

USA SOFTBALL™

2019 USA Softball Rule Changes with Comments as of November 11, 2018

NOTE: All changes below are EFFECTIVE January 1, 2019 unless otherwise noted.

Rule 3, Section 6: Remove: Coaches, players and team representatives from displaying the names or logos of other softball associations on their uniforms.

Comment: Allows for other organizations logos to be on players and coaches uniforms.

Rule 3, Section 6A EFFECT 2: (Female Fast Pitch and all Slow Pitch) Ball caps and visors are optional for players. If worn, they may be mixed and must be worn properly, colors to include: black, white, gray, beige or team colors. The colors may be mixed and are not required to be the same for all team members. Handkerchiefs do not qualify as headwear and cannot be worn around the head or neck. Plastic visors are not allowed.

Comment: Allows colors to be mixed when wearing caps or visors in Female Fast Pitch and all Slow Pitch Classifications of play.

Rule 3, Section 6D: An Arabic whole number (0-99) of contrasting color, or outlined in contrasting color, at least three inches high, must be clearly visible on all uniform shirts.

Comment: Revises the requirement for the size and location of the number placed on the uniform jersey.

Rule 4, Section 1C [1c]: When batting up to all roster players, any additional batters shall be listed as an EP and may be listed anywhere in the batting order and may play defense at any position.

Comment: Clarifies where EPs may be listed in the batting order for JO Fast Pitch Pool Play.

Rule 5, Section 3A: All games played using a Time Limit will be considered Regulation Games regardless of the number of innings completed/played.

Comment: Specifies that all games ending as a result of the Time Limit Rule will be considered Regulation Games.

Rule 7, Section 3B: (JO Boy's 14U, 16U and 18U Slow Pitch) The batter shall assume a one ball, one strike count upon entering the batter's box.

Comment: Adds JO Boy's 14U, 16U and 18U Slow Pitch Classifications of Play to those who will start with a one ball, one strike count.

Rule 8, Section 10A [4]: Defensive changes involving the pitcher or catcher must be reported to the Plate Umpire to ensure the correct player may have a courtesy runner.

Comment: Requires teams to report those defensive changes involving the pitcher or the catcher.