

Softball Competition Guidelines

【Date】

Saturday, November 15th, 2025

Sunday, November 16th, 2025

In case of rain

If it rains on the day of the competition or the day before, the competition may be cancelled.

In case of cancellation, participants will be notified on the morning of the day of the event or as soon as the weather gets worse.

【Venue】

Baseball field, Multi-purpose ground

【Division】

Men's Division

〈Entry Criteria〉

- None in particular.

〈Registration Restrictions〉

- Up to two members of the semi-hardball team, men's softball team, women's softball team, and medical semi-hardball team may register per team.
- Registration of women is allowed. However, no handicap will be applied.

Mixed Division

〈Entry Criteria〉

- None in particular.

〈Registration Restrictions〉

- Members of the hardball team may register one player per team, and members of the semi-hardball team, men's softball team, women's softball team, and medical semi-hardball team may register up to two players per team.
- At least three women must be registered.

※If the number of registered teams in either division is extremely small, the divisions may be merged or eliminated.

※It is prohibited for one person to belong to more than one team in the same division. (It is prohibited to register for both the men's and mixed divisions.)

【Match format】

One of the following formats will be used. Depending on the number of registered teams, the two formats may be used together.

Tournament Format

- In the quarterfinals and later semifinals, the stipulated number of games shall be 7 innings and the stipulated duration shall be 60 minutes.
- ※The length of a match may be changed depending on the number of participating teams.
- If the stipulated time of 45 minutes is expected to pass before the stipulated number of innings is reached, a new inning shall not be played at the discretion of the umpire. The winner shall be decided by the score at the end of the game.
- In the event of a tie, the winner shall be decided by a tie breaker. In the event of a tie after two innings of tie-breaking, the winner shall be decided by a game of rock-paper-scissors-scissors by the representatives.
- ※Tiebreaker : The game shall begin with the bases loaded with two outs from the beginning of the inning.
- Except in the semifinals and later rounds, if the score is 15 runs in the third inning and 10 runs in the fourth inning and later rounds, the game will be a cold game.

League Format

- The regulation number of games shall be 7 innings, and the regulation time shall be 45 minutes.
- If it appears that the stipulated time of 50 minutes will pass before the stipulated number of innings is reached, a new inning shall not be played at the discretion of the umpires. The winner shall be decided by the score at the end of the game.
- If there is a 15-point difference in the score after 3 innings and a 10-point difference after 4 innings, the game shall be declared a cold game.
- The winning team shall be awarded three (3) points, and in the event of a tie, both teams shall be awarded one (1) point, and the order shall be determined in order of the number of points won. If the winning teams have the same number of points, the ranking will be determined in the order of the number of wins, losses, goal difference, and total points scored by the teams concerned. If the teams still have the same number of points, the ranking will be decided by a game of rock-paper-scissors-scissors by the representatives.

【Sports Day rules】

- In principle, the official softball rules of the Japan Softball Association shall apply.

- The number of players per team is 2 (up to 9 substitutes may be registered).
- If a team has less than the prescribed number of players at the start of a game, a penalty will be assessed.
- The minimum number of players to start a match is 7 per team.
- Substitutions may be made freely, but the batting order may not be changed. Once a batter has entered the game, he cannot enter the game until the batting order has completed one round.

Pitchers

- In principle, pitchers shall follow the slow pitch rule.
- ※Slow pitch rule : Pitches must be thrown in an arch within a space of 1.5 m to 3 m from the ground. If not, the ball shall be considered as an illegal pitch.
- Windmill pitching is allowed only when both teams agree to it.
- The pitching distance shall be 12 meters.

Batter

- No bunting or swing away. A bunt shall be counted as a strike.
- Walk and hit by pitch shall be considered as bases-loaded.
- Fouls after 2 strikes count as outs, except for girls in the mixed division.

Runners

- Stealing bases is prohibited.
- Touch-up rule is applied.
- ※When a batter hits a fly or a liner with no outs or one out and the fielder catches the ball with no bounce, the runner must return once to advance to the next base.
- Even If the pitcher throws the ball behind the catcher, the runner is prohibited from advancing to the next base.
- Leaving the base until the batter hits the ball is prohibited.
- Advancing a base due to a bad throw to first base, etc. shall be limited to one base. (A one-base line will be drawn at each site, and bases beyond that line will be considered one-base; otherwise, the ball will be called a ball-in-play.)
- Sliding is prohibited.

Defense

- The size of the ballpark is unlimited (with the exception of the one-base line). (One-base line is an exception.)
- The infield fly rule shall apply.

※Infield fly : With no outs or one out and runners on first and second base or bases loaded, if the batter launches a fair fly ball and the umpire determines that the infielder can catch it by performing normal defensive actions, the batter is out even if the infielder has not caught the ball.

- The catcher shall wear a catcher's mask.
- The umpire shall give the batter an extra point (maximum of 5 points). (The upper limit is 5 points. However, this does not include penalties.)
- When a girl enters the batter's box, the following shall apply.
- The team with the highest number of female players at the start of the game (by the number of female players) shall be awarded the following points.
- The team with the greater number of female players at the start of the match will be awarded (the difference in the number of female players) x 1.

《Special Rules for Mixed Division》

- At least three women must be in the match at all times.
 - In the mixed division, the number of male players cannot be increased from the start of the match. The number of male players cannot be increased from the starting number of male players. The distance between the two bases shall be 15 meters. (The women's base shall be placed at that point.) If a player is safe at the women's base, he or she must move to first base when the game stops. If the batter is safe at the women's base, she may proceed the shortest distance from the women's base. The batter's runner will be judged out at the women's base and the other runners will be judged out at their original bases.
 - No more than 4 boys may bat in a row.
 - When a girl catches a ball hit by a boy in the outfield, she is considered out even if she catches the ball with one bounce. However, this does not apply in the case of a foul.
- ※When the ball bounces one time, it is treated as a hit for the runner, so the runner may advance the base as if it were a hit. However, when two outs are made, it shall be treated as a no-bounce catch and no runs shall be scored.

[Late Teams]

※When the number of players is less than 7

- If the number of players reaches 7 or more within 5 minutes of the start of the match and the minimum number of players required to start the match is met : the match will start as usual.
- If the number of players exceeds 5 minutes from the start of the match, and the minimum number of players is reached, but the number of players does not meet the minimum number of players required to start the match, a penalty will be given and the match will

begin.

(If a team starts a match with seven players, the team must play with seven players for the entire match. However, players may be substituted, including late arrivals).

- If a team has less than seven players and does not have the minimum number of players to start a match five minutes after the start of the match... the team loses the match.

Penalties

- The number of players cannot be increased after the start of the match.
- If there is a latecomer, the team without a latecomer is given the right to choose whether to attack first or second.

Adding players on the day of the competition

- It is not possible to add players to multiple teams within the same event on the day.
- Once a player has been removed, they cannot be added again.
- As a general rule, up to 4 players can be added on the day of the event.

【umpire】

- Men's softball team
- Women's Softball team

【Notes】

- It is prohibited to participate in a team in which the players themselves are not registered.
- Teams that participate in the tournament without a registered player will be disqualified.
- The use of balls other than those provided by the Sports Day Student Committee is prohibited at the venue.
- If a team wishes to use a ball for practice on the day of the match, it will be lent only to the team scheduled to play immediately next, and only for use within the venue.
- If you wish to practice outside the venue on the day of the event, you must use the ball you have prepared.

※The use of bats, playing catch over long distances exceeding 10 meters, and other potentially dangerous practices are prohibited.

- Gloves will be lent out, but as the number of gloves is limited, players are requested to prepare their own gloves as much as possible.
- Players who arrive late may only take part in the match as a substitute after notifying the umpire.
- Spike shoes are prohibited.
- Unauthorized use of items in the venue is prohibited.

- Eating and smoking are prohibited in the venue.
- If a player fails to follow the instructions of the referee, some measures may be taken.