

## COLORADO SENIOR SOFTBALL TRAVEL LEAGUE

### 2010 RULES

CSSTL will use SSUSA rules, except as modified below:

- 1) Batters will start with 0-0 count. Three balls is a walk and two strikes is an out. Batter is out when he fouls off the ball the second time after having one strike against him. It does not matter how the first strike occurred. A foul tip is a foul ball. In order for a batter to be called out when the catcher catches a foul ball, the ball must be hit so as to travel above the batter's head before being caught by the catcher or any other player. A foul never attaining the height of the batter's head and caught are foul balls. Without a home plate umpire, there will be no "out of the batter's box" calls on swings; however, the batter must be in the batter's box when the pitcher pitches.
- 2) 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base coaches are also umpires, with the 1<sup>st</sup> base coach calling plays at 1<sup>st</sup> and home plate, while the 3<sup>rd</sup> base coach calls the plays at 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base. The team at bat will provide 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base umpires. The defensive team's catcher is the home plate umpire who calls balls and strikes, foul balls and illegal pitches. If the 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> base umpire does not see the play he is responsible for, he should ask the other umpire for a call. Umpires shall not seek opinions from their bench. If a person(not a player from either team) volunteers to be the home plate umpire, this person must be agreeable to both team captains and will also call the plays at home plate. Gentleman's Rule: In the event a call has been made which most believe is in error, the team captains may overturn the ruling if both agree.
- 3) Any player ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct by the home plate umpire/catcher is out of the line up for the rest of the day. If the ejection occurs during the last game, the ejected player is out for the next full day of games. Second ejection in the same season will result in the player being out for the balance of the season. Board of Directors will settle any disputes about unsportsmanlike conduct and their decision will be final.
- 4) There shall be no forfeit because a team is short of players. In the event a team is short, the players over the 10 starters for the opposing team may play on the short team. Those players will play both offense and defense. In the event the other team does not have more than 10 players or doesn't want to furnish the other team players or is short as well, the teams may be filled with players who are not playing at that time from any other team and must be approved by the opposing coach, unless the team that had extra players refused to share them with the other team. If all else fails and the short team has 9 players, the other team will furnish a player while the short team is in the field.
- 5) Fields shall be scheduled for 60 minute games, therefore after 60 minutes is completed the open inning will apply. Any game that has an 8 run difference or more at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> inning will make use of the "Flip Flop" rule MANDATORY.

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- 6) All rosters should be e-mailed to the league Commissioner no later than 1:00 PM on Friday before the first game of the season. Any roster changes must be received by the Commissioner no later than 1:00 pm on the Friday before the Saturday game, to be eligible to play. E-mail should be used to expedite submitting roster changes. All players must be age 50 or older. Age is determined as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year of the current season. Teams are limited to 5 Major/Major Plus players, ages 50-59, from "Tournament teams" of any division of any national association. The Board will closely monitor rosters. The rule is designed to provide as much parity as possible among the teams in the league. If any discrepancy or violation of this, or any rule, comes to the Board before the league starts or during the playing season, the Board will have the final decision as to whether a team has violated the INTENT of the rule and will decide accordingly.
- 7) For home runs, each team is allowed one home run, followed by the "One Up" rule. Excessive home runs become a single, with all the base runners advancing one base, even if it is not a force situation.
- 8) For pitching, a 6-12 foot arch range is permitted. Essentially, the ball must travel above the head of the pitcher/batter. Also, the distance from the rubber to home plate is 50 feet, but the pitcher is allowed to be up to 6 feet behind it. One foot must be in the area of the plane of the rubber. ALSO, as of 2010 league meeting, all team managers voted not to enforce SSUSA pitching rule. (Concerning pitcher safety equipment and waiver rules).
- 9) The home team is responsible for the enlarged strike mat over home plate. The catcher must be touching some part of the strike mat when he catches the ball to have the runner called "out". However, if the strike mat has been moved significantly, the catcher has gained an advantage, so the runner is called "safe".
- 10) Senior Ladies are permitted to play and must follow all rules, no exceptions.