

2018 USSSA Fast Pitch RULES CHANGES

NOTE: Maryland does not have an Elite Select Program

Revised Rule 2.5 **JEWELRY** (Youth only - 18 & Under and younger)

“Exposed jewelry, which is judged by the umpire to be dangerous, must be removed and may not be worn during the game.

Coaches wristbands (play indicators) are legal but must be worn as designed.”

New definition in Rule 3 **CONFINES OF THE PLAYING FIELD**

“The confines of the playing field includes the field of play, the designated dugout/bench area, and any enclosed or clearly marked area that is designated as a warmup area that is adjacent to the field and within the view of the umpire(s).”

Rationale for new definition: to define WHERE Rules 2.2 and 14.6 apply.

Addition to Rule 8.3.B: **LAST COMPLETED AT BAT** (LCAB) COURTESY RUNNER OPTION (Non-ELITE SELECT DIVISIONS ONLY)

ADD “if and only if a team has no available unused substitutes, then and only then they may use the Last Completed at Bat (LCAB) as a courtesy runner, subject to all other applicable restrictions (cannot run for both positions in the same inning, etc).

The LCAB courtesy runner is determined at the time the courtesy runner is requested, skipping batters

- i) currently on base,
- ii) who are the pitcher or catcher of record, or
- iii) who have already courtesy run for the other position in the same inning..

In the first inning, if there is no CR available using the above method, the LCAB CR shall be the person furthest away in the batting order (i.e., the LCAB CR for the lead off batter is the last batter listed in the lineup)”

Revised Rule 5.2 **SHORT-HANDED RULE**

ADD “(Non-ELITE SELECT divisions):

A team may drop more than 1 batting position (i.e., may have multiple absent players), provided the lineup is maintained with at least 8 batters physically present. All other restrictions above apply.

If a team has multiple absent players and an eligible substitute arrives, she must enter the game immediately in the first available absent player position due up in the batting order.”

Addition to Rule 5.3: **ROSTER BATTING** (Non-ELITE SELECT DIV ONLY)

ADD “ROSTER BATTING OPTION – (non-ELITE SELECT divisions) Teams may use additional APs to bat their entire roster (i.e., ALL players present), subject to the restrictions of Rule 5.2 and 5.3”

2018 USSSA Fast Pitch RULES CHANGES

NOTE: Maryland does not have an Elite Select Program

Revised Rule 2.5 **JEWELRY** (Youth only - 18 & Under and younger)

“Exposed jewelry, which is judged by the umpire to be dangerous, must be removed and may not be worn during the game.

Coaches wristbands (play indicators) are legal but must be worn as designed.”

New definition in Rule 3 **CONFINES OF THE PLAYING FIELD**

“The confines of the playing field includes the field of play, the designated dugout/bench area, and any enclosed or clearly marked area that is designated as a warmup area that is adjacent to the field and within the view of the umpire(s).”

Rationale for new definition: to define WHERE Rules 2.2 and 14.6 apply.

Addition to Rule 8.3.B: **LAST COMPLETED AT BAT** (LCAB) COURTESY RUNNER OPTION (Non-ELITE SELECT DIVISIONS ONLY)

ADD “if and only if a team has no available unused substitutes, then and only then they may use the Last Completed at Bat (LCAB) as a courtesy runner, subject to all other applicable restrictions (cannot run for both positions in the same inning, etc).

The LCAB courtesy runner is determined at the time the courtesy runner is requested, skipping batters

- i) currently on base,
- ii) who are the pitcher or catcher of record, or
- iii) who have already courtesy run for the other position in the same inning..

In the first inning, if there is no CR available using the above method, the LCAB CR shall be the person furthest away in the batting order (i.e., the LCAB CR for the lead off batter is the last batter listed in the lineup)”

Revised Rule 5.2 **SHORT-HANDED RULE**

ADD “(Non-ELITE SELECT divisions):

A team may drop more than 1 batting position (i.e., may have multiple absent players), provided the lineup is maintained with at least 8 batters physically present. All other restrictions above apply.

If a team has multiple absent players and an eligible substitute arrives, she must enter the game immediately in the first available absent player position due up in the batting order.”

Addition to Rule 5.3: **ROSTER BATTING** (Non-ELITE SELECT DIV ONLY)

ADD “ROSTER BATTING OPTION – (non-ELITE SELECT divisions) Teams may use additional APs to bat their entire roster (i.e., ALL players present), subject to the restrictions of Rule 5.2 and 5.3”