



SONS OF THUNDER

SONS OF THUNDER ATHLETIC CLUB – ADDENDUM TO MEN’S SOFTBALL RULES

Last Revised: 6/14/2026

In the interest of providing the highest quality of competition and promoting fairness, the Sons of Thunder Athletic Club shall use the following amendments to the rules of the Supporting AHJ and Associations. These amendments shall supersede other rules where applicable:

I. Eligibility

- a. Participation on a Sons of Thunder Athletic Club (“Club”) team requires membership with the club, whether as a full team member or as a substitute. Member registration can be found on our website sonsofthunderdfw.com
- b. Substitute Players can only be fielded to augment a team up to 12 total players. All available registered Roster members can play in a game, even if there are more than 12 players. However, if there are more than 12 Roster members playing, no subs can be used. SUBSTITUTES MUST ALWAYS BAT AT THE END OF THE LINEUP.
- c. Only players who are identified as a biological male at birth shall be allowed to participate in Men’s League Games. SoT is interested in providing CoEd and Women’s opportunities should these needs be presented.

II. Rosters

- a. Each team must field a minimum of seven (7) official roster players for each game, otherwise the game shall be deemed a forfeit.
- b. Players cannot be added to a team’s roster after the 5th game of the season, UNLESS another team member is disabled, disqualified, ineligible, or quits for the remainder of the season. The SoT Director must be notified immediately of any player that drops for any reason – roster replacements shall be approved by the SoT Executive Committee.

c. SUBSTITUTE ROSTERS

- i. Each team may create a “Substitute Roster” of up to 5 players. The rosters will be managed via TeamSnap and any players added to a team’s substitute roster must register for that team’s substitute roster in TeamSnap.

- ii. Substitute Rosters will be locked after the 5th game of the regular season. Players on the Substitute Rosters can only be swapped after that point with the approval of the SoT Executive Committee.
- iii. Players are not allowed to sign up for more than a single team's substitute roster.
- iv. Members of each team's substitute roster can fill in for actual roster members only up to a total of 12 players as stated in Section 1.B.
- v. Players on any other team's regular or substitute rosters can no longer play as a substitute for another team. In emergency situations (last minute drops), reach out to the SoT Director to discuss, although playing short-handed will most likely be required.
- vi. Members of a team's substitute roster can play in the playoffs as long as all of the above substitute rules are followed – no opposing coach approval is required.

III. Playing Rules

a. Bats

- i. Both USSSA and ASA/USA Bats shall be allowed - no senior bats are allowed.

b. Balls

- i. All Game Balls must meet the same specifications as the Game Balls provided by the AHJ.

c. Pitching

- i. All pitches shall be delivered from the Pitching Plate located 50' away from the back of Home Plate per USSSA rules, or from any pitching plate behind the primary pitching plate. USSSA rules state that one of the pitcher's feet must be in contact with the pitching plate at the moment the pitch is released.
- ii. In addition to the typical "Halo" rule that protects the pitcher from hard line-drives in their safety zone, hard ground balls that hit the ground in front of the pitcher and either hit the pitcher or their safety zone may also be called as a "Halo" out. All "Halo" calls are 100% a judgement call by the umpire and therefore cannot be argued.
- iii. Legal pitch arc shall be defined as 6 ft to 10 ft, regardless of the height of the pitcher or release point.
- iv. STRIKE ZONE MAT
 - 1. A Strike zone mat shall be provided by the club behind home plate. If a legally thrown pitch hits the any part of the mat or home plate itself, the pitch shall be called a "Strike", regardless of batter position. A legally thrown pitch that hits anywhere except the mat or plate, shall be a "Ball".

- a. Legally thrown pitches that appear to hit the edge of the mat or plate are a judgement call by the Umpire and therefore cannot be argued.

d. **Stealing/Baserunning**

- i. USA Softball Rules – Rule 8, Section 4 shall be in effect during all games, usable only by the losing team when down by 8 or more runs:

- 1. In summary:

- a. Runners may advance when a pitched ball, legal or illegal, reaches the front edge of home plate.
 - i. Runners deemed by the umpire to have left their base early shall be declared out.
 - b. Pitched balls that land in front of home plate or strike the plate itself shall be declared dead balls and no runner may advance.

- ii. **COMMITMENT LINE AND SAFETY LINE (REMOVED 6.14.2026)**

e. **Home Runs**

- i. Each team shall be allowed 2 home runs, after which each subsequent home run shall only count as a double, and all runners already on base shall advance 2 bases.
 - 1. **EXCEPTION:** For every home run that the opposing team hits, the original team shall be allowed to hit another home run with no penalty (2 and 1 Up)

SoT Director

- **Christian Turnley – 817-733-4757**

SoT Executive Committee

- **Shawn Balderas, Aaron Minchew, Joe Kezele, Jon Henning, Phil Perez**