



## **5 X 5 X 5 SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL**

5 X 5 X 5 is a different type of softball that requires a team to only have five (5) players on your team. Because there are only five players each person will get far more at bats and can play more positions per game. Typically, the 5 X 5 X 5 format is offered in the fall one day tournament format but can be offered at any time of the year and in league format too.

### **FORMAT ADVANTAGES:**

- The team only needs five (5) players to play in a league or tournament.
- Players get more at bats, usually six to ten at bats per game, often more than that.
- It's different but you still need to hit, catch, and throw the softball to win games.
- You get to play two (2) positions per inning.
- Team entry fees are low, typically around \$25 per player.
- The game encourages team cooperation, camaraderie, and sportsmanship.
- Instills new thought for ideas and methods of playing the game we all love.

### **TEAM DESCRIPTIONS:**

- Infield Team: A five (5) person team that plays pitcher, first base, second base, third base and shortstop positions for three (3) outs in an inning.
- Outfield Team: A five (5) person team that plays catcher and the four (4) outfield positions for three (3) outs in an inning.
- Batting Team: A five (5) or six (6) person (with an extra hitter) team that bats until three (3) "outs" are recorded.

### **RULES:**

Games are scheduled in 80 (eighty) minute intervals. No new inning will begin after 70 (seventy) minutes. Tie games will be continued until a winner is determined.

The first team to bat will be determined by "rock-paper-scissors" during the umpire/manager pregame meeting.

A team must always have five (5) legally rostered players to start and finish a game. No sharing players with other teams.

A game consists of three (3) teams competing against each other in a five (5) inning, 45 out, no mercy rule game.

Each team plays defense for two-thirds of an inning (consisting of nine outs) and shall bat five (5) times.



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## THE THREE TEAMS:

- **The Infield Team** - a five (5) person team that plays pitcher, 1st base, 2nd base, 3rd base & shortstop positions.
- **The Outfield Team** - a five (5) person team that plays catcher & the 4 outfield positions.
- **The Batting Team** - a five (5), or six (6) person (with an extra hitter).

An infield team and an outfield team play defense, while the batting team takes their turn at bat.

All three (3) teams rotate positions for one cycle (9 outs) to complete one (1) inning.

The winning team is the team that scores the most runs.

Other than the three-team format, normal USA Softball slow pitch softball playing rules apply.

Each team may have a Designated Courtesy Runner (DCR). The DCR may be used unlimited times per inning or game, but they are not in the lineup for batting and defensive purposes. If a team requires the DCR to enter the lineup because of injury, ejection, etc., that team cannot use another DCR for remainder of game.

## TEAM ROTATIONS:

Once the "batting team" completes their turn at bat, they assume the "outfield team" positions.

The "infield team" then takes their turn at bat, while the "outfield team" assumes the "infield team" positions. The full rotation is Bat-Outfield-Infield-Bat.

## COED TEAMS:

You may play with three males and three females (player number six becomes your extra hitter).

Team must always have two (2) female players on defense.

## CHAMPIONSHIP GAME DETERMINATION:

Each team will play a minimum of three (3) games to determine if qualified to advance to the championship game.

Top three (3) teams will play in the championship game based on the following priorities in order:

- Number of first place finishes in qualifying games.



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- Number of second place finishes in qualifying games.
- Total number of runs scored in qualifying games.

