



NEPSAC Softball Game Rules & Procedures* Spring 2026

Rule Book: Federation (NFHS)

Amendments & Clarifications:

- Mercy Rule: 15 after 4, 10 after 5
- International Tiebreaker: in case of a tie game at the end of 7 innings, the international tiebreaker will be utilized until a winner is determined
- Shorthanded Rule: 8 players are required to begin & continue a game; the 9th spot in the lineup will be counted as an automatic out.

Game Day Procedures:

- Jersey Colors: dark home, white away (unless team has 1 jersey)
- Game Balls: The home team will provide at least 2 new balls per game. Recommended balls are: Rawlings NC12L NCAA 12" & Wilson ASA 12" A9106
- Music: Responsibility of home team (away teams should not play music before games unless agreed upon, no visitor music during game); music should be clean
- Late arrivals: 30 minute minimum warm-up time will be awarded for an away team arriving late.
- Recommended Warm Up Procedure:
 - 60 minutes before: teams arrive, begin warm up, lineups exchanged
 - 25 minutes before: Home team takes full field warm up (7-10 minutes)
 - 15 minutes before: Away team takes full field warm up (7-10 minutes)
 - 5 minutes before: Coaches' meeting

**These rules will be in place for all non-league regular season NEPSAC games. Individual leagues and tournaments within the NEPSAC are able to implement their own rules & procedures.*