

UTAH NCS RULES 2024

LEAGUE NIGHT

(Please double check city rules any rule not changed or noted revert back to here and any not listed here revert to the National NCS rules on Playncs.com)

THE GAME

- A Game will consist of 7 innings or 50 minutes. No new inning may begin after 50 minutes. In the event of a tie 1 international tiebreaker inning will occur (last out will start at 2nd). If game remains tied after the international tiebreaker inning the game will end in a tie.

- Dimensions. Pitching rubber to be 53 ft. Bases to be 70 ft. A safety base (orange or otherwise) at 1st will be utilized. Runners on a play at 1st must use the safety base. If the runner only contacts the inside base the umpire can call the runner out. If the runner contacts both bases or any part of the safety base it is considered as touching the complete safety base. Some leagues will utilize a scoring line at home. If there is a safety line once they pass the commitment line it is a force play only. No tags allowed at home. In order for the runner to be safe they must have a foot on the ground on or passed the line. In the air crossing the line does not count.

- Run rules will be in effect in all leagues. 20/15/10. 20 runs after or in home half of the 3rd inning 15 in the 4th, 10 in the 5th. FLIP FLOP rule only be used at the discretion of the umpire and if time is a factor.

- Men's and Women's will consist of 10-12 players when utilizing the Extra players rules. Teams can play with a minimum of 8 players. Less than that will resort in a forfeit. A 10 minute grace period will be allowed on the 1st game of the night only. But the clock will be running.

- Coed will utilize the 5/5 format. You may play 6/6 if utilizing the extra players rules. Batting order must alternate between males and females. You can have more females than males with no penalty, but if you have 1 more male than females you will take an auto out in the missing female spot in the batting order. Maximum of 1 additional male. Fielding will be 2 males and 2 females in both infield and outfield with a pitcher/catcher combination of 1 of each.

- Clean and sober and Cities that have leagues that run a 7/3 format will have an alternating batting order through the number of females on the lineup then can bat the rest of the males to the top of the lineup. Max 12 batters in this format.

- Bat regulations (please note these have changed) a bat to be legal for Utah NCS leagues must have a visible 2012 stamp on it. USSSA, NSA, ISA bat stamps are allowed. No senior bats period. No illegal or altered bats allowed. Get caught with a senior bat or altered bat and you will be ejected immediately and suspended from NCS play until you have contacted and been cleared to play by the State Director. An umpire may inspect a bat at any time and if it is deemed broken or any other concerns arise by umpire they can rule the bat illegal for use. If used after that the 1st time will result in an out 2nd time will result in an ejection of the player and the coach. If you feel it was removed from play incorrectly contact the State Director.

-Wood bat leagues the bat must say Softball or Official softball. No wood baseball bats allowed. Demarini Corndog is allowed

-Ball

We will be allowing use of balls stamped with any of the following stamps, NCS, NSA, USSSA or other balls with a valid, current and visible association stamp. As long as it is 44/400, 44/375 etc. It is the responsibility of the pitcher and defense to make sure the ball has a proper stamp prior to the pitch. If in doubt call time and show to the umpire.

•**Courtesy Runners**

Men's and Women's – See each leagues rules as they may vary and we will use whatever the city has written. If not Each team will be allowed 1 courtesy runner per inning. Runner must be for the batter only and take place before the next legal pitch.

Coed- Each team will be allowed 1 courtesy runner per inning per gender. For the batter only and before the next legal pitch. Males must run for males and females for females.

Note- Anyone on the roster can run, does not have to be the last out. You cannot run for the courtesy runner. In the situation the courtesy runner's spot in the order comes up while they are on base it will result in a dead ball out so plan accordingly.

•**Pitching**

Pitching distance will be 53 feet. For league play the Pitcher must be in contact with the rubber at the time of release. Ball must be delivered in an underhand motion, no pumps, fakes or jukes. Any of these will result in a Dead Ball call and a ball will be issued to the batter. For league we will utilize the mat strike zone. Any pitch between 5 ft and 10 ft from the ground that touches any part of mat without touching the plate will be called a strike.

•**Batting**

The batter will take his or her position inside the batters box when the umpire calls them in. The count will start with 1 ball and 1 strike. No courtesy fouls will be allowed. After the first pitch resulting in a strike (foul ball, called strike etc) the next swung at pitch must to be fair or the batter will be out. In the event of a caught foul ball the play is dead and no runners may advance.

°Batter must remain inside the batters box. If a batter makes contact with a pitched ball while his or her foot is completely outside of the batter's box the result will be a dead ball and the batter will be called out. All runners will return to the base they occupied at the time of the pitch.

°Ball is dead once it bounces and may not be hit after.

°Homerun rules may vary by city. All homeruns will be hit and sit. Please assist the us and the cities by getting your homerun ball. We understand at times the ball is not findable or has been picked up by someone else. But If a ball has not been looked for by the next at bat

by the individual who hit the homerun they will be declared out. Help us keep keep the cities costs and thusly the teams costs down and get your balls. Or have a ball ready to donate back to the league.

°Coed only, if a male is walked the female behind him has to bat unless there are 2 outs in which case she will have the option to take the at bat or to walk. The walked male automatically goes to 2nd base regardless of number of outs.

- Defense

Men's and Women's- up to 10 defenders are allowed. Positioning will be up to the coach or captain. Defense may play any configuration they please. IE middle infielders etc.

Coed- since we will utilize the 12 inch softball for men and the 11 inch softball for women the defense shall be 2 males and 2 females in both the infield and the outfield with the pitcher and catcher being a combination of male/female. No rovers allowed and all infielders must start with both feet on the dirt until the ball is pitched. Females can request to hit the 12 inch ball. But if it isn't requested and the batting team discovers the big ball was batted by a female they can choose to take the result of the play or to choose to take the at bat over with a new 1-1 count.

**Note that in coed if playing a fielder down the defensive alignment you start the inning with is the one you must utilize the entire inning. No shuffling from 3 infielders to 4 when a female come to bat.

- No foul or abusive language will be tolerated. No fighting will be tolerated. Penalties for each of these violations are spelled out in each cities "Player Code of Conduct". Team captains are responsible to see that all team players know and adhere to the "Code of Conduct." Use of the "F" word result in an automatic ejection. If ejected you will be ejected for your next game as well. Fighting will result in an ejection from all NCS leagues and tournaments until cleared by the State Director.

- Pitchers must have a helmet on in order to pitch. Safety is a main concern. Shin guards and other protection is recommended but not required.

- ONLY PEOPLE ON YOUR ROSTER WHO HAVE SIGNED THE ROSTER ARE ALLOWED IN THE DUGOUT. NO CHILDREN IN THE DUGOUT!!! NO EXCEPTIONS.