

DIVISION III SUPPLEMENT HUFF-N-PUFFER PLAYING RULES, 2021

Division III Supplement to the Official Guide and Playing Rules for 2021.

The following rules replace and/or supersede any rules printed
prior to this date for the

HUFF-N-PUFFERS SENIOR SOFTBALL LEAGUE.

All competition will be conducted in accordance
with rules set forth in this official guide and in the
new edition USA (formerly named ASA) Softball Playing Rules.

Any suggestions, proposed changes, or revisions to our
rules must be submitted in writing during regular
meetings or at a Governing Board meeting.

2021 RULES COMMITTEE

JERRY BACHER, CHAIRMAN

KEN DIPPONG

ED KUSTRA

TOM ZIGMAN

JIM LEONARD

RICK DEMETER

LARRY KEATING, Umpire-In-Chief

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RULE 1 **Runners and Non-Runners**

- 1.1** No runners from home plate. Non-runner batters will be called out if the ball does not leave the infield. Umpire will call it a dead ball and any runners on base will not advance.
- 1.2** Pinch runners may run twice per inning and unlimited times in the last and extra innings. Reason: there are fewer capable runners. All non-runners need pinch runners after a hit.
- 1.3** Pinch runners should be appointed by the manager before the first legal pitch has been thrown to the next batter. If a player steps on base he can be replaced by the manager's runner of choice without penalty.

Rule 2 **Fielders**

- 2.1** Managers and umpires will insure that outfielders will stay in place and not move in for non-runners. There are to be NO short-fielders for non-running batters. When there is a non-running batters, umpires are to move outfielders to standard depths.

Rule 3 **Batters**

- 3.1** Batter must declare to the umpire whether he is a runner or non-runner. A non-runner will remain a non-runner for the whole game.

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Rule 4 Home Runs and Balls Hitting the Green

- 4.1** Three (3) home runs (over the fence) per game, per team. Any home runs over three (3) will be counted as singles.
- 4.2** Balls hitting the green will be a hit unless fly balls are caught. If a base runner is on 1st & 2nd or 1st, 2nd & 3rd. they get the next base.
- 4.3** Runners may advance at their own risk after the next base is taken.
- 4.4** Anyone hitting the ball over the fence in fair territory is awarded a home run, and the batter need NOT run the bases.
- 4.5** The batter cannot be forced out at 1st base by an outfielder or a short outfielder. Any player lining up, at the time of the pitch, in the outfield grass shall be considered an outfielder. Reason: if a non-runner hits it to the green it is a hit. He should not be penalized for being a slow runner by being thrown out at 1st base by an outfielder. Forcer outs at 2nd, 3rd, or home are still permitted.

Rule 5 Number of Innings Played

- 5.1** Division 3 will play seven (7) innings following the rule of Divisions 1 and 2 for weather and mercy rules.

Rule 6 Playoffs

- 6.1** Division 3 will play a full season and will have the top four teams play a double elimination tournament. Team 1 plays

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Team 4 and Team 2 plays Team 3. 2 (two) losses to be out of the playoffs.

Rule 7 **Infield Fly Rule**

- 7.1** Treat it like the non-runner infield ground out. Caught or not, the batter is the only player called out. All base runners return to their previous base. No double plays.

Rule 8 **Designated Hitter and “Hitter”**

- 8.1** Use same DH rule as Divisions I and II. This is instituted so DIII players can continue to play; some players can no longer play on defense but can still hit.
- 8.2** A team identifies its special “Hitter” (different from a “Designated hitter”) prior to the start of the game. This hitter can be any player and he cannot be intentionally walked. If the hitter earns a walk, a runner is sent to first base and the hitter steps up to bat again with a fresh 1 and 1 count. In the second at bat for the hitter no balls are called, only strikes. That second at bat lasts until the hitter hits the ball fair or strikes out.