

## Spokane Parks & Recreation Department Modified Pitch Softball - Spring 2016



Tuesday Division: ASA 9-Player rules (including pitching) with Limited Bats

### Pitching Point of Emphasis

The pitcher must have BOTH feet in contact with the pitcher's plate to begin the pitching position.  
Once in the pitching position, the pitcher may NOT take a step back or to the side;  
the first step from the pitcher's plate must be FORWARD, toward the batter.

### Limited Bats:

Any ASA-approved **\*\*WOOD\*\*** bat.  
Female players may use any ASA-approved metal or wood bat.

### Balls

Game balls must be the balls provided by SPRD as part of the team registration fee.  
Each team must provide one of these balls - NEW - for each game.

### Home Team

The first time two teams play each other, a coin toss shall be used to determine Home team;  
Home team will alternate thereafter for games between those teams.  
The scorebook for each team shall indicate Home and Visitor, for reference in future games.

### Time Limit; Tie Games; Rain-outs

Time limit per game is **1 hour 45 minutes**.  
The umpire and/or scorekeepers should start a game timing watch when "Play Ball" is first called.  
If there is a significant delay during the game, or a team is stalling, the umpire should temporarily stop the timing watch.  
The umpire should try to keep the game moving ("hustle in and out").

If an inning starts before the time limit is reached, that inning shall be played to completion.  
If the time limit is exceeded and the score is tied, the score at the end of the PREVIOUS inning determines the winner;  
If the previous inning score still results in a tie, the game will be recorded as an official tie.

If a game is ended by the umpire due to rain or other causes AND the game is a regulation game:  
(1) If the game is called during the bottom of the 5th (or later) inning, AND the Home team is ahead,  
then the final score is the score at that point.  
(2) If the game is called during the bottom of the 6th (or later) inning with the score tied,  
AND the Home team was behind but then tied the score during that inning, then the final score is the tie score.  
(3) If neither of the above applies, then the final score is the score at the end of the PREVIOUS inning  
(which may be a tie, resulting in an official tie game).

If the umpire ends a game and it is NOT regulation, the game shall be re-scheduled  
and resume at the exact point where it was stopped.

Refer to 5.3 REGULATION GAME in the REFERENCE to determine if a game is Regulation.

REFERENCE: "ASA Participant Manual 2015 Official Rules of Softball"

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### Rule Modifications - refer to the REFERENCE

#### 4.1.D. **Shorthanded Rule**

- 1.C. "NO out will be recorded when the vacant position in the batting order is scheduled to bat."
- 2.D. "If the player leaving the game is on base, the player shall NOT be declared out, and the last preceding batter not on base may run for the departing player.  
If the player leaving is the current batter, the player shall be declared out."
- 2.E. "When the player who has left the game is next scheduled to bat, an out shall be declared (may end the inning or game); after the first such out, NO out shall be declared for the departed player's remaining at-bats."

#### 4.3. **Designated Player**

- A. [additional wording]:  
"If the manager does not know who will be DP when creating the initial line-up, the name of the DP may be left vacant.  
The DP name must be given to the umpire and scorekeepers prior to DP's first appearance in the game.  
If the DP has not been named prior to the DP's first at-bat, any legal substitute (including the FLEX player) must take the DP place in the batting order, using the substitution rules contained in this Section."

#### 8.10. **Courtesy Runners (Fast Pitch / Modified)**

Parts A. - F. are quite restrictive (and somewhat confusing); replace them with the following:

"A courtesy runner may run for ANY on-base player.

Only ONE courtesy runner may be used in a half-inning,  
unless the manager of the defensive team, upon request, allows a second courtesy runner in that half-inning.

A courtesy runner shall be a player who has not been in the game AND who has not previously been a courtesy runner;  
if such a player is not available, the courtesy runner must be the last preceding batter not on base."

To minimize the delay between half-innings, managers should try to use a courtesy runner for the catcher (or pitcher) when that player is on base with two outs.