

2026 RULE DIFFERENCES FOR THE U13 DIVISION

SOFTBALL CANADA HAS INCLUDED IN THEIR RULE BOOK AN AREA DEDICATED TO MINOR SOFTBALL RULES. THE P.W.S.A. IS NOT USING ALL OF THESE RULES FOR THE 2026 U13 TOURNAMENTS. BELOW YOU WILL FIND THE RULE DIFFERENCES THAT WILL APPLY TO THE 2026 P.W.S.A. U13 DIVISION TOURNAMENTS.

Rule 3 Equipment

1. PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

For the U13 Division, it is MANDATORY for all pitchers to wear a protective face mask.

Rule 4 - Coaches, Players & Substitutes

2. NUMBER OF PLAYERS

A full roster of seventeen (17) players will be allowed.

Teams will be expected to field a team of nine (9) players.

P.W.S.A. does not allow a team to compete with less than the maximum of nine (9) players on the field.

All batting rules are covered under Batting.

3. SUBSTITUTES

Unlimited defensive substitutions are allowed.

Players may enter and exit the game defensively at any time and in any position.

4. PLAYING TIME

A player cannot play the same position more than four (4) innings per game.

If the game goes to the International Tie Breaker, the playing time will reset after eight (8) innings.

Players do not have to play infield and outfield positions in a game.

Rule 5 - The Game

5. REGULATION GAME

No inning shall begin after one hour and forty-five minutes

N.B.: ALL MEDAL GAMES WILL BE NO NEW INNING AFTER 120 MINUTES OR 7 INNINGS.

6. DEFENSIVE CONFERENCES

A team is permitted two (2) defensive conferences per inning.

7. RUN LIMIT PER INNING

There is no maximum number of runs per half inning.

8. RUN LIMIT – OPEN LAST INNING

This rule does not apply to the P.W.S.A. U13 Division.

9. TIE BREAKER

The International Tie Breaker shall be used at the completion of seven (7) innings or when the time limit is up.

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Rule 6 - Pitching Regulations

10. PITCHING

A pitcher cannot pitch for more than four innings per game.

If the game goes to the International Tie Breaker, the pitching rule resets after eight (8) innings.

Rule 7 - Batting

PLEASE NOTE: WE WILL NOT BE USING THE LAST BATTER RULE.

11. NUMBER OF BATTERS

- All registered players present at the ballpark and who are neither injured nor ill will be required to take a regular spot in the batting line-up.
- Players who show up after the official line-up has been submitted will be inserted into the bottom of the team's batting order. The player will bat in this spot of the order regardless of where the team is in the order when the player arrives. (For example, if the late player is inserted in batting position #12, and the #12 spot is due up next, the late arriving player becomes the next batter.)
- If a player becomes ill or injured during the game and is unable to bat, that player's spot in the order will be skipped without penalty. If the player recovers to the point where the player can later bat, the player can re-enter the game and bat in their original spot in the order.
- Should an umpire, for objectionable conduct, eject a player from a game, an automatic out will be called for the remainder of the game when that player's spot in the order is due up.
- A player not batting in their spot for any reason not covered in the Softball Canada Rulebook, including being benched by a coach for disciplinary reasons, will be declared out when the said player's spot is due up.
- Should a player be able to hit, but unable to run the bases, the last available player to bat may be utilized as a courtesy runner. Courtesy runners must be announced before the game begins unless an injury occurs during the game.

Rule 8 - Batter-Runner & Runner

12. THIRD STRIKE RULE

IS in effect in the U13 Division.

13. LEAD OFF

Runners may leave the base when the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.

ANY SUSPECTED ABUSE OF THESE RULES SHOULD BE REPORTED TO THE P.W.S.A. FOR FOLLOW-UP.