



## **2008 San Mateo Softball Rule Changes, Modifications, & Reminders**

**Pitcher's Box:** The pitcher's box shall be a box the width of the pitching rubber, extending from the front (home plate) side of the rubber and going 5 feet back towards second base. The pitcher may deliver a pitch from anywhere inside the box as long as he (a) has one foot planted inside the box upon release, (b) pauses for a minimum of one second before starting his pitching motion, & (c) abides by all ASA pitching guidelines

**Strike Zone Mat:** A strike zone mat will be used. The mat shall be of rubber or similar material and shall measure whatever the specified league determines with a V-shape at one end that fits against the back of home plate. Together the strike zone mat and home plate shall form a rectangular shape determined by the league. A legal pitch not swung at that strikes any part of the strike zone mat shall be a strike by the umpire.

**Courtesy Runner:** One courtesy runner may be allowed per inning. The courtesy runner must be the last completed batter (i.e. the last run, the last out, etc.). The last completed batter is the one who is the furthest in the line-up from coming to bat. A team may appeal whether or not the proper courtesy runner is being used prior to the first pitch after the courtesy runner has occupied their base. If the wrong courtesy runner is being used that runner shall be called out and removed from their base. If a courtesy runner is on base and their turn to bat comes up they must remain on base and their at bat will be ruled an out.

**Coed Courtesy Runner:** The same rules apply for Coed with the exception that the runner must be of the same sex.

**Illegal Bats:** Any player caught using an illegal bat shall be ejected. His or her suspension shall be decided upon by the League Director and or SANCRA. Altered bats are illegal. Examples of altered bats are: bats that rattle, dented bats, bats with too much tape, bats with extended knobs, & shaved bats.

**Stealing:** Stealing is not allowed in San Mateo Slow Pitch Softball.

**Central Park:** All balls hit on the fly which land on the El Camino or 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue shall be considered an out. There are no exceptions to this rule/

**Walk off Homeruns:** In San Mateo a batter must touch all 4 bases (along with all runners on base) if they hit an out of the park homerun.

**Splints & Braces:** No hard braces or splints are allowed. All of these devices must be padded or removed during the game.