



New York State **SOFTBALL OFFICIALS** Organization, Inc.

RULES

A. DESIGNATED PLAYER (DP)

1. When the coach submits his line-up, check **the** number of players.
2. FLEX (DEFO) must be listed 10th in the order.
3. Mark the starting DP slot - this will be the "HOT" spot in the line-up.
4. Any 9 players may play offense at any time AND any 9 players may play defense at any time with the following exceptions:
 - a) the DP and the DEFO can never play OFFENSE at the same time;
 - b) the DP can never play DEFENSE only;
 - c) the FLEX (DEFO) can never play OFFENSE only.

B. RE-ENTRY

1. All players (including substitutes) may re-enter ONCE, but only in the same batting slot from which they departed.
2. The starting player and her **substitute** CANNOT be in **the** order at the same time.
3. **If the DP is used:**
 - a) the FLEX (DEFO) can only enter the game offensively in the starting DP slot;
 - b) if the DP enters the game defensively, the person replaced defensively becomes **the OFF()** ("Offense only or "temporary DP") and both players retain their same batting slots.
4. PENALTY: DISQUALIFY the offending player.

C. SUBSTITUTIONS

1. All substitutes must be reported to the plate umpire.
 2. A substitute shall be considered in the game when a pitch has been thrown or a play made. If a substitute enters the **game** without reporting, there is no penalty.
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USE PREVENTIVE OFFICIATING - do **NOT let violations occur!!!!**



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NEW YORK STATE SOFTBALL COMMITTEE STATE RULES & NYSSO INTERPRETATIONS

No jewelry, which includes visible body piercing objects, shall be worn in softball. Any piece of jewelry, that is visible at the start of or during a contest, is in violation of the NYSPHSAA Jewelry Rule. Religious medals must be taped to the body and under the uniform. Medical medals must be taped to the body so they are visible. Soft, pliable barrettes are permissible, body gems are not.

Wearing of HELMETS is mandatory for batter, all baserunners, on-deck batter and student coaches. All batting helmets must be NOCSAE approved and MUST have the exterior warning label:

"Do NOT use this helmet if the shell is cracked or deformed or this interior padding is deteriorated. Severe head or neck injury, including paralysis or death may occur to you despite using this helmet. No helmet can prevent all injuries or any neck injuries a player might receive while participating in baseball or softball."

Double-ear flap helmets for catchers are MANDATORY.

The pitching rule governing "hands coming together" shall be interpreted as follows: "the ball must be inside the glove" (i.e. merely touching the outside of the glove with the ball does not satisfy the rule).

The tie-breaker rule (after 9 innings) will be employed (i.e. it is mandatory).

There is NO PENALTY for an unannounced sub!!!

It will be OPTIONAL for each SECTION to ADOPT a "run rule" with a minimum of ten runs, to terminate an official softball game. The "run rule" must be in compliance with Rule 5 - Section 3, par. a-f of the A.S.A. rule book. The "run Rule" can be used for J.V. and Varsity teams and will NOT be used beyond Sectional play.

"BLOOD-RULE" Interpretation/Clarification: on back of this page.

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TO: Section Executive Directors

FROM: Sandra E. Scott. executive Director

of "Excessive" Bleeding

As you are aware, all National Federation game rules have a *section on player's bleeding*. All use the term "excessive" when referring to **Oh** amount of blood on the uniform. To date we have not had a statewide problem in the interpretation of 'excessive blood on uniforms. Preferring to *be* in a position of *readiness for situations which may arise*, the NYSPHSAA will interpret 'excessive blood' on a uniform as follows:

Excessive blood on a uniform will mean that the part of the uniform involved is saturated with blood. Saturated does not mean a wet spot. Saturated means a major portion of the garment is covered and soaked through with blood. *For* this to occur a serious injury would have had to take place. This rarely happens during an *entire* season of competition.

For any blood on uniforms less than 'saturated', the uniform does not have to be changed. *School personnel* have the responsibility of treating the bloody area with the appropriate disinfecting solution before the athlete may participate. if the uniform **is** "saturated" with blood, the uniform must be *changed* before the athlete may participate.

'rhea interpretations are to be followed *in* the conduct of all NYSPHSAA, Inc. **contests.**

co: Sport Coordinators
Presidents of Officials Organizations