

## **Florida First Coast Softball**

All Games are being played under Florida Half Century rules. These rules can be viewed at:

<https://floridahalfcentury.org/PDF/FHCPlayingRules.PDF>

**In addition, we have some rule modifications as follows:**

### **THE PLAYERS**

#### **A. Age Qualifications**

- (1) December 31 is the official cutoff date. Any male player whose 50th birthday occurs on or before December 31 of that current year is eligible to play with a registered team in the Jax Half Century (FFCSoftball) league.
- (2) December 31 is the official cutoff date. Any female player whose 40th birthday occurs on or before December 31 of that current year is eligible to play with a registered team in the Jax Half Century (FFCSoftball) league.

#### **B. Uniforms**

- (1) Sponsor shirts with a number are required to be worn. No other uniform requirements.

### **THE GAME**

#### **A. Time Limit**

- (1) Time limit of 50 minutes shall be allotted in regular game play. When the 50 minutes expires, the teams shall finish that inning and play one more complete inning, if necessary. This final inning will be an “open inning” with no restrictions on runs scored. One exception will be if the Visiting Team is winning by 12 or more runs, they will forfeit their open inning to the Home Team. If the Home team scores 12 or more runs to take the lead, the Visiting Team will then have their open inning and become the new Home Team.

**B. Offense**

- (1) The offensive team shall have a minimum of 9 players to start and finish the game and is required to bat/play every player on the team that attends the game with the intention of playing. There are no limits on the number of players batting over nine players.
- (2) If any of the first four (4) batters in the official line-up are walked, the batter receiving the walk will be awarded second base. All other base runners will move up based on being “forced” to advance.
- (3) Walking a Male Batter to get to a Female Batter. When the defensive team walks a male batter, intentionally or not, with a female batter being the next batter, the male batter becomes a runner and is awarded second base. The female batter has the option to become a runner at first base or complete her at bat. Current baserunners move forward forcibly.
- (4) Female batting, Outfielders Behind 200' Restriction Line when a female is batting, outfielders are required to remain behind the 200' restriction line until the batter contacts the ball. Also, for female batters, all infielders must play on the “brown” colored turf until batters contact the ball.
- (5) Male batting, Outfielders Behind 200' Restriction Line when a male is batting, outfielders are required to remain behind the 200' restriction line until the batter contacts the ball.
- (6) If your team has 2 or more females, females can NOT bat back-to-back.

**C. Defense**

- (1) Defensive team will play a minimum of 9 players in the field and a maximum of 10 players. Coaches should have players rotate in the field to insure everyone on the team bats and plays some defensive positions.
- (2) No offensive player can be thrown out at first base from the outfield.

**D. Umpire**

- (1) Jax Half Century (FFCSoftball) league will only use one umpire.

## **E. Homeruns**

(1) A home run over the fence will present a "hit and sit" requirement for the batter. Batters hitting a ball over the outfield fence in fair territory should return to the dugout without touching the next base. An over the fence ball ruled as an error by the umpire requires the batter to touch all four bases. Batter must touch the "safety home plate" not the "original home plate" to complete the homerun trip around the bases. An out will be called on "any runner" touching the wrong plate or missing a base.

## **F. Game Balls**

All game balls will have to be purchased from the concession stand; these balls will have the FFC stamp. This is the ONLY ball that can be used in any league game.

## **G. Runs Per Inning**

(1) The Florida First Coast softball league will use a limit of 6 runs per inning.

## **H. Bats**

(1) Florida First Coast Softball "Altered Bat Policy and Procedures" is in effect for all Jax Half Century League games.

## **I. Technical Forfeit/Player Pickup**

(1) Florida First Coast Softball will allow a team to "pickup to ten" players if short players. Players must be a rostered player in the current senior league to be eligible to be picked up. If a team has less than 7 of their own rostered players, the game will be played as a technical forfeit, and the opposing team will get the win. The game can still be played.

## **THE PARK**

### **A. Smoking**

(1) NO SMOKING OF ANY KIND inside the park. If umpires catch someone smoking, vaping, cigars, etc.; they will have the authority to eject the player. ZERO TOLERANCE.

*Florida First Coast Softball Board of Directors reserves the right to add, delete, or modify the playing rules to make our game safer, more competitive and better for our teams.*