

2026 D9 Interlock Softball Rule Options

2025 Choice

Leagues interlocking:

Only use this column if playing "competitive." Use this column if playing "instructional."

Level / Division(s):	SB Seniors	SB Juniors	SB Majors	SB Coast	SB AAA	SB AAA	SB AA	SB A	SB T-Ball	
These "optional" rules apply to every game played between teams from the leagues that are within your interlock, including when you are playing teams within your own league. Including these adopted options, all games will be played under the rules and regulations as published in the rulebook.	D9 Interlock Rules & Regs	D9 Interlock Rules & Regs	D9 Interlock Rules & Regs	D9 Interlock Rules & Regs	D9 Interlock Rules & Regs	D9 Interlock Rules & Regs	D9 Interlock Rules & Regs	D9 Interlock Rules & Regs	D9 Interlock Rules & Regs	
(1) Are you imposing additional pitching rules? If yes, explain in detail: (Regulation VI (b))	No	No	No	No	No	Yes, see explanation at the bottom of this column	Yes, see explanation at the bottom of this column	Yes, see explanation at the bottom of this column	N/A	
(2) Do you have more than 15 players on a team? Any changes to Mandatory Play? If yes, explain in detail: (Regulation IV(i) NOTE 4)	If yes, three (3) defensive outs and one (1) at bat	If yes, three (3) defensive outs and one (1) at bat	If yes, three (3) defensive outs and one (1) at bat	If yes, three (3) defensive outs and one (1) at bat	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
(3) Minor Divisions only: Are you playing as Instructional or Competitive? (Rule 1.01)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Competitive	Competitive	Instructional	Instructional	Instructional	Instructional	
(4) Minor Divisions only: If "instructional" (not designated as "competitive"), are 3 coaches allowed in addition to the manager, (instead of just 2)? (Rules 1.01& 3.17)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
(5) Can a game be started and played with only 8 players? When the (absent) 9th player would be up to bat, what happens? Record an out or just skip to the next batter (Rules 1.01, 4.04, 4.16, 4.17, 6.05)	Yes, skip batter	Yes, skip batter	Yes, skip batter	Yes, skip batter	Yes, skip batter	Yes, skip batter	Yes, skip batter	Yes, skip batter	Yes, skip batter	
(6) Will courtesy runner be allowed for the pitcher and/or catcher when there are two outs?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	
(7) Will a continuous batting order be adopted? (Rule 4.04)	Yes, thus no DP/Flex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
(8) Is the option of not having the 15, 10, 8 run rule adopted? (Rule 4.10(e))	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	
(9) Are you adopting, it's a "regulation game" if played for at least an 1 hour 45-minute? (R	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	
(10) Minor Divisions only: Is the "5 run rule" suspended on the last half-inning for either tea	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	N/A	
(11) After entering the batter's box, does the batter have to remain in the box with at least one foot through the at bat? (Rule 6.02(c))	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
(12) Minor Divisions only: Do all protests have to be resolved before the next play? (Rules	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
(13) Majors division only: Runners must remain in contact with the bag until the ball is batted or reached the batter. (Rule 7.08 (a) (5) (a))	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
(14) Is stealing signs unsportsmanlike behavior, and results in 1 warning and then an ejection of involved players/coaches/managers? (Rule 9.0(d))	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
(15) Allow the "plate" umpire to stand behind the pitcher when there are two or more umpire	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Others:	<p>Including the above adopted options, all games will be played under the rules and regulations as published in the rulebook.</p> <p>If field availability dictates a time limit on a game, the Home Team Manager MUST discuss this at the plate meeting with the Plate Umpire AND the Opposing Manager BEFORE lineups are exchanged. The time limit will be administered by the Plate Umpire.</p> <p>Any game with a time limit will follow this procedure:</p> <p>a. No New Inning may begin at or after 30 minutes prior to the time limit stated at the Plate Meeting. A new inning begins the moment the 3rd out is made in the previous inning. Example: if a game has a stated time limit of 2:30, no new inning will begin at or after 2 hours, the Plate Umpire will Call the Game at such time.)</p> <p>b. No New at-bat may start at or after 15 minutes prior to the time limit stated at the Plate Meeting.</p> <p>Example 1: if a game has a stated time limit of 2:30, and batter 'Abel' has a 1 strike count when the clock changes to 2:15, Abel will complete his at-bat and when play ends, the Plate Umpire will Call the Game.</p> <p>Example 2: 2:30 time limit, Abel hits a double at 2:14. Before Baker enters the batter's box, the clock changes to 2:15, the Plate umpire will Call the Game.</p>					<p>Pitching (Regulation VI (b)): A player shall pitch to the batter until the ball is hit into play or the Plate Umpire calls 3 strikes or 4 balls. If the Plate Umpire calls 4 balls, the batter's coach shall then pitch to the batter and the batter shall retain their strike count. The coach shall pitch to the batter up to 4 pitches (1 additional if 4th pitch was a foul ball) or the Plate Umpire calls 3 strikes. There are no walks. If the Plate Umpire calls 3 strikes, the batter is out.</p> <p>a. Player and coach pitchers must pitch from a pitching plate at 35 feet from home plate. When a coach is pitching, the Player pitcher must be located within the pitching circle next to or behind the coach.</p> <p>b. Once a coach pitches to four (4) of his team's batters within a given inning, the coach pitcher will stay out for the remainder of that inning.</p> <p>c. A player may pitch a maximum of two (2) innings or six (6) defensive outs per game.</p> <p>d. If a player pitcher hits three (3) batters and each batter is awarded first base, the batting team's coach will coach pitch for the remainder of the inning.</p> <p>e. A batter is not entitled to first base if touched by the pitched ball in the strike zone, if they swing at the pitch, if they make no attempt to avoid being touched by the ball, (Rule 6.08b) or if the pitch was from a Coach.</p>		<p>5 innings or 90 minutes, whichever comes first</p> <p>Additional mandatory play requirements;</p> <p>Coach pitch;</p> <p>No stealing;</p> <p>No bunting;</p> <p>One base on overthrows;</p> <p>No infield fly.</p>	<p>5 innings or 90 minutes, whichever comes first</p> <p>Additional mandatory play requirements;</p> <p>Coach pitch;</p> <p>No stealing;</p> <p>No bunting;</p> <p>One base on overthrows;</p> <p>No infield fly.</p>	<p>6 innings or 90 minutes, whichever comes first</p> <p>Additional mandatory play requirements;</p> <p>No strikeouts;</p> <p>No stealing;</p> <p>No bunting;</p> <p>No extra bases on overthrows;</p> <p>No infield fly.</p>