

BAJA ALLISON LEAGUE 2022 RULES

Preface: In order to clarify and govern the conduct of Allison League play, this addendum is published. BAJA has and will continue to follow SSUSA rules for the 2022 season. Any rule not contained in this addendum will be ruled in accordance with the 2022 SSUSA rulebook. BAJA exceptions to the 2022 SSUSA rulebook are as follows:

A. Playing Fields:

1. **Dimension:** Our fields meet specifications of a SSUSA field other than the 275 ft. fence distance.
2. **Batting Mats:** The artificial turf mats purchased/wooden strike plate (Home) will be used as batter's boxes for all games. A pitched ball that hits ANYWHERE on that wooden plate is considered a strike.
3. **Batter's Boxes:** The batter's boxes marked on the mats are not SSUSA dimensions. BAJA will use the established box dimensions on the mats. A batter will be considered out of the batter's box and therefore called out when a foot is on the ground, completely off the mat or completely over the interior white line when the ball is struck.
4. **Alternate bases:** Alternate bases will be used at both first base and home plate.
 - a. **First Base:** A batter will be called out if there is a play at first base and he fails to run to the alternate base. The alternate base will be placed 2 ft. outside the first base bag and even with the 2nd base line.
 - b. **Home:** BAJA will use a home line during the games. A line is placed in line with the front left corner of home plate extending to the 3rd base side fence and parallel to the first base line. This line will represent home plate. This line will be used at all times. A runner must have a foot in contact with the ground on or beyond the line prior to the catcher with the ball touching home plate in order to score. If a player running home touches the pitching plate or the mat inside the batter's box, he/she will be called out and the run does not count. The catcher must be touching the original home plate to make an out. The runner is considered SAFE if the catcher tags the runner once the runner has crossed the "Commitment Line" between 3rd and Home, and is 20 feet before the Home Plate Line.
5. **Base Distance:** Bases will be 70 ft. as is the current SSUSA standard.

B. Equipment:

1. **Ball:** BAJA will not use the current approved SSUSA softball. Instead we will continue to use the 44/375 ball.
2. **Bats:** Bats that are banned by the SSUSA are automatically banned from the Allison League. Bats with cracks, flat spots, etc. will not be used. Use of illegal bats will be dealt with by the Commissioner using SSUSA rules.
3. **Gloves:** There are no glove restrictions.
4. **Pitching Screen:** The pitching screen will be optional in the Allison league. Both pitchers must agree not to use the screen. If one pitcher wants the screen than both will have to use it. The screen will be placed 3.5 ft. in front of the pitching rubber and that one end of the base of the screen will be centered to the pitching rubber. A batted ball hitting the pitching screen will be considered a DEAD BALL. A thrown ball hitting the pitching screen is considered a LIVE BALL.

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5. **Pitcher Face Mask:** Allison League pitchers WILL wear an ASA/SSUSA approved face mask when on the mound.

C. Rosters/Lineup:

1. **Accountability:** Managers are responsible for the Roster and Lineup. Failure to comply with the rules set forth will result in forfeiture of that game *whether appealed by the opposing manager or not.*
2. **Injured Player:** If a player is injured during the game and cannot continue, or has to leave the game for ANY legitimate reason, he/she is simply removed from the lineup without any penalty
3. **Paired Players:** Paired Players (two players drafted as one) may only play in the same game when a rostered player is missing from the lineup. Paired Players MAY switch which day they play, however, unless there is a missing player from the lineup, they may only play one day of the week.

D. Conduct of Play:

1. **Time Limit:** Double Headers will begin at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. If no extra innings occur, no non-open inning will be started after 12:00 noon. The first inning starting past 12:00 noon will be announced as an “open inning” by the umpire. There are no time restrictions set for the games.
2. **Batting Count:** All batters will begin each at bat with a 1 ball and 1 strike count with none to waste.
3. **Pitching:** The delivery of the pitch is as per SSUSA rules. The pitcher must start his delivery behind the pitching screen.
4. **Walks:** No player may be walked more than once per game. If a second or subsequent walk is given, the batter has the option of taking the walk or placing a team member on first base and remain at bat. If the batter chooses to remain at bat, a new count is given to the batter after the walk is issued. If the batter is walked again, the option is repeated.
5. **Home Runs:** SSUSA per triple A division allows 3 home runs per team per game. Any home runs after three will be counted as singles. Inside the park home runs do NOT count on this limit.
6. **Extra Innings:** One extra inning per game will be played, if needed. The batter making the last out of the previous inning will be placed on second base at the start of the extra inning. This runner must advance one base before provided a courtesy runner. Regular softball will be played from that point. The batting team will have three outs to score as many runs as they can. If the score is still tied at the end of the inning, the “Half-Run Rule” will be used. The visiting team will be awarded .5 runs and declared the winner.
7. **Warm-Ups:** At the start of the game, a pitcher is given five warm-up pitches and each infielder may take 2 balls from the first baseman. Between innings, a pitcher may elect to take up to 2 warm-up pitches. Infielders can’t after the first inning. A pitcher in relief may elect to take 5 warm-up pitches. An infielder in relief may elect to take 2 balls from the first baseman.
8. **Slow Play:** Umpires will be encouraged to keep the games moving. Conferences (whether offensive or defensive) will be kept at a minimum and will not exceed SSUSA rules. Umpires at their discretion will issue balls and strikes as appropriate.

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9. **Courtesy Runners:** All rules regarding Courtesy Runners are in accordance with SSUSA rules:
 - a. A courtesy runner may only run once per inning.
 - b. A courtesy runner may not be granted a courtesy runner.
 - c. If a courtesy runner is on base when his/her turn at bat comes up, the courtesy runner will be removed from base, an out recorded, and the runner will bat his turn.
10. **High Wind Situations:** Managers may agree prior to or during any game where high winds are present to not call balls. If this agreement is made, no walks will be called / awarded.
11. **Official Protests/Appeals:** Notification of an official protest or appeal must be made to the umpire as per SSUSA rules. Appeals will be adjudicated immediately by the umpire. It will be the umpire's responsibility to notify the League Commissioner of any protest for adjudication. The League Commissioner will recuse themselves in any situation that may be perceived as a conflict of interest for them. If this arises, the High Commissioner will resolve the issue.
12. **Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Managers are the only players to address the umpire.** The umpire is authorized at their discretion to warn or eject any player who exhibits bad conduct. The Commissioner reserves the right to impose a more serious penalty. This overruling includes, but is not limited to, ejecting a player with habitual misconduct for additional games. Any fan exhibiting bad conduct will be reported to the Commissioner for resolution.
13. **Umpire Selection:** During the season, any person who attends the BAJA Umpire Clinic or is an accredited ASA/SSUSA umpire may umpire a game. Umpires will be assigned by the Chief Umpire. Managers MAY NOT waive these assignments. During the End-of-Season Tournament, the Commissioner and Chief Umpire will assign umpires.
14. **Scoring:** Managers may designate anyone their scorekeeper. The home team book will be the official book for that game. If the home team cannot keep a complete scoring record for both teams, the visiting team's book will become the official book if it maintains a complete scoring record. If neither team can keep a complete scoring record, the umpire is the official scorer. He may consult with either or both books at his discretion.
15. **Rain Outs/Make Up Games:** No regular season game will be made up if cancelled. If at the end of the regular season, a tie in the standings exists, a one game playoff will be played on the first day of the tournament between the tied teams. The winner will be declared season winner and first seed for the tournament.
16. **Manager Selection:** During the summer and fall leading up to the season, The Commissioners will select the Managers for both leagues. Managers will be required to attend a brief Manager's Clinic to review rules, guidelines and tips for managing.
17. **Waiver:** Except where specifically stated, NO SSUSA OR BAJA RULE IN EFFECT WILL BE WAIVED WITHOUT CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER.