

West Metro Senior Softball 2019 National Division Rules

- Play 2 innings at a time.
- Play two, 9 inning games. No inning starts after 65 minutes. When the score is tied at end of the last inning within time limit, game ends as a tie.
- Visiting team will be listed first on the schedule.
- Play 10 or 11 players in the field, 12 if managers agree.
- If 12 players, the 2 short fielders, the shortstop and 2nd baseman cannot play on the same side of a mid-field line from home to second to the outfield.
- Leading team can only go up by five runs in the 9th inning, or last inning if time limited. If visiting team goes up by 5 in the 9th, the home team can only tie.
- Flip-flop if home team is behind by five or more runs in the last inning.
- 3 ball, 2 strike count and one Courtesy Foul allowed.
- No home run limits.
- Pool players – lowest team in standings gets preference unless numbers dictate otherwise. If teams are tied, decide by coin flip.
- If one team has more players than the other, they will give players to balance numbers, within one player. (Manager given choice of three by opposing manager)

PINCH RUNNING

- A player can only pinch run once per inning. If pinch runner is caught on base when it is his turn to bat – he is out.
- If walked, batter can get a pinch runner, then bat again, or take the base.
- No pinch runners from home. Batters must advance themselves to 1st base and then a pinch runner is allowed. If a situation occurs when a batter needs a pinch runner for one at bat only, such as a leg cramp, the last batter out pinch runs.

PITCHING

- Pitching screen required or must use mask and shin pads.
- Top of screen placed 12 feet from rubber.
- Pitcher must face batter and hold ball 1 second before pitch. No quick pitch to catch batter when not ready. Called a no pitch.
- Arc on pitches- minimum 6 ft. to maximum 12 ft.

Modifications to the above rules can be made, if opposing managers agree. This should be done only for specific situations, not permanently changing the above rules. For example, bases are slippery due to rain; managers may agree that a runner can step near a bag for safety.