

WSMSP RULES 2019

SPN rules will be used except for the following

The bases will be **65 feet apart** (from the rear portion of the plate).

Captains & umpires: review ground rules prior to the game. Umpire to announce to captains the start/ no new inning time.

An outfield defensive line arc **130 feet from home plate** shall be used and delimited by the use of **4 orange indicators**.

No outfielder is allowed in front of the 130 foot line until the ball is hit. Violation: the team at bat has the option of taking the result of the play or an award of one base to the batter and all runners.

The defensive team must have at least one female in the outfield at all times

Only SPN bats may be used.

One piece molded rubber soles only are acceptable.

Home plate: the entire matt is fair territory.

No new inning: after 1 hour and 15 minutes from start time.

If the home team is winning by less than 7 runs, home team will continue to bat to achieve a maximum of 7 runs.

Regular season: tie games are allowed.

TIEBREAKER for Summer Slam and Playoffs only. The International tie-breaker rule will be used.

MERCY RULE: Inning 1-6 : **7 run mercy rule**, Inning 7 (or declared last inning): no mercy rule

A team must have a minimum of **8 players, of which 3 must be females** for the game to begin.

If a team is playing with only three females then a **female player must be in the outfield at all times and a male catcher must be used for the entire game.**

A maximum of 15 minute grace period prior to default.

A player may be written in to the batting order provided no player has batted a second time. If a player is added (including borrowed players), they must only be entered at the bottom of the batting order

All teams must use one of **2 approved WSMSP defensive charts** for all games, at their discretion.

Teams may **borrow a maximum of three (3) league players**, to bring the total to 9 players on the team.

Subs can play in any position but pitcher

Borrowed players must be entered only at the bottom of the batting order.

Borrowing pitcher, is only permitted if the team does not have an available regular pitcher.

Helmets – all batters/runners must wear a league approved batting helmet at all times. This includes batters, runners & on deck batters.

Batter may use a “runner from the fence”. The umpire must be notified. Once a runner from the fence is used, the **batter must use a runner from the fence for all subsequent at bats. “Runners” may only advance to 1st base** (except for HR or 2 base BB)

There is no limit to courtesy runners used overall in a game.

All courtesy runners must be the last out available and must be of the same sex.

4 straight balls pitched: batter will be awarded 2nd base. Any runners on base at the time will advance as per force play rules.

HOME RUN RULE – One Plus One. Once a team has scored a home run, any additional home runs will be counted as a double, until the other team has scored their own home run. Then the rule resets and carries on. Batters, having hit a HR **out of the park**, may elect to run the basepaths or not, at their discretion. All runners on base at the time must run the basepaths.

If a player has been removed from the line-up because of injury they are allowed to miss one at bat only to allow them sufficient time to decide if they are able to continue playing. As result of the above, the missed at bat will be counted as an automatic out for the balance of the game.

If a ball is hit safely into the outfield, ie. it touches the ground, **outfielders are NOT permitted to throw the ball to first base** in an attempt to get the batter/runner out. An infielder may run into the outfield to get the ball and make a throw, If a fly ball is caught by an outfielder and an out is recorded then the outfielder may throw to first to attempt to put a runner out.

Outfielders are permitted to throw the ball to the 1st base player to return it to the infield only. (no attempt to made to force batter/runner out at 1st)