

WPFGB ABRIDGED RULES - SOFTBALL - Slow Pitch - Page 1

GUIDING BODIES

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Slo-Pitch National
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M9W 5R7

EVENTS

MEN; OPEN: Division A
 Division B
 Division C

MEN: SENIOR (B) (35 & over)

WOMEN: OPEN
Pooling will be allowed in the womens softball only

CO-ED: Six (6) males and four (4) females on field.
Positioning Option: Co-Ed with extra players (EP) all players may bat while maintaining a 3 to 2 ratio of males to females

MEN'S SENIOR (B) AND WOMEN'S COMPETITORS MAY ENTER THE CO-ED EVENT. MEN'S OPEN COMPETITORS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO COMPETE IN THE CO-ED DIVISION.

In all events, rosters are limited to a maximum of 20 players plus one (1) Non-Playing Coach (or manager). This coach may be sworn or non-sworn (within WPFGB guidelines). Sworn officers acting as Non-Playing Coaches have the option of paying the sport entry fees when submitting their entry form; thus becoming eligible to receive a medal should their team place.

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EQUIPMENT

Softballs - Two new ISF-approved balls per game will be supplied by the Host. **The type of ball selected must be approved by the WPFGB Director for Softball.**

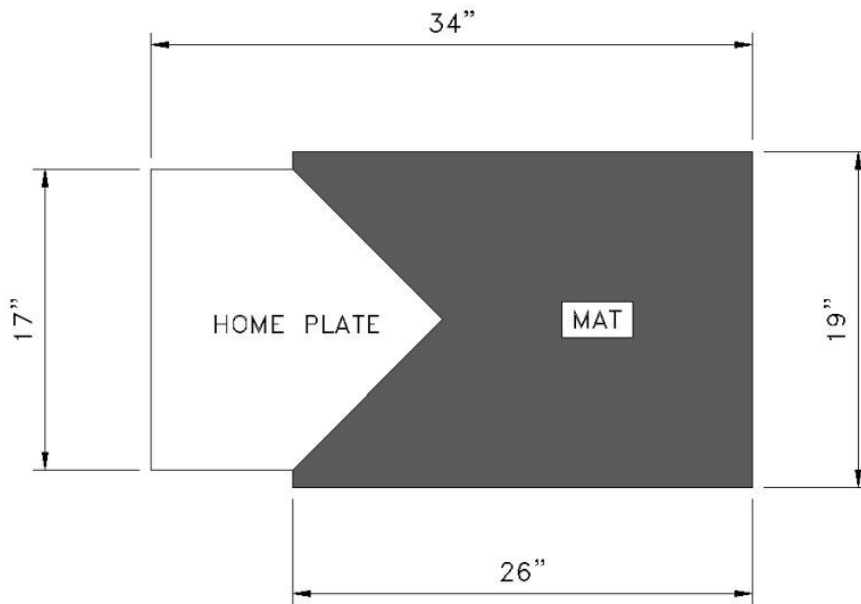
Women: Open batters shall use an 11 inch softball when batting. Balls to be used: Spalding 44 Core (leather cover) or Worth 44 Core

Men: Open and Senior (B) batters shall use a 12 inch softball when batting. Balls to be used: Spalding 40 Core (leather cover), Worth 40 Core, or First Star 40 Core.

COED: Men and women batters shall use a 12 inch softball when batting. Balls to be used: Spalding 40 Core (leather cover), Worth 40 Core, or First Star 40 Core.

Bats - all bats must be stamped as ASA2000 or ASA2004 approved and not be found on the ASA Non-Approved Bat List (attached). Any athlete using an illegal bat will be disqualified from the entire tournament along with the coach of the team at fault.

Mat - One (1) per field. Home plate and the mat will form a "17 x 34 inch" rectangle (43.18cm x 86.36cm). See figure below. The mat shall be black or green, if possible (provided by the Host). See diagram below.



BRACKETING

Note: Round Robin, Pool Play (pools), & Group Play (groups) are three common terms to describe the SAME formats of play. In these rules, Group Play (groups) will be used.

Women, Co-Ed, Men Senior (B) tournaments will be played in Group Play format, followed by a Double Elimination Play-Off. If 7 or fewer teams enter, the tournament will be a single Group Play with no additional playoffs.

Men's Open:

Placement in Divisions A, B, and C will be determined by the result of Group Play.

When placing teams into groups, top seeds from previous games will be placed in separate groups.

After Group Play, the teams will be divided into 3 divisions. The top two teams from each group will be placed in Division A, third and fourth place teams will be placed in Division B, fifth and sixth place teams will be placed in Division C.

A Double Elimination playoff in each division will follow to determine medal winners.

TEAMS ARE GUARANTEED 5 GAMES UNLESS IMPOSSIBLE DUE TO REGISTRATION NUMBERS. PLAYOFF FORMAT WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE NUMBER OF ENTRIES

The WPFGB Director for Softball may change the Bracketing if appropriate.

In determining standings within each group, the following criteria will be used:

1. Won-loss record
2. Head to head
3. Run differential: to determine run differential, the scores of all games within the group shall be used.
4. Runs allowed
5. Runs scored
6. Tie breaker game
7. Blind Draw (Men's Open A, B, C only)

A forfeited game will be considered a 12 runs to 0 runs game, with the forfeiting team receiving a minus 12 score for the purpose of run differential.

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SCHEDULING

Recommended scheduling for Softball is as follows:

Men's Open: Group Play on Day 1, Day 2, and Day 3 with the playoffs to follow the completion of Group Play on Day 4, Day 5, and continuing Day 6.

Co-Ed: Group Play on Day 4 and Day 5 with playoffs to follow the completion of Group Play on Day 5 and continuing on Day 6.

Women's Open: Group Play on Day 1 and Day 2 with the playoffs to follow the completion of Group Play on Day 2 and continuing on Day 3.

Men's Senior (B): Group Play on Day 1 and Day 2 with the playoffs to follow the completion of Group Play on Day 2 and continuing on Day 3.

All games, except those games which determine a medal winner, will be played with the following limits:

Time limits: All games 1 hour 10 minutes (no new inning will start after 1 hour 10 minutes). Exception: If after five innings, if one team is 12 runs ahead the game will be called.

There will be no time limits for medal games and the game leading to the medal round.

Ties: All games will be played out to determine a winner. International Tie Breaker – the last official out of the inning will be placed on second base. Play will continue until a winner is determined. Refer to ISF Rulebook.

GENERAL SPORT RULES

Mat - The mat/home plate combination will be used to define strikes. If the ball lands on the mat or home plate the umpire will call a strike. The mat is not home plate. A scoring runner must touch home plate.

Foul Balls - A foul ball after two strikes is an out.

Courtesy runner [Men's Senior (B) only] - If a batter is unable to run the bases due to injury or infirmity, a courtesy runner is permitted. The courtesy runner will be any player on the same team as the batter, and may only run once. Only three courtesy runners will be allowed per game. This substitute does not affect the playing status of the batter. Only one (1) courtesy runner is allowed per team per inning. Courtesy runner for Women's and Co-Ed are also allowed but limited to seven players, with men running for men and women running for women as per the SPN Rules.

Uniforms - All players shall wear similar color and style shirts with an Arabic number of contrasting color at least 6 inches in height on the back. No players on the same team may

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wear identical numbers (Numbers 03 and 3 are examples of identical numbers.) Players without numbers will not be permitted to play.

Only rubber cleats are permitted. No metal cleats or spikes will be allowed.

Home Run Rule (WPFGB Rules)

Men's Open A, B, C And Men's Senior (B)	Match +2: no team may score more than 2 more homeruns than the opposing team (any additional – automatic out)
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Women's Open	Unlimited home runs per game
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Co-ed	Men: Match +2 (any additional – automatic out). Women: unlimited home runs per game
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Home runs hit in excess of the limits above are automatic outs.

Protests will not be received or considered if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of an umpire.

Players, coaches, managers or other team members will not make disparaging or insulting remarks to or about opposing players, officials or spectators; or, commit other acts that could be considered unsportsmanlike conduct. This includes behavior on and off the field at the softball venue. The penalty for violations by a player is, at minimum, prompt ejection of the offender from the game/venue, and may include suspension from future WPFGB. If a player is ejected from the last game of the tournament, the player may be suspended from future WPFGB. The offender must leave the field.

A MANDATORY MEETING WILL BE HELD THE DAY PRIOR TO THE START OF THE TOURNAMENT. A coach or representative from each team must be present at this meeting. The Sport Coordinator, WPFGB Director for Softball, and the Umpire-in-Chief for the tournament will discuss the tournament rules and answer any questions.