

# **2024 NEW YORK STATE SOFTBALL RULE**



**These rules are in effect for all games in *NYS as a waiver to the USA Softball rulebook and have been approved as modifications by NYSPHSAA***

**Adult Base Coach Helmet:** All adult base coaches must wear a hard-shell protective helmet while on the first or third baselines during the game. (The helmet must be worn as the manufacturer intended it to be worn.)

**Bat Grip Waiver:**

The length of the bat grip will remain 10” to 15” as found in the 2011 rules. USA Softball approved softball bats may be modified with grip tape or a replacement grip to comply with this waiver.

**Metal Cleats:** Metal cleats are allowed at all levels of play.

**Tie Breaker:**

The tie-breaker rule will be in effect at the top of the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) inning for the regular season and Sectional Tournaments. This rule is mandatory.

**Unannounced Substitution:**

There is no penalty for an unannounced substitution.

**NYSPHSAA Regionals, Semi-Finals and Final:**

- The host team will be the home team. (May 2016)
- Mercy Rule for NYSPHSAA regional, semifinal, and final (championship) games, the game shall end when there is a run differential of 12 runs and when the game is considered an official game. (Oct. 2017)
- Wave the International tie breaker rule. (Oct. 2019)