



Short List of RA Rules for Umpires – 2019 Season

All Umpires

- 1) When you are cancelling games due to weather, inform the RA East Wing Desk with diamond # and what game time(s) 613-733-5100 ext 360 or 361
- 2) Any ejection, incident or injury, please complete a Softball Ontario report and forward it to RA Centre League UIC and EOUSA Respect My Game Chair
- 3) At the end of the game, sign both team's score sheets and mark start and finish time

All Leagues (Slo-Pitch & 3-Pitch)

- a) RA By-laws/house rules supersede Softball Canada/Slo-Pitch Ontario rules
- b) 15 minute grace time from SCHEDULED start time
- c) Metal cleats not permitted
- d) Protests must be made prior to next pitch, legal or illegal
- e) Home run rule – 1 over the fence home run per team per inning. Each additional home run is an OUT, play is dead, runners do not advance. Ball tipped over the fence by a defensive player is ruled a 4 base award and does not count against the home run rule.
- f) Courtesy runner rule – 3 per team per game. CAN NOT start from home plate, batter must reach 1st base safely. Male for male, female for female. Last out of the same sex. NO designated injury runner rule.
- g) Late arriving players are inserted offensively at the bottom of the order. Defensively cannot enter during an opponent's at bat.
- h) Commitment line & safe line in effect. Force play at home, Defensive player must be on white home plate ONLY. Tag permitted between 3rd & home.
- i) 3rd strike foul – batter is out
- j) 75 minute time limit. Start an inning, finish an inning.
- k) Maximum number of runs per inning is 7 for innings 1-6. 7th or last inning as determined by the umpire is unlimited.
- l) Sliding is permitted – safe & smart.
- m) No stealing – anticipation leave is permitted when the ball enters the hitting area. No runner should be called out for leaving the base no matter the number of steps taken unless they leave the base prior to the ball entering the hitting area “lead-off”
- n) To commence a game, a team must have a minimum of 8 players, of which at least 3 must be female. If only 8 players, 9th spot in the batting order is an out, 10th is not.
- o) Maximum number of players on the field is 10 – maximum 6 males. At no time, can 7 males be on the field defensively. If playing with 9 players (6 males & 3 females), a male has to play the catcher position until a 4th female enters the game
- p) Any runner stepping on the white home plate/black mat is called out, even on an over the fence home run. Exception – when attempting to avoid a collision with the catcher
- q) A batted ball contacting the white home plate or black mat and continuing into fair territory is a fair ball
- r) Infield fly rule in effect
- s) Umpires discretion on jewellery
- t) All bats must meet the current certification standard and be free of dents or rattles to be used.
- u) Thrown bat rule – when the bat slips from the batters hands after a swing 1st offense – warning 2nd offense to same batter – out & ejection. If serious enough – out & eject immediately without giving an additional warning

3-Pitch League

- a) Outfielders CAN NOT come into the infield nor can infielders come in towards home plate past the baselines until contact is made when a female is batting. Stop play and move them back.
- b) Batter hits their own pitcher with a batted ball – batter is out, play is dead.
- c) Batting order can be M/F (F/M), M/M/F (F/M/M) or F/F/M (M/F/F). Can not change during the game, and at no time can 3 males bat in a row.
- d) Pitchers may throw from 10 feet in front of the pitching rubber *amendment to RA 3-Pitch rules #9 on page 9
- e) For safety reasons, please move the black slo-pitch mat into the dugout during the game. Do not leave it leaning up against the backstop in the field of play.

Slo-Pitch League

- a) Batting order must alternate M/F (F/M). At no time can 2 males bat back to back, even if using the automatic out.
- b) Male or female batter walked on 4 straight balls with no strikes, advances to 2nd base (MUST TOUCH 1ST BASE ON THE WAY). Next female or male batter has the option of batting or taking a walk.
- c) A pitched ball not swung at first hits the white home plate or black mat = STRIKE. Ball hits ground first = BALL
- d) Fielders can position themselves anywhere on the diamond in fair territory. Can approach on the batter before contact if they wish.
- e) If the pitcher is HIT with a batted ball and acting in self defense, batter is out, ball is dead, runners cannot advance. Can be a line drive or a ground ball. If the pitcher is in a position to field the ball and they are hit, ball is alive. Discuss with captains at the pre-game conference on how you will call this
- f) Walk-off home run rule permitted with approval of both captains at pre-game conference.
- g) Pitcher does not have to be in contact with the pitching rubber. Use the pitching box – BEHIND the pitching rubber and in the chute. For safety, DO NOT allow the pitcher to start from IN FRONT of the pitching rubber.
- h) If there is no batter's box at the front of the batter's area, the batter's back foot must be completely behind the front edge of the strike mat, and at the back of the batter's area, the batter's front foot must be completely in front of the back edge of the strike mat. This is for the protection of the pitcher

Nights of Play

Slo-Pitch League – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Sunday

3-Pitch League – Thursday

Game Times

Mondays to Thursdays - 6PM, 7:15PM, 8:30PM & 9:45PM

Fridays – 6:30PM, 7:45PM & 9PM

Sundays – 5:30PM, 6:45PM, 8:00PM & 9:15PM

Link to full RA Centre League rules: https://www.racentre.com/media/2522/softball_rulesguidelines_2019.pdf