

Waterloo Softball Association (WSA)

Senior Softball League (SSL)

Tuesday Morning League 2025 Players Rules

No Dogs, puppies or pets are allowed inside the softball complex. Facility RULE.

League games will be played on Tuesday mornings. If there is a rainout, the game will be made-up on the following Thursday morning. If there is a rainout WSA, SSL Directors will make that decision and the Directors will contact the team managers to inform them of the rainout. The team managers will contact their players to inform them of the rainout.

Pitchers **MUST** wear a facemask when playing the pitcher position. Pitchers can **NOT** wear a batting glove on their pitching hand.

No metal cleats are allowed. WSA RULE.

Only managers or player representatives can approach the scorekeepers with questions during the game. NO players!

Different SSL team managers will be diamond supervisors each week. The diamond supervisor's names will be posted with umpires and scorekeepers: **Only** team player representatives can discuss issues or batting averages, with umpires, scorekeepers or supervisors.

Every player **MUST** play a minimum of 2 innings in the field per game.

The GAME:

5 run limit per team, per inning until the last inning, which is the open inning. In the open inning, teams can score as many runs as possible before committing 3 outs or outscoring the home team.

Games will play 7 innings.

The Flip – flop Rule: If the visiting team is ahead by 10 or more runs at the end of the 6th inning the Flip – flop rule is automatically implemented to start the 7th inning. Visitors stay in the field and home team stays up to bat to start the 7th inning.

TIE GAME INTERNATIONAL RULE: If the game is tied after 7 innings - we will only play 1 more inning. IF the game is tied after the international inning the game remains tied and the game is over. The last BATTER from the previous inning will become a base runner starting off at 2nd base.

Upon a hit to the outfield that lands in the grass, the batter/runner cannot be thrown out at 1st base from the outfield.

Defensive Rules

There is an **OUTFIELD line** mowed in the outfield. Outfielders cannot cross the Outfield line until the ball is hit. Infielders must stay on the dirt until the ball is hit.

No Shifts in the playing field. Defense must have 2 infielders and 2 outfielders lined up on each side of the 2nd base.

There is **NO** switching defensive players positions in the field based on the batter that is up to bat during an inning, exceptions are for an injured players and pitchers that may be switched or replaced at any time.

Batting Rules

The count is 1 ball and 1 strike when the batter begins their at bat. One Courtesy Foul is allowed.

Any foul tip that is caught by the catcher is an OUT, regardless of the height of the foul ball.

The 2nd HOME RUN hit by a team over the fence will be counted as a double, not a home run. All subsequent home runs are also doubles.

Base Running Rules

Base runners can overrun 1st, 2nd and 3rd base and not be called out IF they run straight through and return to the base without making a move towards the next base. If a player overruns a base and there is an overthrow, the runner can advance without going back to touch the previous base. A player/runner may over run 1st base after leaving 1st base to return to 1st base.

WALKS

If a batter receives a walk, they have the choice to stay at bat and put a substitute runner on 1st base **OR** take the walk. If the batter receives a second walk the batter must advance to 1st base.

Game situation: Bases are loaded and 4 runs have scored. The batter receives a walk which scores the 5th run. The inning is over. The batter has the option to lead off the next inning **OR** not bat. However the batter must declare his decision to the scorekeeper immediately after the walk.

Bases are loaded and a batter receives a walk and chooses to stay and bat: A Substitute base runner must go to 1st base and all other base runners must physically advance to the next base.

Scoring at Home:

A base runners foot must cross the "scoring line" at home to score a run. If the runner touches "home Plate" the runner is **OUT**.

A base runner rounds 3rd base but has NOT crossed the "commitment line", the runner tries to return to 3rd base that runner **can be** tagged out at 3rd base.

Once the base runner has crossed the "commitment line" the base runner cannot be tagged out in the area between the "commitment line" and the "scoring line" at home. The base runner is out if the throw to home is caught by the catcher and the catcher touches home plate before the base runner touches the "scoring line." **NO** Collisions at Home plate.

The Catchers foot may be on the plate or matt for an out to be recorded at home plate.

Substitutes / Courtesy Runners:

A player or manager must declare at the beginning of the game if a player cannot run after batting. (Unless there is a legitimate injury during the game.)

A player can be a courtesy runner only **ONCE** per inning.

If a player has been running for himself during the game, he cannot have a different faster runner run for him in the later innings UNLESS he is injured and cannot run for himself.

If a team needs a substitute player at the start of a game and after the game has started a rostered player shows up: The rostered player must enter the game as a hitter and fielder. It is then up to the substitute player to decide if they wish to continue playing the game as a hitter/batter only.

Any player who is being picked up by another team that is short players to play in a game as a substitute; That player will have the **choice** to have his "On Base Average" (OBA%) count for that game or not count. The player **MUST** declare to the scorekeeper whether or not to count their at bats prior to the start of the game.

Sportsmanship:

Three Sportsmanship Awards are given to players in the Red, White and Blue divisions at the end of the year award ceremony. The players are selected by a vote of the SSL managers, scorekeepers, and umpires.

Certificates will be awarded to players in each division for Top-3 hitters and to the players with .600 and .700 On Base Average (OBA) or above. Players need to play in a minimum of 7 games to qualify for a batting percentage award. Any combination of hits, walks, or reaching base by an error, all count towards OBA.

A Sacrifice Fly; where the base runner tags up from 3rd base after the ball is caught and advances home safely, the Fly ball does not count as an at bat for the batter. It does not affect the batters OBA.

Every player **MUST** play a minimum of 2 innings in the field.

If a player swears at an umpire that player may be ejected from the game," no warnings" are required by the umpire. If you are ejected from the game it's just for that game. If a player is ejected for a rule violation the ejection is just for that game.

Our scorekeepers do a great job! If a player wants to challenge their OBA , they can write out their challenge and submit it in an envelope with \$10.00. After the review **IF** the player is "correct" the \$10.00 will be refunded and the error corrected. **IF** the player is wrong the challenge will be explained to the player and the player will lose the \$10.00.

WSA Rules:

Unsportsmanlike Conduct / Abuse of umpires--- No participant shall at any time lay a hand upon, push, shove, strike or threaten to strike an official or other participant. Abusive language that is directed towards Umpires and members of the opposing teams will not be tolerated. IF you are ejected it is just for that game. **IF you are ejected from the complex:** you cannot play in any WSA league games for one week and you will not play in the next SSL game.

The WSA and SSL board has the option to review all incidents. Enhanced penalties could also include suspension of up to 1 year or lifetime bans from the complex depending on severity and frequency of the incidents.

For Further Senior Rules Check the Senior Softball website: Seniorsoftball.com

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Cut along the dotted line or detach the last page:

PLEASE SIGN and Return with your Registration Sheet:

I have read the WSA Senior Softball League Rules and agree to abide by them as written up, agreed to and voted upon by the SSL manager's board.

Name _____ Date _____