

West Metro Senior Softball 2019 National Division Rules

- Play two, 7 inning games. No inning starts after 65 minutes.
 - At the end of the 6th inning, a Flip-Flop will be played if the Home team is behind by 5 or more runs.
 - The 7th inning will be an open inning for both teams.
 - If the game is tied at the end of 7 innings, ONE extra inning will be played, using International tie-breaker rules.
 - Each team will bat once, with the last batter from the previous inning starting the inning on second base.
 - Each team can score up to 5 runs in their extra inning.
 - If the score is tied after the extra inning, the game will be a tie game.
- 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.
- 3 ball, 2 strike count and one Courtesy Foul allowed.
- No home run limits.
- If walked, batter can get a pinch runner, then bat again.
- Pool players – lowest team in standings get preference unless numbers dictate otherwise. If teams are tied, decide by coin flip.
- If one team has more players than the other team, they will give players to balance numbers, within one player. (Manager given choice of three by opposing manager)

PINCH RUNNING

- 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.
- 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 used in 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.