NTBSS RULES 2026-2027

Current SSUSA Rules are in effect for any situation NTBSS rules do not address. We abide by the rules and regulations of Pasco County Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources.

Rule interpretations can be challenged not judgment calls

2021 Rule change SSUSA Obstruction: Defenders no longer can block a base legally while waiting on a throw to arrive. Now, to avoid being called for obstruction for impeding a runner legally running the bases, a defender must have possession of the ball or be in the act of fielding a batted ball. This should help reduce collisions at the bases.

All batters start with a one ball and one strike count.

A foul ball after a batter has two strikes is considered a strikeout.

A ball that strikes the pitcher's screen is a strike and a dead ball runners cannot advance.

No bunting allowed.

The player in the hole is stationed at the opening to the dugout; he is responsible for hanging bats on the fence holders and removing the batter‘s bat once used. He may not enter onto the playing field to retrieve a bat until the umpire has called time out

The strike is any ball that hits the plate and strike mat with the height of a legal ball must be from 6 feet to 12 feet above the playing field.

Players who are 75 or order AND women players must notify the home plate umpire. The home plate umpire will raise his hand (either) and hold up five fingers and announce 75 or female. Anyone can notify the home plate umpire of the 75 player.

The batter (or anyone) can notify the home plate umpire of 75 at any pitch count as long as time has been called AND the batter has not hit a ball.

Players 75 years or older and all women cannot be put out at first base with a direct throw if the ball lands or rolls on to the grass of the outfield. This includes the ball striking the glove and any portion of the fielder's person and lands onto the grass. The 75-year-old runner may be thrown out if the ball is caught by the infielder or

outfielder prior to entering the grassy area and if the fielder's feet are on the grass as long as the ball does not touch the grass at any time.

The batter is out if runner player touches first base while still carrying the bat.

If a batter throws the bat the player is automatically out and ejected from the game. Each time the player comes to bat, it is counted as an out.

If a player is injured and cannot bat, player is classified as an out. On subsequent at bats, the player will not be counted as an out.

Every effort must be made to avoid collisions when running the base path by runners and fielders. Players must veer to the right or left of approaching second or third base to avoid contact. Sliding is allowed.

Home plate umpire and third base umpire (if available) will assist the second base umpire in determining whether a runner veered as required. However, the call remains with second base umpire.

Runner at home is out if the catcher catches the ball with a foot anywhere on the strike mat before the runner touches the ground after touching or crossing the scoring line. The second home plate is eliminated. (See diagram for explanation of the scoring line)

A fouled ball must go over the batter's head in order to be an out when caught by the catcher, except on the final strike of the bat which the batter is automatically out.

Metal cleats are prohibited

Teams may score a maximum five runs per inning except the seventh inning which will be an open inning allowing the team the score is many until they reach three outs

The team can play 11 players on defense from the roster but all rostered players present must bat. EXCEPTION see 8.5 (1) USING COURTESY RUNNERS

It is the manager’s discretion to play as little as nine players.

If game time temperature is below 45° games will be rescheduled for a later start or canceled.

The pitcher's foot must be in contact with the rubber at the time of the release of the ball. The pitcher must stay behind the screen (head and torso) until the ball is hit. After two warnings by the umpire, that pitcher will be retired from pitching for the remainder of the game but may assume another position on the field. If the pitcher

does not remain behind after pitching the ball and fields the ball (or hit by the batted ball), the batter is awarded first base and all runners advance one base.

The games will be seventy (70)minutes long if timed. When time is expired, the inning will be completed and one more complete inning (open inning) will be played. EFFECTS: If the home inning has been completed and the teams are exchanging positions, the next inning has started and so two more complete innings (open inning on the second one) will be played.

MERCY RULE – After five complete innings, if there is a run differential of fifteen (15) or more runs, the game is complete and will count in the standings.

FLIP-FLOP RULE

The flip-flop rule will be invoked in any game when there is a 10-run differential in favor of the visiting team at the start of the 'open inning'. If the visiting team is ahead by fifteen or more runs, the home team will remain at bat and start a new at-bats (beginning their seventh or last inning at-bats), meaning all runners then on base will return to the dugout. It will be an open inning. If the home team fails to tie or go ahead of the visiting team, the game ends and the visiting team wins. If the home team ties or goes ahead, the visiting team takes it turn at bat.

EJECTED PLAYER

When an umpire ejects a player or coach, the said player or coach must vacate the dugout immediately. If the umpire deems this to be a flagrant violation, the ejected player or coach must leave the premises and must do so immediately. If the ejected player or coach fails to comply, said player's or coach's team will forfeit the game. Any ejection brings an automatic one game suspension, effective immediately, which includes no participation in any and all NTBSS activities during the suspension. The Board will decide if and when said player or coach will be reinstated after serving the initial suspension.

4.8 EJECTED PLAYER

A player or coach who has been ejected from the game must leave the bench area, unless the act is determined to be flagrant, then the player or coach must leave the grounds. If no player is available to substitute for the ejected player in the batting lineup, an out will be recorded every time the ejected player's position comes to bat. Any ejected player discovered participating will constitute a forfeit. Any player re-entering the grounds after being told to leave will constitute a forfeit.

5.4(2) INTERNATIONAL TIE-BREAKER RULE

In case of a tie after seven complete innings; Teams start each half-inning with a runner on second. The runner is the last batter of the previous inning had been

completed, assuming a position at second base. No substitute or courtesy runner may replace that baserunner until the runner reaches third base. EFFECT: If the last runner of the previous inning cannot continue to play because injury or illness, etc. that player will be declared out and the next batter will be the tie-breaker runner.

A forfeit will be if the team does not have seven rostered players at game time. A forfeit is considered a loss in the standings.

SUBSTITUTION PROCEDURE

A forfeit will be if the team does not have eight rostered players at game time. A forfeit is considered a loss in the standings.

Players may sign up to substitute at the scorekeepers table. Managers will notify the scorekeepers if subs are needed.

- A team with eight rostered players will be allowed to pick three players. The first two players will be selected by the card method, however, the third player will be selected by the opposing manager. The team will play with ten players if there are not enough substitutes available. (EXCEPTION: When games are scheduled other than Friday, a team will be allowed only seven players and can pick up four, with the last two picks selected by the opposing manager)
- The four positions would be P, C, IB, RCF

If a manager has nine players, the two players will be selected by the card method.

If a manager has ten players, the opposing manager will select the player from the available substitutes.

HOWEVER, substitutes can be determined by the two managers if both managers are in agreement.

The visiting manager selects first if both teams need players.

In the playoffs, all substitutes will be determined by the opposing manager.

Substitute players must play catcher, first base, right field, or pitcher ONLY.

1.1 • APPEAL PLAY

An appeal play is a play on which an umpire may not make a decision until

requested by a manager, coach or player. The appeal must be made before the next legal or illegal pitch, before an intentional walk or before the pitcher and all infielders have clearly vacated their normal fielding positions and have left fair territory on their way to the bench or dugout area. On the last play of the game, an appeal can be made until the umpires leave the field of play.

A. Types of appeal plays:

1. Missing a base.
2. Leaving a base early on a caught fly ball before the ball is first touched.
3. Batting out of order.
4. Attempting to advance to second base after making a turn at first base (umpire's judgment).
5. After the third out in order to nullify a run.
6. Illegal substitute – must be made while they are in the game and before the umpires leave the playing field

1.15 • COMMITMENT LINE

A minimum six (6) foot (1.83 m) commitment line shall be marked across and perpendicular to the foul line and placed thirty feet from home plate. Once a runner has crossed the commitment line he: [a] cannot return to third base; [b] must continue home; [c] can no long be tagged out by the defensive player; the defensive player must touch the strike zone mat. The ball remains live. If a runner crosses the commitment line and touches the strike mat or any portion of the batter's box, the runner is out and the ball is live.

1.24 • FAKE TAG

A fake tag is a form of obstruction by a fielder who neither has the ball nor is about to receive the ball. This obstruction impedes the progress of a runner either advancing or returning to a base. The runner does not have to stop or slide. Merely slowing down when a fake tag is attempted would constitute obstruction.

1.34 • ILLEGAL CATCH

An illegally caught ball occurs when a fielder catches a batted or thrown ball with anything other than his hand(s) or legal glove in its proper place or an an illegal player makes a catch.

1.37 • INTENTIONALLY DROPPED FLY BALL

If a fielder intentionally drops, or let's drop, a fair fly ball, including a line drive, that can be caught by a fielder with ordinary effort with first base only, or first base and any other base(s), with less than two outs, only one recorded out may

be made on the play and the ball is dead. This is an umpire's judgment call

1.41 • INFIELD FLY
A fair fly ball (not including a line drive) that can be caught by any fielder with ordinary effort when first and second bases or first, second and third bases are occupied with less than two outs. Any fielder can catch an infield fly.
NOTE: When it becomes apparent that a batted ball will be an infield fly, an umpire shall immediately declare, "infield fly - batter is out", to aid the runners. If the ball is near the foul lines, the umpire shall declare, "infield fly - if fair". The ball is live and runners may advance at the risk of the ball being caught, or re-touch and advance after a fielder touches the ball. If the hit ball becomes a foul ball, it is treated the same as any other foul ball. Failure of the umpire to call "infield fly," does not negate the infield fly. If the error is discovered prior to the next pitch, the infield fly rule may still be called

1.45 • INTERFERENCE
Interference is the act of an offensive player or team member that impedes or confuses a defensive player attempting to execute a play. A base runner must avoid a fielder making a play.

1.48 • OBSTRUCTION
Obstruction is the act of:
A. A defensive player or team member who hinders or prevents a batter from striking at or hitting a pitched ball.
B. A fielder who is not in possession of the ball, in the act of fielding a batted ball, nor about to receive a thrown ball, who impedes the progress of a runner or batter-runner who is legally running bases.

1.55 • PROTESTS
Only *managers, assistant managers or acting managers* may notify the umpire of their intent to protest. There are two types of protest:

A. Misinterpretation of a playing rule – must be made before the next pitch or, if on the last play of the game, before the umpires leave the playing field. If the manager or acting manager does not accept the umpire's ruling, he may protest to a tournament director.
B. Ineligible player – can be made any time during or after the game. Eligibility is the decision of the tournament protest committee.

The first batter in each inning shall be the batter whose name follows that of the last player who completed his turn at bat in the preceding inning.
EFFECT - §7.1 B-D: Except for a wrong batter at bat, batting out of order

is an appeal play that may be made only by the defensive team. The defensive team forfeits its right to appeal batting out of order when one legal or illegal pitch has been made to the following batter, or when the pitcher and all infielders have clearly vacated their normal fielding positions and have left fair territory on their way to the bench or dugout.
1. If the error is discovered while the incorrect batter is at bat, the correct batter may take his place and legally assume any balls and strikes.

4.0 PLAYING RULES

NOTE: The offensive team may correct a wrong batter at the plate without penalty.
1. If the error is discovered after the incorrect batter has completed his turn at bat and before a legal or illegal pitch has been made to the following batter or before the pitcher and all infielders have clearly vacated their normal fielding positions and have left fair territory on their way to the bench or dugout area:

A. the player who should have batted is out.

B Any advance or score made because of a ball batted by the improper batter or because of the improper batter's advance to first base as a result of obstruction, an error, walk, or a base hit shall be nullified.

C. the next batter is the player whose name follows that of the player called out for failing to bat.

D If the batter is declared out, and is the third out, the correct batter in the next inning shall be the player who would have come to bat had the player been put out by ordinary play.

2. If the error is discovered after the first legal or illegal pitch to the next batter, or after the pitcher and all infielders have clearly vacated their normal fielding positions and have left fair territory on their way to the bench or dugout area, the turn at bat of the incorrect batter is legal, all runs scored and bases run are legal and the next batter in order shall be the one whose name follows that of the incorrect batter. No one is called out for failure to bat. Players who have not batted and who have not been called out have lost their turn at bat until reached again in the regular order.

3. No runner shall be removed from the base he is occupying except the batter-runner who has been taken off the base by the umpire as in Number 2 above to bat in his proper place. He merely misses his turn at bat with no penalty. The batter following him in the batting order becomes the legal batter.

Two base runners may not occupy the same base simultaneously.
EFFECT: The runner who first legally occupied the base is entitled to it. The other runner can be put out by being touched with the ball.

1.23 • FAIR TERRITORY
Fair territory is that part of the playing field within, and including, the first and third base foul lines from home plate to the bottom of the playing field fence and perpendicularly upwards. (NOTE: Any batted ball first hitting any portion of the strike mat then settling in fair territory is a fair ball. Fair territory includes the strike mat.)

8.3 • BATTER-RUNNER IS OUT
A. When after hitting a fair ball he is legally put out prior to reaching first base.
B. When, after a fly ball is hit, the ball is caught by a fielder before it touches the ground, any object or person other than a defensive player.
EFFECT: §8.3 A and B: The ball remains live.
C. When he fails to advance to first base and enters his team area after a batted fair ball, a base on balls, or catcher obstruction. EFFECT: The ball is dead, the batter-runner is out and runners return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch unless put out prior to the violation.
. When he runs outside the running lane and, in the umpire's judgment, interferes with the fielder taking the throw at first base; however, he may run outside the three-foot lane to avoid a fielder attempting to field a batted ball.
E. When he interferes with a fielder attempting to field a batted ball or intentionally interferes with a fielder attempting to throw the ball.
F. When he makes contact with a fair batted ball before reaching first base, the ball is dead and all other runners shall return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.
G. When the batter-runner intentionally interferes with a play at home in an obvious attempt to prevent an out, both the batter-runner and the base runner are out
H. When he moves back toward home plate to avoid or delay a tag by a fielder. The ball is dead, the batter-runner is out and all runners return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.
I. When he hits an infield fly, when first and second or first, second and third bases are occupied with less than two outs. The ball remains live and runners may advance at their own risk. The infield fly is ruled when the ball reaches the highest point based on the position of the closest fielder regardless who makes the play. When it seems apparent that a batted ball will be an infield fly, an umpire shall immediately declare "infield fly, the batter is out" for the benefit of the runners. If the ball is near a foul line, the

umpire shall declare "infield fly, if fair." The runner(s) may tag up and advance once the batted ball is touched (prior to catching), the same as on any fly ball. If a declared infield fly becomes foul, the umpire shall declare the ball foul.

J. When an infielder intentionally drops, or lets drop, a fair fly ball, including a line drive, that can be caught with ordinary effort with first base only, or first base and any other base(s) occupied, with less than two outs. A trapped ball shall not be considered as having been intentionally dropped. EFFECT: The ball is dead, the batter-runner is out and each runner shall return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch. Each batter must reach first base without the aid of a courtesy runner. A double bag shall be used at first base, the double portion of the bag being in foul territory abutting first base. If there is a play on a batter-runner going to first base, the batter-runner must touch some portion of the double bag extending into foul territory. He will be called out if he fails to do so, except if, in the umpire's judgment, the batter-runner is avoiding a collision. The batter-runner simultaneously touching both portions of the double bag is permitted. This is NOT an appeal play. Important: The defending player has only the white base

WHEN RUNNERS ARE ENTITLED TO ADVANCE

Runners are entitled to advance without liability to be put out:

A. When a fielder obstructs the progress of a runner or batter-runner, who is legally running the bases. NOTE: Obstructed runners are still required to touch all bases in proper order, or they could be called out on a proper appeal by the defensive team. Should an act of interference occur after any obstruction, enforcement of the interference penalty would have precedence. EFFECT: When obstruction occurs, the umpire shall call "obstruction" and give a delayed dead ball signal for obstruction. NOTE: Failure of the umpire to call obstruction DOES NOT negate the obstruction.

1. If play is being made on the obstructed runner or if the batter-runner is obstructed before reaching 1st base, the ball is dead, and all runners advance without liability to be put out to the bases they would have reached. EXCEPTION: A base runner obstructed in a run down shall be awarded the lead base at the time of the obstruction. Any proceeding runners forced to advance by the award of bases for obstruction shall advance without liability to be put out.

2. If no play is being made on the obstructed runner at the time of obstruction, the play shall proceed until the play is completed. The umpire shall call "time" and impose such penalties, if any, that will nullify the act of obstruction.

3. If the obstructed runner is put out after passing the base that would have been reached had there not been an obstruction, the obstructed

runner will be called out and the ball remains live.

4. When a runner, while advancing or returning to a base, is obstructed by a fielder who neither has the ball nor is attempting to field a batted or thrown ball, or a fielder who fakes a tag without the ball, the obstructed runner and each other runner affected by the obstruction will always be awarded the base or bases that would have been reached, in the umpire's judgment, had there been no obstruction. If the umpire feels there is justification, a defensive player making a fake tag could be ejected from the game.

5. When any obstruction occurs (including a run-down), the umpire will signal a delayed dead ball.

B. When a fielder intentionally contacts or catches a fair batted or thrown ball with his helmet, cap, mask, protector, pocket, detached glove or any part of his uniform that is detached from its proper place on their person. EFFECT: The runners would be entitled to three bases from the time of the pitch if a batted ball, or two bases from the time of the throw if a thrown ball, and in either case, they can advance farther at their own risk. If the illegal catch or touch is made on a fair hit ball that, in the umpire’s judgment, would have cleared the outfield fence in flight, the batter-runner should be awarded a four-base award.

C. When the ball is in play and is overthrown (beyond the boundary lines) or is blocked. EFFECT: All runners will be awarded two bases, and the award will be governed by the positions of the runners when the ball left the fielder's hands. If two runners are between the same bases, the award is based on the lead runner.

D. When a fair ball bounces over or rolls under or through a fence or any designated boundary of the playing field. Also when it deflects off a runner or umpire and goes out of play. EFFECT: The ball is dead, and all runners are awarded two bases.

1. When the first throw is made by an infielder, two bases shall be awarded. The award shall be governed by the position of each runner at the time the pitch was made; however, if all runners, including the batter-runner, have advanced at least one base when the infielder makes the wild throw, on the first play after a pitch, the award shall be governed by the position of the runners when the wild throw was made.

2. When a throw is made by an outfielder or is the result of any succeeding play or attempted play, the two base award shall be governed by the position of each runner and the last base he has touched at the time the throw was made. If two runners are between the same bases, the award is based on the position of the lead runner.

3. When a fielder loses possession of the ball such as on an attempted tag and the ball enters a dead ball area or becomes blocked, all runners are awarded one base from the last base touched at the time the ball entered the dead ball area or became blocked. If a runner touches the next base and returns to his original base, the original base he left is considered the "last base touched" for the purposes of an overthrow award.

4. If, in the umpire's judgment, a fielder intentionally carries, kicks, pushes or throws a live ball from playable territory into dead ball territory. (NOTE: A fielder carrying a live ball into a dugout or team area to tag a player is considered to have unintentionally carried it there.) EFFECT: The ball is dead. Each runner is awarded two bases from the last base touched at the time the fielder entered or the ball was kicked, pushed or shoved into dead ball territory.

8.5(1) • USING COURTESY RUNNERS

Any player on the roster and present may be a courtesy runner if listed on the official lineup. A courtesy runner may be used for a base runner at any time, but the same courtesy runner may not be used more than once per inning. Any courtesy runner found running more than once per inning will be called out. Any player on the team roster may be a courtesy runner; he does not have to be playing defense or in the batting order

8.5(2) • USING A RUNNER ON BASE

A runner who is replaced with a courtesy runner may not be used as a courtesy runner for the remainder of the inning.

8.5(3) • COURTESY RUNNER REPLACEMENT

A courtesy runner may not be replaced by another courtesy runner except for injury causing removal of the original courtesy runner permanently from the game.

8.5(4) • COURTESY RUNNER COMING TO BAT WHILE ON BASE

A courtesy runner on base when it is his turn to bat will be declared out. The runner will be removed from the base and a second courtesy runner cannot be substituted. Substitution for the original player will not prevent this out. The courtesy runner called out does not lose his turn at bat.

EFFECTS:

1. The out occurs at the base the courtesy runner abandons to take his required turn at bat, unless it is the third out; and

2. The courtesy runner retired for the third out will be the first batter of the team's next half-inning at bat.

8.5(5) • COURTESY RUNNER OFFICIALLY IN THE GAME

A courtesy runner must report to, and be acknowledged by, the umpire before play resumes. A courtesy runner may enter the game only prior to the first pitch to any batter. A courtesy runner is in the game when he touches the base. If a courtesy runner is determined illegal, he will be called out upon touching the base and no other courtesy runner is allowed. The original runner may not return as the runner. An illegal courtesy runner on base is committing a continuing violation and may be called out upon appeal at any time while on base or, if he scores, prior to the first pitch to the next batter. Once time has been called, the runner on base does not have to wait to leave the base for the courtesy runner.

If a batter walks, the manager may substitute a runner BEFORE the batter reaches first base without penalty

8.6 • WHEN SLIDING IS OPTIONAL - AVOIDING COLLISIONS

Sliding or diving into first base or the scoring line or scoring plate is permitted only to avoid a collision with a defensive player. This is an umpire's judgment call and is not subject to protest or appeal. A player may slide or dive into second or third bases, or when returning to any base. A runner must make every effort to avoid colliding with opposing players while running the bases or sliding or diving. If in the umpire's judgment a runner misses a base to avoid a collision, the runner will not be called out. If in the umpire's judgment the runner fails to avoid a collision with a defensive player involved in the play, the ball will be declared dead and that runner called out. All base runners except the batter will be returned to their previous base unless forced to advance. If in the umpire's judgment the runner's collision with the defensive player involved in the play negates a double play, the umpire may award a second out.

8.7 • OVER-RUNNING BASES

8.7(1) • OVER-RUNNING SECOND AND THIRD BASES

Players are not permitted to over-run second and third base without being in jeopardy of being tagged out. This rule applies to all age divisions. A player has the option of sliding. This option is included primarily so a player can avoid a collision.

8.7(3) • OVERRUNNING WHEN RETURNING TO BASE

A runner who overruns any base when returning to it is liable to be put out.

8.7(4) • AVOIDING COLLISIONS
A runner must make every effort to avoid colliding with opposing players while running the bases. If, in the umpire's judgment, a runner misses a base to avoid a collision with a defensive player, the runner will not be called out. (See §8.6.)

If, in the umpire's judgment, a fielder intentionally carries, kicks, pushes or throws a live ball from playable territory into dead ball territory. (NOTE: A fielder carrying a live ball into a dugout or team area to tag a player is considered to have unintentionally carried it there.) EFFECT: The ball is dead. Each runner is awarded two bases from the last base touched at the time the fielder entered or the ball was kicked, pushed or shoved into dead ball territory.

9.1 • DEAD BALL
The ball is dead and not in play:
A. When the ball is batted illegally.
B. When a batter steps from one box to another when the pitcher is ready to pitch.
C. When a ball is pitched illegally.
EXCEPTION: If the batter swings at an illegal pitch, the play stands.
D. When the umpire declares "No pitch."
E. When a pitched ball touches any part of the batter's person or clothing, whether or not the ball is struck at.
F. When a foul ball is not caught.
G. When a base runner is called out for leaving a base early on a pitched ball.
H. When the offensive team causes interference.
I. When the ball is outside the playing limits of the playing field. A ball is considered "out of play" when it touches the ground, person on the ground or object outside the playing area.
J. In case of interference with the batter or fielder.
K. When the batter bunts or chops a pitched ball.
L. When the umpire calls time.
M. When the umpire calls time and an appeal play follows, the ball remains dead throughout the appeal.
N. When any part of the batter's person is hit by his own batted ball while he is in the batter's box.
0. When a runner runs the bases in reverse order.
P. When a coach near third base runs in the direction of home plate on or near the baseline while the fielder is attempting to make a play, and thereby draws a throw to home plate.

Q. When a base runner fails to keep contact with his base until the pitched ball has reached home plate.
R. When a play is being made on an obstructed runner, or if the batter-runner is obstructed before he reaches first base.
S. When a blocked ball is declared.
T. When the batter enters the batter's box with or uses an illegal or altered bat.
U. When a fair batted fly ball, including a line drive that can be handled by any infielder with ordinary effort, is intentionally dropped, with less than two outs, and with a runner or runners on base at the time. EXCEPTION: An "infield fly" is a live ball.
V. When a fielder carries a live ball into dead ball territory

Field Official Responsibilities

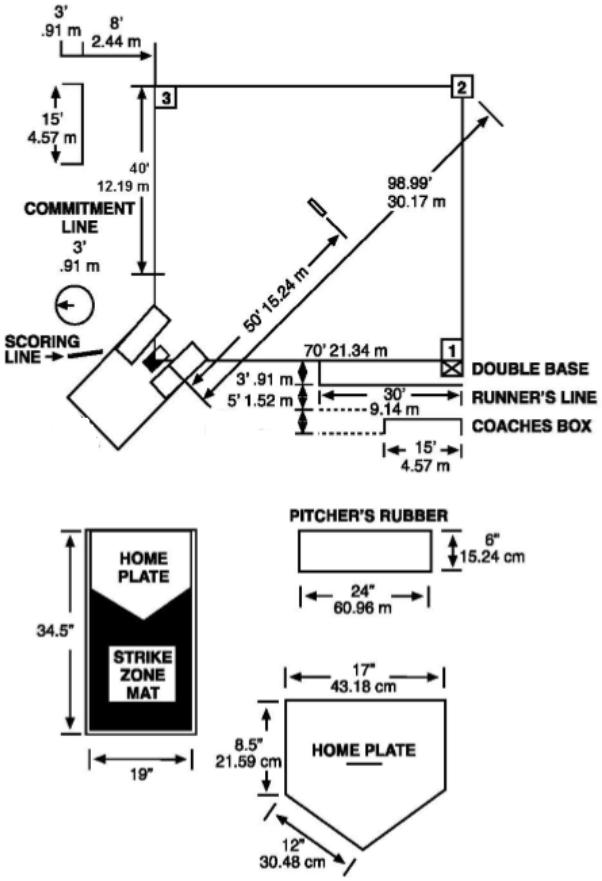
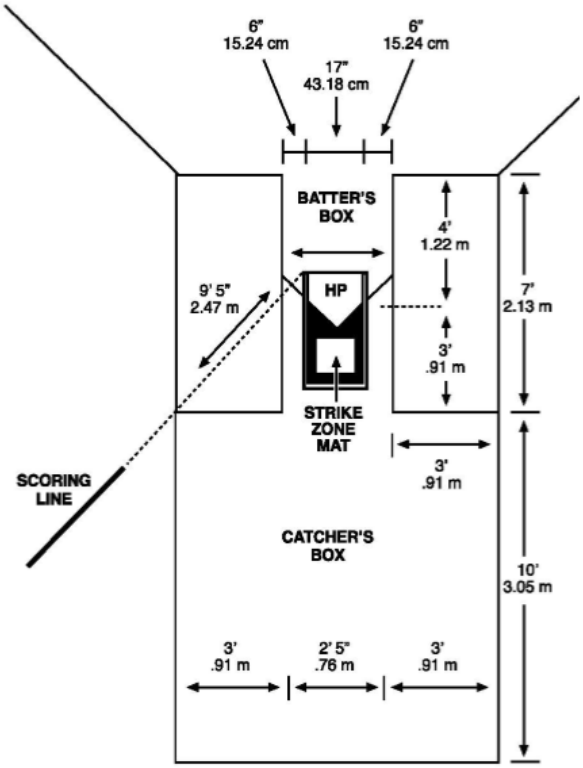
A. Responsible for ensuring the field is ready for the first game. Necessary equipment is in place for the game to begin.
B. Settle any disputes arising from game/rules conflict but not to be involved in umpire's judgment calls. The umpires are responsible for the game calls.
C. Make sure he is informed if any player is warned by any umpire about his behavior. The field official will notify both managers and all umpires of the warning issued and also notify the affected player that he will be ejected if his behavior occurs again.
D. The field official will assist the umpire when a player is ejected, confer with the umpire to determine if this was an egregious ejection, and if so, insure that the ejected player leaves the dugout area immediately and the park.
E. The Field Official may terminate a player from NTBSS if he/she commits a severe violation of sportsmanship of NTBSS.
E. Available for any questions or concerns for managers
F. Responsible for ensuring at the close of the day's games that the field equipment is placed in the shed, the dugouts are free of any left gloves or bats, and there is no trash on the field or in the dugouts.
G. If the field conditions due to rain, wind, or excess heat become an issue then the field official will make the call to suspend the game or cancel the game. The field official will take into consideration the judgment of both coaches and the game officials. The field official has the final call suspension or cancellation to the game.
H. A game called by the Plate Umpire will be a regulation game if five or more complete innings have been played.
I. Games may be reduced to five innings, with the 5 innings being the open inning. A game reduced to five innings becomes official only after the completion of five innings, or 4½ innings with the home team ahead
J. The field official will be present at the selection of substitutes at the beginning of each game, if applicable.

Revised 10-29-2026

SSUSA *OFFICIAL DIMENSIONS*

SENIOR SOFTBALL DIAMOND

Infield Layout, Base Dimensions, Pitching Distance, Running Lines, Commitment Line, Coaches Boxes



Batter's Boxes, Catcher's Box, Scoring Line/Plate