

2008 Playing Rule Changes

Rule 2, Section 1: Junior Olympic Girls 18-Under Class A Fast Pitch pitching distance will be 43 feet

Comment: This permits the Junior Olympic Girls 18-Under Class A Fast Pitch to pitch at the same distance as the 18-Under Girls' Gold Fast Pitch Classification.

Rule 3, Section 1 G: The bat barrel shall be free of audible rattles when shaken. The bat barrel shall not have signs of excessive wear.

Comment: Bat Manufacturers have suggested that this rule will help identify bats that have started to break down internally.

Rule 4, Section 6 D: Delete. The pitcher is not required to pitch until the first batter faced has completed their time at bat or the side has been retired.

Comment: This section is not needed as it is covered in the substitution rule.

Rule 5, Section 9 A 1: Run Ahead Rule Fast Pitch - 15 after three inning, 12 after 4 innings or 8 after five innings.

Comment: This rule expands the previous Run Ahead Rule.

Rule 5, Section 9 A 2: Run Ahead Rule Modified Pitch - 15 after three innings or 10 after five innings

Comment: This rule expands the previous Run Ahead Rule.

Rule 5, Section 9 A 3: Run Ahead Rule Slow Pitch - 20 after three innings, 15 after four innings, and 10 after five innings.

Comment: This rule expands the previous Run Ahead Rule.

Rule 6, Section 1 A: Pitching Regulations Slow Pitch (Seniors Only): The pitcher may take a position from the front edge to six feet behind the pitcher's plate, within the 24" of the pitcher's plate.

Comment: Expands the area where the Senior Slow Pitch pitchers may pitch.

Rule 6, Section 3 A: Pitching Regulations 16” Slow Pitch (16” Only) If a step is taken, it can be forward, backward, or to the side, provided the pivot foot is in contact with the pitcher’s plate and the step is simultaneous with a hesitation or the release of the pitch.

Comment: Helps clarify the pitching rule.

Rule 6, Section 3 G: Pitching Regulations 16” Slow Pitch (16” Only): A pickoff attempt by the pitcher is a hesitation.

Comment: Clarifies that a pick-off attempt is a hesitation and not a pitch.

Rule 7, Section 4 B: Slow Pitch (Seniors Only): Shall use a strike mat that is 24” long and 17” wide. The mat will fit behind home plate joining the plate at 8 ½” from the front edge of the plate. The combined distance of the mat and the plate is a rectangular 32 ½” long by 17” wide. A legal pitch striking any portion of the plate or mat will be a strike.

Comment: Changes the ASA Seniors to play by the same rule as all other Senior Softball Organizations.

Rule 8, Section 3 I: Exception to read....All Adult Slow Pitch. (This does not apply to Masters and Seniors) On a fair batted ball hit over the fence for a home run or four base award, the batter and all runners are credited with a run. The batter and runners are not required to run the bases.

Comment: Added all adult Slow Pitch (Except Masters and Seniors) to the list of classifications not required to run the bases on over the fence home runs or four base awards.

Rule 8, Section 4 F: Slow Pitch: Change Women’s Open to Women’s Slow Pitch

Comment: All Women’s Slow Pitch Classifications are permitted to steal.

Rule 8, Section 4 G: Fast Pitch (10-Under Class B): Remove the entire section from the rule book.

Comment: This removes the previous restrictions placed on the Junior Olympic Girls 10-Under Class B Fast Pitch.

Rule 8, Section 7 I 1 a: Slow Pitch (16” Only) An appeal must be made before a hesitation.

Comment: This clarifies when an appeal may be made in the 16” Slow Pitch Classification.