

Rules for CA Softball Festival

International Softball Federation (ISF) rules will be in effect with the following modifications:

Equipment, playing field and game length

Ball - A 12 inch yellow leather ball will be used.

Distances – 40 feet (12.19m) pitching distance, 60 feet (18.29m) between bases.

Between bases - 60 feet (18.29m)

Pitching – 2 distances will be marked. 40 feet (12.19m) *WJAA* and 50 feet (15.24m) *APAC*

A pitcher may elect to pitch from either distance but must not change within the inning

Game length

- 7 innings or 75 minutes, whichever comes first. After the 75 minute mark, the inning will be played to its completion.
- 7 run limit per inning except in the last inning
- Game will end if a team is ahead by 15 or more runs after the fifth inning. As this is a festival, teams may elect to continue playing until 75 minute mark has been reached, however, scoring will not continue.
- 40 seconds between innings. Players should run on and off the field between innings
- Extra innings will be played to break a tie will be played, regardless of time. Last batter from previous inning will start on second base.

Home team will be determined by a coin toss at the beginning of the game. Team listed first on the schedule will take the 3rd base bench.

The Game – batting, running and pitching regulations

- Strike zone is home plate + the mat behind home plate.
- Batter is out if:
 - ball lands on the strike zone BEFORE an attempted swing by the batter
 - bat is thrown dangerously
 - ball is bunted or chopped downward
 - a foul ball is hit on the 3rd strike
- **Runner is out if she leaves the base before the ball is hit. (no lead offs or stealing)**
- Dead ball – once the fielding team has control of the ball in the infield and play has ended, plate umpire will call time after which the base runners may not advance.
- A legal pitch must be between 2m and 4m, (6 feet and 12 feet). If the ball is flat or too high, the ump will call “Ball” immediately (before the ball arrives at the batter). However, the batter still has the option to hit. If the ball is missed, it is considered a strike.

Ground rules:

- Over throw at first or third base – extra base IF ball is NOT playable.
- Runners over-running first base must use the orange safety base.
- A home run will be awarded if the ball is hit over the outfield fence
- A ground rule double will be awarded if a hit ball becomes unplayable, at the discretion of the plate umpire.
- For safety reasons, the runner may touch the mat instead of home plate.