

# DSMA Rule Changes/Highlights for 2010

*Check the DSMA Constitution and By-laws for more details.*

- ◆ All bats on the ASA or USSSA 2010 approved bat lists are **LEGAL** in ALL DSMA leagues.
- ◆ A player can play in more than one classification, but is restricted to playing not more than one level lower than his highest classification.
- ◆ **New ASA pitching arc:** The pitching arc for all DSMA games (except in USSSA leagues) is now a minimum of 6' and a maximum of 10'.
- ◆ **"No Digging In" rule:** When getting set in the batters box, a batter is prohibited from performing any action that removes or redistributes dirt in a way that will create a hollow in the batters box. **Managers are responsible for informing team members. Penalty: a strike will be called. If the batter has two strikes and is charged with "digging in" a third strike will be called and that batter will be called "out".**
- ◆ **Pitcher Protection Rule:** Any ball that when directly hit (i.e. line drives) places the pitcher into a defenseless mode and either hits the pitcher or glances off the pitcher's glove or clothing will be considered a violation according to the "pitcher protection" rule and will result in the following penalties:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> occurrence (each team) – dead ball, batter is out
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence (each team) – dead ball, batter is out and ejected
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> occurrence (each team) – forfeiture of gameBalls that strike the ground first are not included in this rule interpretation.
- ◆ **Teams must supply their own softballs for league games.** Men and Coed-Men will hit a 12" ball, either ASA-approved (.cor 44 or lower) or USSSA-approved Classic M (.cor 40 or lower). Coed-Women will hit an 11" ball, either ASA-approved (.cor 44 or lower) or USSSA-approved Classic W (.cor 44 or lower). Balls may be white or optic yellow, and the ASA or USSSA stamp must be clearly visible. **NOTE: For the Spring season, DSMA will supply each team with 4 new balls and at least 2 used balls before their first game.** Any additional balls must be supplied by the teams.
- ◆ **Home Runs:**

Class C = 5	USSSA Class D = 2
Class C/D = 3	USSSA Class E = 1
Class D = 0	
- ◆ **Batters will come to the plate with a count of "1 ball and 1 strike";** the batter will have a possible 3 balls and/or 2 strikes to complete their at bat. **NOTE: Class D leagues will be allowed an extra foul ball; Class C and C/D leagues do not get an extra foul.**
- ◆ **ROSTERS must be turned in to your scorekeeper at the FIRST LEAGUE GAME.** However, changes can be made until the roster deadline of **April 12**, when the FINAL ROSTER is due. Rosters may be turned in at the field ONLY on the first league night. If changes are made from the initial roster, then you must submit a final roster to the Athletic/Reservations Office or Kiest Softball Complex by April 12. **PLEASE NOTE: A new roster DOES NOT have to be turned in every time you make a change; turn one in at your first game and turn in a final roster no later than April 12.** Additional roster forms may be obtained online at [www.dsma.com](http://www.dsma.com) .
- ◆ **Base stealing is allowed in all Men's leagues (EXCEPT Class D and USSSA Men's leagues).**
- ◆ **Teams have a choice of using a traditional batting order or "bat-the-bench", in which all players bat.**
- ◆ **All league winners receive either a free entry to the City Playoffs for their classification.** Any other eligible DSMA team may enter for a \$100 fee.