

GAME RULES

- A team must have at least 9 players to start a game. If playing with only 9, the 10th spot is an automatic out until another player arrives. Teams may bat up to 12 players. If a team starts with 10–12 players and loses one with no substitute, an out will be recorded each time that player's spot in the lineup comes up.
- Game time limits: Pool play – no new inning after 50 minutes; Elimination games (including Championship) – no new inning after 55 minutes.
- Home Team Rule: In pool play, home team is decided by coin toss. In elimination games, the higher seed is home; if seeds are equal, a coin toss decides. In the championship, the undefeated team is home. For the "IF" game, a coin toss determines home and visitor.
- Count starts at 1 ball, 1 strike with no extra foul allowed.
- Home Run Rule: C Open/Legends Division = 1 HR, D Open/Legends and E Divisions = 0 HR. Any home run beyond the limit is an inning-ending out. On the Des Moines field, a ball must clear the left field netting to count as a home run.
- Courtesy Runners: In Open C, D, and E, one per inning, any player on the lineup card (including bench players) may run. Legends C/D will be allowed two per inning. Players with approved Player Inclusion Policy (PIP) status must be listed on the lineup card. The courtesy runner for a PIP player must be the last out and does not count toward the courtesy runner(s) per inning limit.
- Run Ahead Rule: Game ends if a team leads by 20 runs after 3 innings, 15 runs after 4 innings, or 10 runs after 5 innings.
- Ties stand in Pool Play; the international tiebreaker applies in elimination games.
- Double Elimination Seeding: Seeds are based on record, head-to-head results, run differential, and runs allowed, in that order. Seeds are then assigned to predetermined spots in the elimination bracket.
- Only USA Softball approved bats are allowed. Any illegal bat found during a game will be confiscated, returned after the game, and noted on the lineup sheet. If the same bat is used in later games, the team will forfeit that game. All plays involving the illegal bat will be governed by USA Softball rules.
- Big League Dreams: Audible music players/speakers and smoking/vaping are not allowed in the park. Refer to Park Policies.