

NEW SOFTBALL CANADA RULES COMMENCING 2013 – FASTPITCH ONLY

Rule 2 Section 4

On any live ball, with a play made from first base foul territory, the batter-runner and the defensive player may use either base. When the defensive player uses the “Foul” portion of the double base, the batter-runner can run in fair territory and if hit by a throw from the foul side of the first base, it would not be interference.

COMMENT: The runner may run inside the running lane (in fair territory), when the ball is fielded from first base foul territory. If he/she is hit by the ball he/she is not out, unless he/she commits an intentional act to cause interference like throwing up arms or moving a hip into the thrown ball

Rule 3 – Equipment

The Official Softball:

- g. A 12” ball with a COR of 0.52 or less shall be used in all adult Softball Canada Fastpitch play
- h. An 11” ball with a COR of 0.52 or less shall be used in all Softball Canada Minor Divisions

COMMENT: The ASA has introduced new bat standards (2013) that in effect could decrease the safety of the defensive player. The bats in ASA will be the liveliest on the market and are approved for SP in ASA Softball. FP still will be limited to the 2004 and 2008 bat standards and stamps.

Sec 5 – Shoes

A shoe must be fully enclosed and made of canvas or leather uppers or similar materials. NO SANDALS are permitted, including coaches.

Rule 5, Section 9

b) Defensive Conferences

There shall be only 3 charged defensive conferences, in a 7 inning game, between the manager or team representative from the dugout with the pitcher or any other defensive player. It is not a conference if a pitching change is made. **EXCEPTION U14 will have 5 conferences in a 7 inning game.**

1. For every inning beyond 7 there shall be 1 charged conference
2. Conferences are accumulative and do not start over with a new pitcher entering the game.
3. If all 3 conferences are not used in 7 innings they are lost

EFFECT: 9B1 The 4th (6th for U14) and each additional charged conferences in a 7 inning game or any in excess of 1 in extra innings shall result in the pitcher who is listed as the pitcher at the time of the conference being declared an illegal pitcher for the remainder of the game. The pitcher could play another position.

Rule 7, Batting

8. After entering the batters box, the batter must remain in the box, with at least 1 foot between pitches and while taking signals and practice swings.

EXCEPTIONS: The batter can leave the box when,

- 1) The ball is battered fair or foul**
- 2) On a swing, slap or check swing**
- 3) When forced out of the box by a pitch**
- 4) On a wild pitch or passed ball**
- 5) When a play is attempted**
- 6) When time-out is called**
- 7) When the pitcher leaves the pitchers circle or the catcher leaves the catchers box**
- 8) On a 3 ball count that is a strike that the batter thinks is a ball**

EFFECT: If the batter leaves the batters box after a called ball or strike and delays play for any other reason the umpire may warn the batter or CALL A STRIKE, any number of warnings or called strikes can be made with each batter. NO pitch has to be thrown