

2017
TRI-TOWN LEAGUE SOFTBALL RULES
MAJORS

1. Games are 6 innings. A new inning cannot begin 1 hr 45 min. after start of the game. (Coaches need to speak with each other 1 ½ hours into the game to decide inning clarity and also make the umpire aware)
2. 10 players on the field – 4 infield, 4 outfield, pitcher and catcher
3. Must have 7 players to play game
4. All players must play 3 innings, unless bottom of 6th is unnecessary
5. Players not playing 3 innings must start the next game
6. Pitcher may re-enter once per game
7. All Players must bat
8. Maximum 5 runs per inning (except last inning)
9. Mercy rule – 8 in 5 innings (4 ½)
10. No advance on throw back to pitcher
11. Passed balls, but no third strike rule
12. Stealing allowed: Stealing home IS allowed, except on a passed ball.
13. Defense at 1B and 3B cannot advance closer to home plate than 40 ft. (past the pitcher)
14. Bunting is allowed. No slashing. No slap hitting.
15. Infield fly rule is in effect
16. No intentional walks.
17. Modified players are allowed to play, they are NOT allowed to pitch
18. If player or coach is ejected, they will be suspended for the next game and subject to possible supplementary discipline.
19. League Commissioners responsible for game cancellation
20. Sportsmanship Rule: No singing or chanting once the pitcher is in the circle. Positive encouragement for your teammates is allowed otherwise
21. Pitchers' are to wear a safety mask
22. Courtesy runners are allowed for pitchers & catchers (runner should be the last recorded out)
23. Pitching mound set at 40 feet
24. Runners must slide to avoid collision on a play (umpires discretion)
25. Coaches can (should) warm up their pitchers
26. Games cannot end in a tie. In the event of a tie, the International Tie Breaker will be implemented.
27. Seeding for playoffs will be determined by season record. In the event of a tied record the following will be used: 1. Head-to-Head 2. Runs scored by team tied with (Runs scored on your team by the team you are tied with)
28. After all games, winning team must report score to Christina Radicchi 607-206-9163 (text) or email Cradicchi@stny.rr.com
29. Adolescents are allowed to coach bases, but must wear a helmet.

The "international tiebreaker" rule refers to the extra-inning rules set by the International Softball Federation. If a game under ISF rules is tied after seven innings or time given for the game, the tiebreaker rule is put into effect. The intent of the rule is to bring extra-inning games to a speedier conclusion.

The International Tiebreaker Rule

Starting with the eighth inning, the offensive team begins the inning with the ninth hitter in the batting order placed on second base. According to ISF rules, "the player who is running can be substituted in accordance with the substitution rules." In Amateur Softball Association events, the tiebreaker may be used in tournament pool play games after 1 hour and 40 minutes -- even if the game hasn't reached the seventh inning.

The Tiebreaker and Strategy

By starting an inning with a runner on second base and nobody out, the offensive team can bunt the runner to third base. This forces the defense to pull its defense in and creates a variety of ways to score. While the international tiebreaker is an effective way to speed an extra-inning game to its conclusion, it can be a difficult way to lose a game. This is why its usage is limited in the U.S. college game.