

# WOMEN'S USA SOFTBALL DIVISION

## SUMMER LEAGUE RULES

1. Official playing rules are the [USA Softball – Rules of Softball](#), with the following noted or added exceptions:
2. Players must be 16 years of age or older.
3. The first team listed on the league schedule is the home team and provides a new game ball and a back-up ball. The home team will keep the official scorebook.
4. **ROSTERS** – New players can be added or transferred to another roster up to the FIFTH week of the season (week 5). Players may be on only one roster.
5. **Pick-up Players** – Teams are permitted to add or substitute a maximum of two players as follows:
  - A. **Pick-up players must be on a League/USA Softball roster by the FIFTH week of the season (week 5).** No exceptions for this rule will be made.
  - B. The opposing teams must be made aware of and agree on pick-up players prior to the start of a game. Consent must be proven with a **Pick-up Player Consent Form**, which is to be signed by both team managers and the player(s).
  - C. **If the opposing team does not give consent to the proposed pick-up player(s), the game will be ruled a forfeit.**
  - D. Use of pick-up players without an opponent's consent is illegal, and grounds for forfeit.
6. **4<sup>TH</sup> STRIKE FOUL RULE** will be used for the Women's Summer League. Players will not be counted out if fouling out of play with 2 Strikes, but will on the next Strike or Foul Ball (4<sup>th</sup> Strike).
5. The minimum number of players needed to start and finish a game is eight (8).
6. Three (3) forfeits in a season will automatically disqualify a team from further league participation without a refund.
7. A ten-run rule will be in effect in all league games after the trailing team has a chance to bat in the 5<sup>th</sup> inning.
8. **No player is to be smoking on the playing field or dugouts. Alcohol is NOT allowed in the Skagit Valley Playfields Complex.**
9. Teams are allowed to bat their entire roster.
  - A. **Injury** – if a player leaves the game and/or facility due to injury that spot in the batting order can be dropped/pinched in the batting order without penalty.
  - B. **Ejection** – if a player is ejected from a game that spot in the batting order will NOT be allowed to be dropped/pinched and will be considered an out if there is no available substitute.
10. Courtesy Runners will be defined as:
  - A. Any player injured during the game may have a courtesy runner. A player who registered the last out that her team made will be the courtesy runner.
  - B. One courtesy runner may be named prior to the start of a game. The courtesy runner in this instance will also be the player who registered the last out that her team made. If at the start of the game with no outs the player at the bottom of the batting order will be designated the courtesy runner.
12. **Only USA Softball approved bats** may be used. Check USA Softball certified equipment at [Certified USA Softball Equipment](#).
13. **1-AND-1 Count for Batters** – In USA Softball all batters shall assume a one ball, one strike count upon entering the batters box.
14. **TIME LIMIT** – A one (1) hour and ten (10) minute time limit will be imposed on all league games. **No new inning will start after one (1) hour, unless the game is tied. At this point the International Tiebreaker will be used (Each team comes to bat with a player on 2<sup>nd</sup> base that was the last player to make a plate appearance in the previous inning.). The final round of the evening will have a one (1) hour and fifteen (15) minute time limit!**
15. **A TEN-RUN RULE** will be in effect in all league games after the trailing team has a chance to bat in the 5<sup>th</sup> inning.
- NEW** 16. **FACEMASKS** – Must be worn by pitchers.
17. **Rain Out Infoline** – Call 360-416-1361 x1
18. **NO METAL CLEATS** are to be worn at the Skagit Playfields!!

No warm-ups are to occur on any of the paved walkways through the Playfields. Avoid throwing towards areas that people are congregating in.

Misconduct will not be tolerated. Managers and coaches are responsible for their team and fans behavior.