

WOSL Rule Amendments and Modifications U-10 Division 3-24-17

National Federation of State High School Association

Players cannot be 11 before January 1st of the current year and must be in grade 4 or lower.

Any parent ejected from a game will also have their daughter ejected from the game. The player must also serve a one game suspension.

Rule 1: Sec 1, Art 1 (Number of Players & Innings)

- Each Team is permitted 5 terms at bat.
- Each team must start with 8 players but may not field more than 10 players in the field at one time. The defense may not have more than 6 players in the infield with any infielder closer than 30 feet when the pitcher releases the ball.
- Each player must play in the field a minimum of 2 innings. No player shall play the entire game until each player plays 2 innings.
- Any player playing down a grade is ineligible to pitch or catch.

Sec 2, Art 1, a. (Field & Distances)

- 1) Mandated distances between the bases shall be 60 feet.
- 2) Between the rear tip of home plate and the front edge of the pitchers plate shall be 35 feet.

Rule 2, Sec 56, Art 4 (Strike Zone)

- We will use a slow pitch strike zone which is any part of the ball that crosses any part of the plate and is between the top of the highest shoulder to the bottom of the knees.

Rule 3, Sec 1, Art 3 (Substitution)

- Players may re-enter more than once.

Sec 3, Art 1, o, note (Sportsmanship Rule)

- No coach or player may address or refer to another team's player by name or by any term that identifies another member of an opposing team for the purpose of harassing, ridiculing, embarrassing or intimidating.

Rule 4, Sec 2, Art 2 (Complete Game)

- a) 3 full innings have been completed
- b) play has gone beyond 3 innings

Art 3 (Run limit, Run Rule & Time Rule)

- a) There will be a 5 run limit in effect for each team from the 1st inning through the 4th inning. There is a 7 run limit in the 5th inning. Therefore, if a team is winning by 8 or more runs going into the 5th inning, the game is called.

- b) No new inning shall be started after 1 hour and 40 minutes of playing time has incurred. Playing time begins with the first pitch. The Time limit will be enforced during the first 2 rounds of the tournament. After the 2nd round of the tournament there will not be a time limit.

Sec 3, Art 1, f & g (Forfeit of Game)

- Cannot provide 8 players to start and finish the game

Rule 6, Pitching

- Girl pitches until 4 balls on batter, then coach (team hitting) pitches. No walks. Assumes strike count. The coach should have at least one foot on the pitching rubber when delivering the pitch.
- Hit batter – runners take first. 3 hit per inning, replace pitcher. 5 per game, can stay in game but not pitch.
- Penalties/Infractions – Each pitcher shall be warned after committing an illegal pitch by the umpire. After the first warning, the pitcher may be called for an illegal pitch by the umpire and the penalty shall be a called ball or the result of the play. The opposing coach has the choice.
- No player may pitch more than 3 innings per game. 1 pitch constitutes an inning.
- Any player playing down a grade is ineligible to pitch.
- **The pitcher must be parallel with the pitching rubber with at least one foot located inside the pitching circle when the opposing coach is pitching.**

Rule 7, Sec 1, Art 1 (Batting)

- All players will bat in a continuous batting order. If a player is unable to bat when it's their turn for any reason, an out shall be recorded.
- Bunting is allowed. The defense shall not have any player within 30 feet when the pitcher releases the ball.

Sec 4, Art 1, h

- There is no infield fly rule.

Rule 8, Sec 1, Art 1, b (Batter-Runner)

- There is no drop 3rd strike rule in effect. All third strikes are an out regardless if the ball was caught or not.

Sec 4, Art 1

- Runners may advance to second or third base with liability to be put out on any wild pitches, passed balls or overthrows from the catcher returning the pitch back to the pitcher.
- Stealing of 2nd & 3rd is permitted once the ball crosses the plate. No stealing on coach pitch. One stolen base attempt per pitch per runner.
- Leading off is not allowed until the ball crosses the plate.

- The only way a runner on third may advance to home is:
 - 1) A batted ball.
 - 2) Hit batter with the bases full.

Sec 9, Art 1

- Courtesy runners will be allowed for the catcher or if a player is injured and cannot run the bases, the last person to record an out shall take her place as the base runner.
- Chattering in the field is allowed, but the players may not yell swing at the batter. Cannot direct cheers to one particular player.
- No metal cleats allowed.

WOSL Sliding Rule

WHEN A RUNNER (OTHER THAN A BATTER-RUNNER APPROACHING FIRST BASE) IS APPROACHING A BASE WHERE A FIELDER EITHER HAS THE BALL OR IS ABOUT TO CATCH THE BALL, IT IS THE RUNNER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO AVOID CONTACT WITH THE FIELDER BY EITHER SLIDING OR ATTEMPTING TO EVADE THE FIELDER. A RUNNER WHO FAILS TO SLIDE OR ATTEMPT TO EVADE THE FIELDER MAY BE CALLED OUT EVEN IF HE/SHE IS NOT TAGGED OR THE BALL IS NOT HELD BY THE FIELDER. A FLAGRANT ATTEMPT TO CRASH INTO THE FIELDER TO BREAK UP THE PLAY MAY ALSO RESULT IN THE RUNNER'S BEING EJECTED FROM THE GAME.

The intent of this rule is to avoid injury. If a fielder has the ball and is waiting to make a tag, the runner must slide, return toward his previous base, or attempt to run around the fielder. This will prevent the fielder's being blindsided by the runner or the ball.

Please note that the rule does NOT say that the runner must slide. The runner must slide or attempt to avoid contact, which can be done by trying to return to a previous base or run around the fielder. Of course, in these instances, rules about running out of the baseline to avoid a tag still apply. There are going to be some times when the runner is going to be out and there isn't much he/she can do about it.

Even between bases, a runner must still attempt to evade a tag; he/she may not run into a fielder who has the ball or is attempting to play the ball.

If a fielder neither has the ball nor is playing the ball, the fielder must stay out of the runner's way. Otherwise, "obstruction" may be called.

In all cases, the invocation of this rule is a judgment called by the umpire. Umpires should be instructed to call this rule as firmly and consistently as practical, but it remains within the umpire's discretion not to invoke this rule when there is negligible, incidental contact.

If most cases where a play is about to be made on a runner, the runner is more likely to be safe if he/she slides, so the rule encourages good play as well as safe play. In any case, if players are instructed to slide at a base when there is any possibility that a play may be made on them, there will be very few instances of controversy.