



Cornell University Intramural Sports

Summer Softball Rules



Intramural Sports Handbook

All participants are required to adhere to the policies of the Intramural Sports Program. Our policies are discussed at the Mandatory Captains Meeting and are available online.

Fields

- All games will be played on the Jessup Intramural Field Complex located at the intersection of Jessup Road and Triphammer Road.
- These fields are only available for Intramural Sports contests- open recreation is available on North Campus behind Appel Commons.

Timing

- Game time is forfeit time. Teams must be ready to play at the scheduled game time. However, if one team is ready to play they may choose to wait ten minutes for the other team to arrive. A team arriving after the ten-minute grace period will forfeit the contest.
- The length of each game is seven innings or 75 minutes, whichever occurs first. An air horn will signal the beginning and end of the time. At the time the ending horn is signaled, teams will finish playing that inning (unless it is the bottom of the inning and the home team is ahead).
- Games will end if one team is leading by 15 runs after the 4th inning or 10 runs after the 5th inning.
- Ties will stand during the regular season. Extra innings will be used in the playoffs for the Competitive Division if necessary.
- Games that have completed four innings and are suspended for any reason will be considered a complete game.

Players

- All players must be affiliates of the University and must present a valid Cornell ID card.
- A minimum of eight players must be playing at all times. A maximum of ten players may be in the field, and an unlimited number of players may be included in the batting order.
- All teams must have a catcher and pitcher.

Start of Play

- The team captains will determine which team is home and which team is away.

Equipment

- All players must wear athletic attire (no sandals, shoes, jeans, or jewelry).
- Metal cleats are prohibited. Molded or plastic cleats are legal.
- ASA approved bats must be used. Baseball bats are not allowed.
- Catchers are required to wear the provided mask.
- Players must provide their own glove.

Batting

- There is no bunting. Batters must take a full swing at the ball. Any player who bunts or chops the ball fair or foul is out and base runners may not advance.
- Throwing the bat is illegal.

- An infield fly occurs when all of the following conditions occur:
 - The batter hits a fair fly ball (not including a line drive) that can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort.
 - There are less than two outs in the inning.
 - There are runners on 1st, 2nd, or bases loaded.
 - When all three conditions are met, the batter is out immediately, whether or not the fly ball is caught. The ball is live and runners may advance at the risk of the ball being caught.
- Substitutions may be done in one of two methods but not a combination of both.
 - The first method allows for substitutions to be made at any time. If a player leaves the game in favor of a substitute, that player may only reenter the game at the same batting position after one full rotation. When a team starts with less than ten players, any late players may be added at the end of the batting order at the time of their arrival without any penalty being assessed.
 - The second method allows teams to bat with an unlimited number of players. The batting order will contain as many players as desired. Any ten players within the order may play the field in a given inning.

Pitching

- Each team will pitch to the other team. Batters will start with a 1 and 1 count.
- Balls and strikes will be called using the strike mat. If the ball touches any part of the strike mat or the home plate a strike will be called. This determination is to be made by the batter and the catcher.

Base Running

- Pinch runners are not allowed. If you bat, you must run (unless permanently removed from the game with an injury).
- Stealing and leading are illegal. If a runner is off the base before the pitch reaches the plate, the ball is dead and the runner is out.
- It is illegal to run outside the base path to avoid being tagged out.
- During a double play runners must slide into the base or get out of the way of a thrown ball. When a base runner fails to comply with this rule, both runners are out.
- If the ball goes out of play the base runner is awarded two bases from the base they possessed at the time the ball was thrown.

Inclement Weather

In the event of game cancellations, team captains will be notified with an email from the Intramural Sports staff and a message will be posted on our website. Please assume that games will be played when the weather is questionable- we will do our best to notify team captains if we cancel.

Sportsmanship

One of the major goals of the Intramural Sports is to provide all participants with a safe, fair, and enjoyable playing environment. It is an expectation of our program that all players will exhibit appropriate sportsmanship. Unacceptable conduct should be reported to the staff immediately.

All rules not specifically covered in this document will be enforced as ASA Softball Rules.

Umpires are not provided for Summer Softball.

Upon mutual agreement prior to the start of each game, team captains may choose to modify the rules (permitted the safety of all players is not compromised in any manner).