

USD Grad Softball Rules

I. League format

- a. 20 teams
- b. 8 weeks
- c. 6 games
- d. 2 or 3 byes
 - i. We will attempt to provide the most equitable scheduling possible; however teams with restricted scheduling times might end up taking more byes than other teams. This is unfortunate but due to the nature of the law school class schedules it is unavoidable.
- e. Playoffs will take place over 2-3 weeks with as many teams as we can feasibly allow based on time/ scheduling constraints.

II. Rosters

- a. No individuals playing for multiple teams
- b. No additions after week 3
 - i. If you do make additions before you need to send them to bservetnick@sandiego.edu
- c. Only 1 significant other player/ Non USD grad student for each team
- d. Forfeit-roster rule: will delay the game 5 minutes, if you cannot provide a team of roster players you have to forfeit, then you can ask others to play and still get in a "pickup game"
- e. Every member of the team must bring an id to each game. This rule will be strictly enforced. If an individual fails to bring an id they will not be allowed to play

III. Standings

- a. Standings will be based on wins, losses and ties. Any ties in the actual standings will be resolved using run differential. (runs scored- runs allowed).
- b. Forfeit losses will result in a final score of 10-0 entered into for the purposes of run differential.

IV. Game play (rules)

- a. outfield rule
 - i. There is a line approximately 15 yards behind what would be the base path. The outfielders must not cross this line until the bat makes contact with the ball.
- b. Positions
 - i. Can have a max of 6 men and 4 women on the field
 - ii. Minimum of 8 players have to have at least 3 women.
 - 4 outfielders
 - o Can have 3 outfielders and a rover or 4 outfielders straight across

- 4 infielders
 - 1 catcher
 - 1 pitcher(because we self pitch, the pitchers position is up to 5 feet in any direction of the pitching rubber)
- c. Once an inning begins only field substitutions are for injury
- d. Self pitch with 3 pitches. Foul balls and low pitches count as a pitch. If you foul off your third pitch or your third pitch is a low pitch you're out.
- e. Only league bats can be used
- f. The batting order must have 1 member between every three members of the opposite sex.
- i. I.e. "guy" "guy" "girl"
 - ii. You can however choose to go "guy" "girl" or "girl" "girl" "guy"
 - iii. You can choose to re-start the lineup rotation between any rotation of guy or girls you choose however the actual batting order must not change or be altered.
 - I.e. you may choose to bat 2 men to start of an inning irrespective of whether the last out was a guy or a girl.
- f.1: Only 2 girls are needed to start a game. If there are only 2 present, the team will play 8 players maximum. Each batting slot that would be the third girl present will be an automatic out.
- g. : You do not need to bat every individual that is in on your roster in attendance for a game.
- i. You can choose to have an unlimited number of Designated hitters (Dh's who only hit and don't play the field; however,
 - ii. Individuals who do play the field must bat
 - iii. You must maintain the current rotation of the batting order throughout the game unless there is a complete substitution.
- h. Batting
- i. Safety bases- there are safety bases at first base and home. Players must run to these safety bases. If they fail to run to the safety base, they can be called out.
 - j. Low pitch- the pitch must go at least 6 feet. If it doesn't, the umpire will call a low pitch and the play is dead and the pitch counts.
 - i. If the team in the field calls "low pitch" the batter is automatically awarded the base.
 - ii. If the team up to bat calls "low pitch" the batter is automatically out.
 - k. There is a commit line 8 feet from home plate on the third base line, if you cross the commit line you must come home and cannot return to 3rd base, if you re-cross the commit line you are automatically out.

- I. Home runs will be the umpires call. Always run the ball out as if it was live.
 - i. Balls going in to the bushes on the fly, or over the wall on Field B, will be Home Runs
 - ii. Balls entering the bushes, not on the fly, that are deemed unplayable by the umpire, will result in a ground rule triple.
- m. Last full inning rule- Last full inning must start before 10 til.
- n. Mercy rule- if the team is ahead by < 10 runs at the end of three full innings the game is over.
- o. Don't- slide, lead off, Bunt, run into 2nd base with hands up, screen fielders attempting to make a play on a ball ect
- p. When in doubt or not specifically usurped by USD grad rules, normal USAA baseball operating rules will govern play.

V. Treatment of Umpires and civility rules

- Treat umpires with courtesy respect
 - o No cussing , screaming, disrespectful comments, ect. Umpires don't get paid enough to put up with the bs so don't be a head ache.
 - o You can be thrown out of the game and asked to leave the field.
 - o If you're a repeat offender or it is an extreme situation I reserve the right to suspend from 1 game to the rest of the year including playoffs.
 - o Fighting will not be tolerated. Any fighting will result in an automatic season suspension for this year and may result in a complete ban from any campus recreation activities.

VI. Alcohol

- NO alcohol at all
 - o 1st time- fan/ player is removed from the week
 - o 2nd time- team forfeits; player is removed from team
 - o 3rd time of any alcohol violation for the team- it will be removed from the league.
- We will have to be very strict this year, so please don't make it an issue. Don't have people bring it to the field. They wont be able to remedy the issue by removing the alcohol, they will have to be removed.