



# Simple RULEBOOK

Rules not covered below can be downloaded at [www.samsonleague.com/rules.pdf](http://www.samsonleague.com/rules.pdf). Omission of a rule below does not mean that rule is not in effect.

## RULE 1. - THE PLAYING FIELD

**Sec. 2 THE OFFICIAL DIMENSIONS** of the diamond shall be:

- A. 70 feet between bases
- B. Pitcher stands a minimum 50 feet from home plate

**Sec. 3 THE COMMITMENT LINE** is 20 feet from the home plate.

**Sec. 5 THE PITCHING ZONE** is 2'x5', starting 50 feet from home plate. A pitcher may choose to pitch from anywhere within this zone.

**Sec. 6 THE DEFENSIVE LINE** has a radius of 175' from home plate.

## RULE 2. - EQUIPMENT

**Sec. 1**

- E. Authorized bats are marked "OFFICIAL SOFTBALL"
- G. The umpire is final authority on whether a bat is approved

**Sec. 2 THE OFFICIAL BALL** shall be a league approved 12" softball.

**Sec. 3 THE HOME PLATE** shall be a 2' x 3' mat.

**Sec. 5 A DOUBLE BASE** is mandatory for use at first base.

- B. If there is a play at first base, and the batter touches only the white base, he is out
- C. If there is a play at first base, and the defensive player touches only the orange base, the batter is safe
- E. Once the batter is safe at first base, he must use only the white portion of the base

**Sec. 7 A SHOE** with metal cleats, is prohibited.

**Sec. 8**

- A. Players shall wear their clothing properly in the opinion of the umpire
- B. Jewelry that the umpire deems as being a safety concern for the other players is not permitted to be worn during the game.

## RULE 4. - THE GAME

**Sec. 3 THE START OF THE GAME** is when a representative of the home team has prayed aloud in the presence of both teams.

**Sec. 4**

- D. Only a maximum of 7 runs can be scored in each of innings 1-4, and only a maximum of 14 runs can be scored in each inning after the 4th inning. The game is over when it is mathematically impossible for the losing team to catch-up.

## RULE 5. - THE PLAYERS, SUBSTITUTES AND RE-ENTRY

**Sec. 1 A TEAM** shall consist of a minimum of 9 players.

**Sec. 3**

- A. A team must have a minimum 2 females.
- C. The players playing defensively may be changed at any time as long as there is a maximum 8 males, minimum 2 females, and no more than 10 players total.

**Sec. 9**

- B. A player who is bleeding must have the bleeding controlled, cleaned up and the wound completely covered.

## RULE 6. - PITCHING

**Sec. 3**

- A. The pitcher's pivot foot must be within the confines of the pitching zone, and remain within the pitching zone, until the release of the ball
- B. The pitcher may only take one step with the free foot in a direction of his choice during the actions of delivering the pitch

**Sec. 5**

- B. The pitched ball must have a noticeable arc of at least 6 feet, and no more than 12 feet

## RULE 7. - BATTING

**Sec. 1 THE BATTING ORDER** must have a minimum 2 female players, and cannot have more than 20 total players.

**Sec. 3 THE BATTER CANNOT:**

- C. Deliberately bunt or swing the bat downward to chop the ball
- E. Step across the home plate with the pitcher in the pitching position

## RULE 8. - BASERUNNING

**Sec. 4 BATTER-BASERUNNERS ARE NOT OUT:**

- E. If the out at first base is the result of a direct throw from an outfielder.

**Sec. 5 THE BASERUNNER CANNOT:**

- R. Stop having contact with a base until the pitch has crossed home plate or been hit
- V. Touch home plate or cross over home plate at any time

**Sec. 11 BASE STEALING** is not permitted.

**Sec. 14**

- A. No sliding while attempting to touch and/or cross the scoring line
- B. A baserunner who passes the COMMITMENT LINE can't go back, except to tag-up on a flyball out.
- C. A baserunner may be tagged out between the commitment line and the scoring line

**Sec. 15 COURTESY RUNNERS** may be used, after the batter has safely reached base, a maximum of three (3) times per game. A male can only be a courtesy runner for a male, but a female can be a courtesy runner for both a male or a female.

## RULE 10. - UMPIRES

**Sec. 1 THE PLATE UMPIRE** shall have the authority to make decisions on any situations not specifically covered in the rules.

## RULE 13. - SAMSON CHRISTIAN SLO-PITCH LEAGUE

**Sec. 1**

- A. Churches cannot share players
- C. All players must be a minimum 16 years old

**Sec. 2**

- A. All players must be present at the field for the first pitch
- B. Team's must meet game requirements by game 1 start time, and if they can't, will be given ½ hour to meet the requirements for game 2

**Sec. 3 INTENTIONAL WALKS** will be given when the pitcher advises the plate umpire prior to the first pitch being made to the batter.

- A. If a male batter is intentionally walked and followed by a female in the lineup, the male batter advances to second base automatically and the female can choose to walk as well.

**Sec. 4 NO ALCOHOL OR SWEARING** at anytime, anywhere.

**Sec. 5 ALL PLAYERS** must agree that the Samson Christian Slo-Pitch League and Samson League Inc. is not, and will not be, responsible for any injury that is a result of participation in the league.