

Brief summary of EECS Softball rules

Automatic Hits To the right of the lightpost in right field ⇒ automatic double.
Between the lightposts in center field ⇒ automatic triple.
To the left of the lightpost in left field ⇒ automatic home run.

If the ball rolls onto the hill from the grass, subtract one base from the above “on-the-fly” rulings. Where the ball must land for an automatic hit is left to the umpire’s discretion (e.g., ball lands anywhere above the start of the hill, ball hits a tree on the fly, etc.) but BE CONSISTENT! If a ball is playable, YELL “PLAY IT” LOUDLY so that EVERYONE can hear. Likewise, if a ball is out of play, YELL “OUT OF PLAY” LOUDLY.

Infield Fly If there are runners on 1st and 2nd bases and fewer than 2 outs, then a routine infield fly results in an automatic out. (This out counts once even if the fly could be caught by a bonus player.)

Bonus Rules

1. At the beginning of each game, each team may designate one bonus player per female player.
2. If the first person to cleanly field the ball is a bonus player, then all outs occurring on that play count twice. However, if a bonus player is batting, then all outs on that play count only once.
3. If a bonus player scores a run or bats in a run, the run counts twice.

Pitch Count The pitch count starts at 1 ball and 1 strike for *everyone*.

Team Composition A team may have at most 8 men on the field for defense. A team with no women starts each at-bat with one out (in addition to any mercy-rule outs).

Mercy Rules A team winning by 10–14 runs is allowed only 2 outs at bat.
15–19 runs . . . 2 outs at bat and must bat opposite-handed.
20 or more runs . . . 1 out at bat and must bat opposite-handed.

Home Plate Runners who touch the original home plate are immediately OUT; runners must touch only the second home plate. Once a runner has crossed the commit line (located halfway between third base and home plate, fielders may make a force out at the original home plate; tag outs are not permitted.

Barry Line No more than 6 defensive players are permitted inside the Barry line before the ball is put into play.

Cutoff Time No inning should be started after the cutoff time. Cutoff time is ten minutes prior to the end of the time allotted for the game.

Overthrows To 1st Base If a 1st-base overthrow hits the big green container or the first fence (which separates the dugout from the field), then the ball is in play. If the overthrow hits the second (back) fence, it is out of play and each runner is awarded 1 base.

Recruits Recruited bonus players count as regular players in all playing situations. (Recruited players are players who usually play for another team.) However, a team with no women players may avoid the one-out penalty (see Team Composition) by recruiting a woman.