

## PLAYING RULES AND CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

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## PLAYING RULES

### 1. LINE UP CARDS

- 1.1 Lineup cards should be used for each game (league and playoff) and can be obtained from Softball Ontario, Softball Canada or other sources.
- 1.2 A 4-part lineup card must be used. 1 copy to the opposing team, 1 copy to the Home Plate Umpire, 1 copy to the official scorer, if there is one, and 1 copy for yourself.
- 1.3 Uniform numbers, defensive positions, and first and last names are to be on the lineup cards.

### 2. START TIMES

- 2.1 Teams should be at the diamonds at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time in order to warm up properly and to complete their lineup cards.
- 2.2 There shall be a minimum of 25 minutes between OUS doubleheader league games and the time may be longer or shorter if both teams agree.

### **3. UMPIRES**

- 3.1 An Umpire-in-Chief (UIC) is required as per the OUS/Softball Ontario Letter of Understanding.
- 3.2 There must be 2 carded umpires at all games.
- 3.3 Umpires must either be Softball Ontario or Softball Canada carded.

### **4. UNIFORMS**

- 4.1 Minimum uniform will be matching tops. Team name displayed on matching uniform tops worn in-game must be the school name/mascot of the university which the team represents.
- 4.2 At this time, we will not stop teams from having sponsor logos on their uniforms, so long as the logo is not a "billboard". Teams should note that the Ontario University Athletics and the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association do not allow sponsor logos or recognition on game uniforms.
- 4.3 Logos on warm-up shirts/jackets are allowed.
- 4.4 There is no set colour that a team must wear.
- 4.5 Players do not have to wear matching sliding shorts or caps.
- 4.6 In case of inclement weather, over-wear may be worn but all players must be able to produce a number, if requested by a coach or umpire, matching the one listed on the official lineup card.

### **5. EQUIPMENT**

- 5.1 A safety base must be used at first base.
- 5.2 The official ball must be used in all league games and the OUS Championship Tournament. The official ball is Worth Red Dot; YellowPX2RYLC,0.47 Core 12'ball.
- 5.3 The host will provide 1 new ball and 1 good, used ball for each game.

### **6. DIAMONDS**

- 6.1 Diamonds must meet a minimum set of standards as set out by the diamond committee and must include:

- Fences (covers included)
- Baselines
- Outfield
- Player benches/Dugout area
- Washrooms (Port-a-potties are acceptable)
- Diamonds are groomed
- Lines – Fair/Foul

- 6.2 Any teams found to be hosting on diamonds that do not meet the minimum standards will forfeit all games played on that diamond. Note: Playing on backup diamonds, that do not meet the minimum standards, is allowed as long as both coaches agree.
- 6.3 The host team must have permits for all diamonds, including the backup diamonds. Permits must be carried by the host team.
- 6.4 All diamonds must be lined properly, as per the current Softball Canada Rulebook.
- 6.5 All diamonds must be approved by the OUS Executive by May 1<sup>st</sup> each year.

## **7. LENGTH OF GAMES**

- 7.1 If teams are tied after 7 innings, teams will immediately move to the International Tie Breaker.
- 7.2 Once a game has started and is called due to darkness, weather, or other circumstance, an official game will be at least 5 innings.
- 7.3 Should darkness, weather or some other unforeseen circumstances arise prior to the starting of a game, a game may consist of 5 innings but both teams must agree to play 5 innings prior to the start of said game.
- 7.4 Should weather become a major factor in getting games completed, the host team has the right to reschedule the times of games, and the games may consist of 5 innings.
- 7.5 A regulation tie game shall be declared if the score is equal when the game is called at the end of five or more completed innings, or if the team second at bat has equaled the score of the first team at bat in the incomplete inning, reverting to Playing Rule 7.2 and may only be deemed a regulation tie if the game is called due to darkness, weather, or other extenuating circumstances that prevent the game from going to International Tie Breaker as per OUS policy for tied games.
- 7.6 A game that is tied and not played out to the International Tie Breaker rule will result in

both teams being assessed a 0-7 loss in the standings, with exception to Playing Rule 7.2.

- 7.7 A game that is not played out through 7 full innings for any reason, with exception to Playing Rule 7.2, will result in both teams being assessed a 0-7 loss in the standings.
- 7.8 A game which falls under Playing Rule 7.6 or 7.7 will have the 0-7 loss assessed immediately, with no opportunity to complete the game later in the season.