

CENTRAL DISTRICTS  
SOFTBALL  
ASSOCIATION  
MODBALL (U12) RULES

2019  
Version 1

# SOFTBALL CDSA MODBALL (U12) RULES

## PRINCIPLES

- Modball intends to provide opportunity for players to learn the game of Softball by use of modified rules.
- Enjoyment and learning are equal considerations for child participants in the Modball competition.
- Coaches, parents or other caregivers involved in this competition are expected to model behaviour which demonstrates good sportsmanship and fair play at all times.
- The CDSA Member Protection Policy applies.



## GENERAL

These Rules are to be read in conjunction with the Official Rules of Softball as issued by Softball Australia and adopted by Softball CDSA.

### 1. THE TEAMS

- 1.1 All players shall be under 12 as at December 31 in the relevant playing season. Permits may be applied for.
- 1.2 Team numbers can vary from a minimum of 7 and up to 12, and make substitutions during the game without restriction.
- 1.3 Each team will have a nominated coach or official who will pitch if the pitcher delivers 3 balls

## **2. THE PLAYING FIELD**

- 2.1. The field shall be marked as for Softball except:
  - (a) The pitcher's plate shall be 30ft from the apex of home plate.
  - (b) The bases shall be positioned 55ft apart.

## **3. EQUIPMENT**

- 3.1 Shoes must be worn by all players. Metal cleats and shoes with screw in studs are not permitted. Moulded cleats are allowed.
- 3.2 Gloves are required for all fielders. Catchers will wear regulation gear including mask, chest plate and leg guards. Pitchers will wear a facemask.
- 3.3 Helmets are required for all batters and base runners.
- 3.4 Softcore 11" balls will be used

## **4. THE GAME**

- 4.1 The length of a game shall be 75 minutes. No new innings will be commenced with 5 or less minutes to play.
- 4.2 One innings is completed when each team has batted and fielded.
- 4.3 Batters bat in a set order. All players (up to 12) will be listed in the batting line up and will bat in turn.
- 4.4 A team's turn at bat concludes when 3 outs are made.
- 4.5 There will only be nine defensive players on the field at any one time.
- 4.6 The fielding team must have a pitcher and catcher in regulation positions, with all other fielders positioned as the fielding team chooses, within the field of play.
- 4.7 A pitcher can only pitch to 12 batters before a substitution must be made.
- 4.8 There will be no walks. If a pitcher has delivered 3 balls, the coach (or other nominated team official) will pitch to the batter until i) the batter hits a fair ball, or ii) the batter is struck out
- 4.9 The infield fly rule shall not apply

## **5. STARTING EACH INNINGS**

- 5.1 Before each game both teams set their batting order with all players listed (1st – 12<sup>th</sup>, or as many as the team has).
- 5.2 At the start of each innings the batting team sends one batter to Homeplate and 3 runners to the bases – “Loaded Bases”
- 5.3 In the first innings the 1st batter leads off by going to bat, at the same time the last 3 batters in the line-up start the game on base.
- 5.4 Each subsequent innings the last 3 batters of the innings before, start on base with the last batter on 1st base, the second last batter on 2nd base and the third last batter on 3rd base.

## **6. STRIKE ZONE**

- 6.1 The space over any part of home plate between the batter’s armpit and the bottom of the batter’s kneecap, when they assume their natural batting stance.

## **7. MAKING AN OUT**

- 7.1 The batter is out when the third strike is called or is swung at and missed. (There is no “dropped third strike” rule)
- 7.2 A base runner is out when they overrun 2nd or 3rd base and a fielder has possession and control of the ball at the base before the runner returns to the base.

## **8. STEALING**

- 8.1 There is no stealing bases or advancing on a ball that gets past the catcher.

## **9. PROTESTS**

- 9.1. There shall be no protests in Modball.

## **10. SCORERS**

- 10.1 Must use the official CDSA Modball scorebook available from the Match Director.

## Version History

\*each time amendments to these rules occur, the year and identification of the amendment must be recorded on the table below.

Year	Version	Change	Author of Amendment
2019	1	Modball rules initial development.	Linda Thornton, Judith Lukas & Kay Anagba