



2026 CCSL Spring Season Rules

Game Rules & Guidelines

Conduct

- All players and team members must follow the CCSL Code of Conduct and always demonstrate good sportsmanship during league games and events.
- The Code of Conduct is available online at CactusCities.com > About > League Documents.
- Ejected players must leave the field and field complex immediately.
- Further suspension and penalties determined by CCSL Board of Directors.
- All ejections and incidents reviewed by CCSL Board of Directors for further sanctions or penalties.

Time Limits

- 55 mins - no new inning after 50 mins.

Home & Visitor Designation

- Determined by season schedule.

Minimum Number of Players

- Teams must field at least 9 batters to play.
- If a team has only 9 players, the 10th batting spot will be recorded as an out.
- Any team starting with fewer than 9 players, or dropping below 9 during the game, will forfeit

Pitching & Batting

- Pitch Count: All plate appearances start with a 1 ball, 1 strike count.
- Courtesy Foul: One (1) courtesy foul allowed after two strikes.
- Pitch Height: Must be between 6 and 12 feet (USA Softball standard).
- Batting Order: Teams may bat up to 12 players.
- No Base Stealing.

Courtesy Runners

- Allowed in all divisions (one per inning).

Player Eligibility

- All players must be registered as Spring Season Player and have paid the season player fee.
- All players must be rostered on team in Crossbar.
- All players must be rated on the team roster submitted to CCSL.
The CCSL roster sheet is available online CactusCities.com>About>League Documents
- Players who do not meet these requirements are not eligible to play in any CCSL game.



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Lineup Sheet

- **Required Information:**
 - Legal Name of Player: The name appears on the player's state-issued ID.
 - Uniform Number
 - Position (Optional)
 - Substitution Player
 - Include the legal names and uniform numbers of all substitution players.
 - Substitution players must be physically present at the start of the game to be listed
 - Do not list any player on the lineup who is not present in the dugout.
 - Players who arrive after the start of game time may be added as a substitute.
- **Important Rules:**
 - No more than three (3) non-LGBTQ rostered players may be on the field or in any batting lineup in any game at any given time.
 - All players listed on a line-up sheet must be a registered player for the current CCSL season, no exceptions.
 - Players must be rostered to the team and comply with divisional ratings guidelines, regardless of whether the game is divisional or non-divisional.
 - Failure to comply with these requirements will result in a forfeited game.

PIP Accommodations

- Runner may only be used after PIP player has completed an at bat; if runner not used, the opportunity to use a PIP expires for that inning. (substitute with PIP accommodation may not be substituted- then receive a courtesy runner once on base.)
- Must be used at the next dead ball; once a pitch is thrown, the option expires.
- The PIP runner is the last recorded out (or previous inning's last out if needed).
- If the PIP runner is due to bat, the previous out replaces them without penalty.
- PIP runners do not count toward courtesy runner limits.
- PIP form is available online CactusCities.com>About>League Documents

Team Ratings

- Open E: Team Cap 60 | Player Cap 6 | No Player may have Hitting High Velocity Question 3.
- Open D: Team Cap 95 | Player Cap 10 | No Player may have Hitting High Velocity Question 5.
- Open C: Team Cap 130 | Player Cap 14
- Open B: Team Cap 170 | Player Cap 18
- Open A: Team Cap None | Player Cap None
- Ratings calculated by adding the top 10 rated players.



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Tie Games

- Games may end in a tie, but the following procedure will be used to attempt a tiebreaker:
 - If the score is tied after 7 innings or when time expires, a one-pitch tiebreaker inning will be played.
 - Offense starts with 1 out.
 - Last completed batter from previous inning starts on second base.
 - A courtesy runner or substitute may be used for that runner.
 - If the score remains tied after the tiebreaker inning, the game will be officially recorded as a tie.

Run Rules

- 20 runs after 3 innings, 15 after 4 innings, 10 after 5 innings
- Mercy rule flip-flop
 - If the home team is losing by 10+ runs and it's the final inning (due to time or inning limit), the flip-flop rule kicks in. The home team bats first, temporarily becoming the "visiting" team. If they don't tie or take the lead, the game ends immediately. If they do tie or take the lead, the original visiting team bats next. The switch does not reverse—the new batting order stays in place for the rest of the game.

Uniforms

- All players must wear uniform tops with visible Arabic numbers (0–99), at least 3 inches high.
- All players must wear like uniform tops.
- No duplicate numbers on the same team.

Headwear & Face Coverings

- Allowed: Ball caps, non-plastic visors, headbands, sweatbands, handkerchiefs, durags, bucket hats.
- Must not be worn around the neck.
- Unsafe headwear is prohibited.
- Face coverings for health/environmental reasons allowed.

Jewelry

- Umpires may require removal of any jewelry deemed unsafe.
- Failure to comply = ejection.

Cleats

- No metal cleats are allowed.



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Home Runs

- A Division: 5 allowed
- B Division: 3 allowed
- C Division: 1 allowed
- D & E Divisions: 0 allowed
- Any over-the-fence HR beyond limit = inning-ending out.

Bats

- Must have current USA Softball stamp and not be on the non-approved list.
- Senior bats are prohibited.
- Non-Approved Bat List

Protests (Ratings/Eligibility)

- The process for adjusting or appealing player ratings for any CCSL player is described in the 2026 Spring Season Coaches' Packet. The 2026 Spring Season Coaches' packet is available online at CactusCities.com > About > League Documents.

General Rules

- A pitcher can begin their motion from anywhere within the 24-inch width of the pitching plate up to 6 feet behind it, as long as both feet are on the ground and one foot must remain in contact with the ground until ball is released. (contacting designated mound)
- All other rules follow USA Softball standards.