

## 2012 NATIONAL SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION SLOW PITCH RULE CHANGES

1. RULE 3 SECTION 3 EQUIPMENT/BASERUNNING  
RULE 8 SECTION 5(d)  
Add PENALTY to the existing rule:  
Penalty shall read: If illegal glove or mitt is involved in a play, delayed dead ball and 3 bases awarded to batter; unless the ball is deflected by illegal glove or mitt and goes over the fence, then coach can take result of play. If illegal glove or mitt is spotted prior to a play, umpire has the player remove glove or mitt and resume play.
2. RULE 3 EQUIPMENT  
SECTION: 6(f)  
Addition to existing rule  
Addition shall read: Once a team has won home team by the uniform rule, said team must remain in compliance for the duration of the game. No player not in uniform will be allowed to play at anytime during the game.
3. RULE 4 SECTION 10 PLAYERS/SUBSTITUTIONS/BATTING  
RULE 7 SECTION 3  
Delete existing rule/Add new courtesy runner rule  
Rule shall read: The courtesy runner can be any player on the team roster. A courtesy runner may be used once per inning per team. The courtesy runner will be identified to the umpire before play resumes. Once play resumes (time is released) that courtesy runner will be officially entered. If that courtesy runner comes to bat while on base, it is an out. The courtesy runner may not be substituted for. A defensive team may walk to get to that out.
4. RULE 7 BATTING  
SECTION: 10(d)  
Clarify existing rule.  
To correct Section 10(d) under Effect to read as: Rule 7 Section 7(a-d)  
The ball is dead. A strike is called on the batter for each foul ball, including the third strike. Baserunners must return to their bases without liability to be put out. Baserunner may not advance on a third strike foul ball, including a legally caught foul ball; however all runners may advance on any other legally caught foul ball.
5. RULE 8 BASERUNNING  
SECTION: 9(k)  
Addition and clarification to existing rule.  
Add to the last sentence the following: Batter/runner is awarded first base; and all runners advance one (1) base if forced.  
Clarification to Effect:  
Effect shall read: Ball is dead; batter/runner is awarded first base and all runners advance one (1) base if forced.

6. SENIORS/MASTERS SOFTBALL

PART IX

NSA MASTERS SOFTBALL

Move 40 and over and 45 and over from Masters Softball to Seniors Softball and all applicable rule changes excluding the Senior bat rules.

7. RULE 5

THE GAME

Delete existing Classification rule/add new classification rule.

1. Open Division: everyone is eligible
2. Upper Division: no more than 3 Men's Class B or higher players allowed.
3. Lower Division: no more than 3 Men's Class C players allowed. No Class D or higher players allowed.
4. Teams that have a player who has played Class B in the current or previous season will be ineligible for the Lower Division.
5. Players not a current NSA or any prior roster will be classed by the State Director with the exceptions:
  - a. Any player listed on Associations current Major Player list or any list that deems the highest classification of that Association will not be allowed in either the Lower or Upper Divisions, they must play in the Open Division.
  - b. Any player on a prior NSA roster, but not on a current roster cannot be classed any lower than where they could have played in the current season. Example: A player that played Class B in 2006 and has not played since, can only be classed Class C or higher for the Masters program.

8. RULE 5

THE GAME

Delete existing Home Run Rule/Add new Home Run Rule

Home Run Limits

1. Open Division 6 home runs-one-up home run rule
  2. Upper Division 3 home runs-one-up home run rule
  3. Lower Division 1 home run-the first home run over the limit will be declared an out and any subsequent home runs will have the progressive penalty in effect
- \*EFFECT: If the tournament director is running a combination tournament, the run rule used will be 1 home run and 1 up home run rule

