JSA 2018 New and Updated Rules

New Rules

Pitch Count (New 2018):
All batters will start with a one ball and one strike pitch count when they come to the plate. A batter with two strikes is allowed one foul ball, on the second foul ball with two strikes, the batter is out. This will be in effect for the entire season and tournaments. In other words, you are allowed one courtesy foul ball with two strikes.

Bats:
Please refer to USA Softball guidelines and yearly listings of legal bats. JSA and JDOA have coordinated to purchase two different color bat stickers to easier mark legal bats. Coed marked bats will be usable in all leages, Men's/Women's marked bats will not be usable in Coed. All bats must have stickers for season play. JDOA will administer the stickers and schedule multiple sessions where they will be available (with current bat lists) to verify bat legality and sticker bats. JSA will announce those times on Facebook, the JSA website and via an email announcement to all members.

Updated Rules

Rescheduled Games (Updated 2018):
During the season, each team will be allowed one request to reschedule. This request must first be agreed to by the scheduled opponent, must be made with 48 hours' notice to the JSA Executive Director, and will be re-scheduled only if both teams agree to the rescheduled date. No other requests will be accepted. Any team requesting a reschedule will receive a forfeit if a new time is not agreed upon.

Cross-divisional play rules (Updated 2018):
The team in the lower division is given 5 runs in the book, assessed before the game starts, therefore they do not count in towards the 10-run limit per inning rule. They do count towards the 15-run mercy rule in the 5th inning.

Alcohol (Updated 2018)
No Alcohol may be possessed, opened or unopened, in the dugout or on the playing field, including the path to and from the dugout. 1st Offense will result in a team warning; continued consumption will result in the ejection of the player. Additional infractions may result in ejection of Team Manager and/or a Team Forfeit. Results of an Ejection will be according to JSA Ejection rules. For additional Rules information, See USA Softball Rules, Rule 5 “The Game”, Section 12 B., “Dugout and On Field Conduct”.

Casual Profanity/Verbal Unsportsmanlike Conduct:

Casual Profanity (Updated 2018):
Any team member in a game using casual profanity (expletives not directed at an umpire or opposing player and loud enough to be heard by spectators) will result in team warning being issued. Additional infractions will result in an out being called against the offending team, according to the following terms:
Penalties:
1. If a player is at bat and casual profanity or unsportsmanlike words are used by any
team member, the next batter will be declared out.
2. If the act is committed by a player at bat, that player will be called out.
3. If the act is committed by a player who has made the out, the next batter is out.
4. If the act is committed by the defensive team, the first batter in the next inning will be
   declared out.
5. The outs will be treated as delayed dead ball situation.
6. If the violation occurs in the bottom of the last inning, where the fielding team may
   not bat again, the ejection rule will apply. If a team has an eligible substitute, the
   game can continue.
7. A game may be ended by a casual profanity or unsportsmanlike language out.
8. Any player declared out by this rule because of a team member’s action will not be
   charged with an at-bat for record keeping purposes.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct (Updated 2018):

A. 1st Degree Violations
   1. Delay of game with stalling tactics.
   2. Use of vulgar or abusive language.
   3. Use of rough or dangerous tactics.
   4. Possession of alcohol in the dugout, whether opened or unopened.
      Penalty: A warning may be issued or team out and/or ejection of the offending
      player, at the umpire’s discretion.

B. 2nd Degree Violations
   1. Appearing in an intoxicated condition.
   2. Attempting to arouse spectators against an official.
   3. Knowingly participating in a game as an ineligible player.
      Automatic Penalty: Offending player ejected, and suspended from following
      game, and placed on probation for remainder of season.
      Possible Penalty: Disqualification from further JSA play

Playing in Multiple Classifications (Crossover players):
A player may play on both a men’s or women’s team and a co-ed team subject to the following
guidelines and restrictions (updated 2018):

Coed C- Open to all-no crossover rules
Coed D- Open for all women, no more than 3 Men’s C
Coed E- Can have 3 women from C AND then can have EITHER 3
         Men’s D OR 1 Men’s C & 2 Men’s D
Coed F- Combo of Men’s and Women of up to 4 from Women’s C or
         Men’s D
Coed G- Open to any Women’s D or E and only 3 Men’s F or 2 Men’s F and 1 Men’s E