



Last year the ASA/USA Council passed a new rule for 2015 allowing for up to all players on the roster present to be able to bat in all Junior Olympic Classifications of Play during Pool Play. The rule passed added a clause for how the Shorthanded Rule would be handled. The new rules as listed in the 2015 ASA Participant Manual reads as follows:

**Rule 4, Section 1D[2A] Exception:** In all Junior Olympic Fast Pitch Pool Play Only; When a team elects to bat more than nine batters the game will continue with the skipped batter being recorded as an out whenever a player leaves the game for any reason other than an ejection. Teams cannot play with less than 8 players.

**Rule 7 Section 2F:** (Fast Pitch) In Junior Olympic Pool Play only, teams have the option of having up to all players on the roster present bat. The Shorthanded Rule that applies to Junior Olympic Fast Pitch will apply. Rule 4, Section 1 [a-d] and 2 [a-g] Exception

***Based on the intent of the new rule and combined with the current rules governing players and substitutes, we have revised the way the batting of up to all roster players in Junior Olympic Fast Pitch Pool Play will be handled. The following are the main components of properly using this rule:***

**STARTING LINE-UP:**

- A. The first nine players listed will have their number and defensive position listed on the line-up card with the exception of the DP (if used), who will just be listed as "DP". (i.e. Steve Roscia, #12 LF)
- B. Those who will be listed next will be listed as "EP" (Extra Player), and will be governed by the Extra Player Rule. (Rule 4, Section 4 A-D). They will hit and will be eligible to play defense. Note\* "Any nine can play defense when not using a flex or have dropped down from using a flex" and any eight can play defense when using a flex.

- C. If the DP/Flex is used, the Flex will be listed LAST on the line-up card immediately following the final "EP". All other provisions of the DP/Flex Rule, (Rule 4, Section 3 A-I), will be in effect.
- D. The only players that are allowed to be a substitute, (i.e. pitch run, pitch hit), for anyone in the starting line-up are those players who are not listed in the starting line-up but listed as substitutes on that same line-up card. The Re-Entry and Substitution Rules will apply. (Rule 6, Section 5 A-C – Re-entry) and (Rule 4, Section 6 A-F – Substitutes and Illegal Player)
- E. The only players that are allowed to be a Courtesy Runner for Pitcher and Catcher are those players who are not listed in the starting line-up but listed as substitutes on that same line-up card and have not yet participated in the game. The Courtesy Runner Rule will apply. (Rule 8, Section 10 A-G – Courtesy Runner).

**NOTES: These are items that pertain to the Rule:**

- **Batting Order:** All players on the roster **up to the total amount** of players present on the roster may bat. Whatever number you start with must remain the same unless you lose players as mentioned in the rule. EXAMPLE: If you start with 12 batters you cannot increase to 13 batters or decrease to 11 batters.
- **Shorthanded Rule:** When a team elects to bat more than nine batters the game will continue with the skipped batter being recorded as an out whenever a player leaves the game for any reason other than an ejection. Teams cannot play with less than 8 players. If a team loses a player from the batting order due to an ejection the game would end in a forfeit. EXAMPLE: If a team bat's 15 and all they have are 15, no subs, and they lose one batter due to ejection, the game would end in a forfeit.
- **When using a DP/FLEX:** If a team uses the DP/FLEX rule the flex will still be listed at the end of the batting order. If a team decides to bat the FLEX they may do so. However, the FLEX may only bat for the DP in the DP's batting position. Then DP would be then considered out of the game and may re-enter one time. EXAMPLE: A team is batting 12 and using the DP/FLEX. They would list their 12 batters with the DP being in one of the first nine positions and the FLEX listed in the 13<sup>th</sup> spot.
- **Courtesy Runner:** No player starting in the batting order may be used as a Courtesy Runner for the pitcher and or catcher. In order to be a Courtesy Runner a player cannot have participated in the game in any fashion. EXAMPLE: If a team has 15 players and wants two Courtesy Runners they can only bat 13 players.

We hope this addresses any and all issues in regard to batting all players in Junior Olympic Pool Play. If other situations arise we will use the same thinking to try and resolve them.