum of 8 players (4 male + 4 female)
 - Substitute players are ENCOURAGED.
- Double-Elimination Tournament
- 5 inning games (no new innings after 40-minute time limit)
- **Extra Innings** – If game is tied at the end of 5 innings, or after time expires: A new inning will be started, and the player who recorded the last out in the previous inning will start on 2nd base.

Equipment:

- NO METAL CLEATS ALLOWED (Rubber or Molded Cleats, or Tennis Shoes ONLY)
- Game ball will be provided.
- Bats – Bring your own. Must be USSSA, ASA, or NSA regulated.
- Glove/Mitt – Bring your own.

Sport Specific Rules:

- **Batting**
 - The batting order must alternate male/female/male/female
 - 3-Pitch Rule
 - A member of your team will pitch to your batters.
 - You will receive a maximum of 3 pitches per at bat. One of them must be in play (not a foul ball) or you will be declared out.
 - You may only have 10 players in the batting order at a time.
 - The pitcher can be substituted at any time.
 - Base runners must “give up” or slide. MAY NOT run over the fielder.
 - If the ball strikes the pitcher off the bat, the batter is out.
 - Courtesy runners may be used once per inning (must be same sex)
 - If courtesy runner is in batting order, and is still on base for their turn to bat, their at-bat will be declared an out.
 - Bunting is NOT ALLOWED.
- **Fielding**
 - Each team MUST have a catcher. There are no other restrictions to defensive set-up.
 - The runner has a right to the base path. If a fielder disrupts a runners’ path to the base, the runner will automatically be awarded that base.
 - Runner will be awarded one base on an overthrow out of play.
- **Other**
 - **Substitutions** – players may substitute during the middle of any inning. Players that substitute must remain in/out for one full inning.
 - In case of inclement weather, tournament will be modified to 3-inning games.
 - Safety Line: This is an extended first base line, past the plate toward the back stop.
 - Runners advancing to home, will cross this line instead of touching home plate.
 - Runners that touch home plate will be declared out.
 - Plays made at home will be a force out, using home plate as the base.
 - **Mercy Rule** – A team leading by 10 or more runs after 3 innings will be declared winner
 - **Inning Run Limit** – A team may only score a maximum of 10 runs per inning
 - Exception: Team can score unlimited runs in the Final Inning.
 - **Late Team / Forfeit Rule**
 - A team will receive a 10-minute grace period to take the field for their first game only.

SOFTBALL RULES cont.

After your first two rounds, game times are subjected to change. If not present at the start of your game, your game will be forfeited!

Akron Corporate Challenge staff members and officials reserve the right to settle any disputes, as well as, interpret, modify, and enforce all rules and regulations.