

NFHS Softball Rules Changes 2007-08

3-2-11

Players permitted to wear metal cleats and metal toe plates.

3-6-7 Penalty

The head coach will now be restricted to the dugout, in addition to the offender, when a second unreported substitution occurs.

7-3-1

Requires the batter to take her position in the batter's box within 10 seconds after the ball is returned to the pitcher in the circle.

2008 MAJOR EDITORIAL CHANGES

1-5-4

Clarifies that a legal bat must meet the 2004 ASA Bat Performance Standard, bear either the 2000 or 2004 certification mark and not be on the ASA non-approved list.

1-6-7 New

Adds that if an eye shield is attached to the helmet, it must be constructed of a molded rigid material that is clear and permits 100-percent (no tint) allowable light transmission.

2-5-3, 8-2-13 New, 8-6-15

Clarifies when an on-deck batter is subject to interference and the penalty associated with the infraction.

3-5-5 Penalty

Adds a penalty when offensive team personnel are near a base to which a runner is advancing or returning.

3-6-6 & New Note

Adds that bat/ball shaggers are permitted out of the dugout. Also adds a new note to clarify that bench personnel are permitted to engage in throwing and running activities during the one minute designated for the pitcher to throw her five warm-up pitches at the beginning of each half-inning.

7-4-4

Clarifies that the batter is subject to interference if she makes any movement that hinders the action at home plate after the pitch reaches the catcher.

2008-10 MAJOR MECHANICS CHANGE

Umpires will once again start from 18-21 feet behind first and third base when no runners are on base.

Therefore, with no runners on base, the base umpire(s) should be positioned 18-21 feet behind the base, on the line and "walking the line" as the pitch is released. This mechanic provides for a smoother transition when the ball is hit and the umpire(s) must move to the next position.