

## Helendale CSD Adult Softball Rules Summary

### PITCHING:

- THE PITCHING AREA is the area the width of the pitcher's plate (24 inches) up to six (6) feet behind the back edge of the pitcher's plate.
- Pitching rubber is located 50' from back of home plate.

### BATTING:

- Each teams batting order must rotate sexes. Ex: male/female/male/female
- A teams batting order is preferably 50/50 male/female split. At a minimum the order may consist of a 40/60 male/female split. A team must play 5 females if at least 5 females are present. If a team only has 3 females present, it will be up to team managers to agree and schedule a makeup game.
- 2 females may bat back-to-back, but never 2 men.
- If a male batter is walked on 3 consecutive pitches, the following female batter will also be intentionally walked.
- Strike zone- a pitch that crosses from shoulder to knee as it crosses the plate (plate mat will be in play, so a pitch that hits the mat will be considered a strike)
- Pitch count starts at 1-1 (1 ball and 1 strike)
- A Ball- a ball that does not enter strike zone or hit mat.
- Batters are allowed 1 foul ball per at bat. A second foul ball is an out.
- Balls batted within 4' on either side of the pitcher are called out. Above the pitchers head is allowed.

### COURTESY RUNNER:

- A courtesy runner once per inning, for any player in lineup.
- Males run for males, females for females.
- If a courtesy runner is on base when their it is their turn to bat, that batter will be called out.

### HOMERUNS:

The league is implementing a 1-up rule. A team can only be up 1 Homerun over the opposing team. Any homerun hit after that 1 will be an out until opposing team hits a homerun.

### EQUIPMENT:

- 12" Classic Plus Ball:

I. shall have an optic yellow cover.

II. shall have "USSSA Classic Plus " in 1/8" letters and the USSSA logo with a 7/8" diameter 15

III. shall have lettering and logo in red and the stitching shall be blue and logo shall be applied to be indelible.

IV. shall have a COR up to .52 or less under the ASTM test used under the USSSA Softball License Agreement and

V. shall have a compression between 375 and 225 pounds in weather between 40 degrees and 100 degrees under the ASTM test used under the USSSA Softball Ball License Agreement.

THIS LEAGUE WILL BE USING A .52 -275 12" CLASSIC PLUS BALL

#### **BATS:**

- MEN WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED TO USE WOOD BATS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

THE BAT may be made of hard wood of one piece or laminated from sections of hard wood bonded together with adhesive in such a way that the grain directions of all the pieces are essentially parallel to the length of the bat.

- WOMEN WILL BE ALLOWED TO USE ANY APPROVED USSSA BAT

- I. Bats will be legal for USSSA sanctioned play only if the bat is manufactured by an approved USSSA bat manufacturer on the USSSA approved bat manufacturer list (kept by USSSA and published and made available by means including, but not limited to, the USSSA website) and has the new USSSA mark (kept by USSSA and published and made available by means including, but not limited to, the USSSA website) on the taper of the bat. Wood bats made on the approved USSSA bat manufacturer list shall be legal without regard to this section E.2.
- II. BATS MUST HAVE USSSA STAMP ON TAPER OF BAT. ALL BATS WILL BE INSPECTED PRIOR TO START OF GAME BY UMPIRE. ANY BAT WITHOUT STAMP WILL NOT BE ALLOWED AND WILL BE REMOVED FROM GAME. ANY PLAYER USING NON-SANCTIONED BAT WILL BE CALLED OUT AND BAT WILL BE REMOVED.
- III. Worn/Abused/Damaged/Foreign Substance Bats Not Allowed in USSSA Sanctioned Play.
  1. No bat is legal for USSSA sanctioned play, if it is damaged in any way. Damaged bats include those with damage to the knob or end cap, those which have loose knobs or end caps, and those with cracks or dents in the bat material. For example, if the end cap is in any way loose or appears damaged, the bat should be removed from play for being a damaged bat. If an end plug has come out or the knob has come off, the only way that such bat is legal in USSSA play, is if the knob or end cap is replaced by the manufacturer. Replacement by anyone else results in an altered bat with potential suspension for the owner/ user of the bat.
- IV. No bat is legal for USSSA sanctioned play, if any of the graphics of the bat have worn off. For example, even if the only graphics that have worn off are not key graphic information and are only items such as the patent no., a manufacturer logo, or the approval mark of another association, the bat should be removed from play for being too worn. NOTE: The bat shall not have exposed rivets, pins, rough or sharp edges, or any form of exterior fastener that would present a hazard. Bats shall be free of rattles, dents, burrs and cracks.

#### **THE GAME:**

Sec. 1. THE CHOICE OF FIRST OR LAST BAT in the inning shall be decided by a double toss of a coin, unless otherwise stated in the rules of the organization under which the schedule of games is to be played. In tournament play, in the championship game, the undefeated team gets the choice of home or visitor. If the tournament goes to an "if" game, it would revert back to a toss of a coin.

Sec. 2. THE FITNESS OF THE GROUND for the beginning of the game shall be decided by the home team in cooperation with the umpire, Tournament Director, the umpire-in-chief, and/or the management of the facility. If no home team has been previously designated, such as in tournament play, the umpire, with the advice of the Tournament Director, makes the decision. After the umpire has started a game, he shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground, or the intensity of the weather, for continuing play.

Sec. 3. A REGULATION GAME shall consist of seven innings, unless otherwise listed below.

A. Seven full innings are not played if the team second at bat scores more runs in six innings or before the third out is made in their half of the seventh inning.

B. A game that is TIED at the end of seven innings shall be continued, by playing additional innings until one team has scored more runs than the other at the end of a completed inning or the team second at bat scores more runs in their half of the uncompleted extra inning.

C. A game called by the umpire, during regular season play, which cannot be resumed within 30 minutes, may be regulation if four or more innings have been played or if the team second at bat has scored as many or more runs during the uncompleted fourth inning.

D. A regulation game shall be declared if the score is TIED when the game is called after four or more completed innings, or if the team second at bat has equaled the score of the first team at bat, while batting during any uncompleted inning.

**MERCY RULE:**

THE GAME WILL BE CALLED IF ONE TEAM IS DOWN BY A CERTAIN NUMBER OF RUNS AT THE COMPLETION OF THE INNING

20 AFTER 3 INNINGS

15 AFTER 4 INNINGS

10 AFTER 5 INNINGS

### **League Rules:**

1. Any fighting will consist of removal from the league (every party involved)
2. Excessive drunkenness will result in removal from the game (for your safety and the safety of others around)
3. Please refrain from arguing with the umpires. All players must understand umpires may make mistakes from time to time.
4. Friendly banter should be just that, friendly. Excessive, rude and/or derogatory comments will be met with a warning. If behavior continues after warning, the umpire will remove you from the game.
5. No drinking on the field or in dugouts.
6. Dugouts required to be free of trash after each game.
7. Plastic or Rubber cleats only. No metal spikes allowed.