

From NYSPHSAA Handbook, March 2018 Edition:

12. INTERSCHOOL SCRIMMAGE

A scrimmage is a practice that is a SIMULATED CONTEST.

In scrimmages:

- a. both squads use the same field simultaneously with both coaches making corrections and giving instructions.
- b. GAME RULES MUST BE ALTERED - SEE SPORT SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS (High School Sport Standards).
- c. no official score is kept,
- d. time period(s) are defined in the Sport Standards section of the NYSPHSAA Handbook
- e. no admission is charged.
- f. The use of officials would be permitted and encouraged whenever possible for the purpose of instruction regarding the rules and proper application of rules.

18.09 Softball Scrimmage Rules:

1. A softball scrimmage must include free substitutions and lineup cards will not be exchanged.

Scrimmages must also include one or more of the following:

2. Play six (6) outs per half inning (example– 3 outs clear the field/3 more outs).
3. Batting order must be altered or modified to include more batters than rules permit.
4. Start with a runner(s) on base with a predetermined situation for at least two (2) full innings.

As far as umpires are concerned, a scrimmage is a practice. Please remind coaches of this. We will not accept lineup cards. Free substitutions are permitted at any time: Thus, we will not care if a player enters the batting order in a different spot than they were in previously, if they reenter more than once, if someone bats out of order, etc. Coaches can stop play (safely) and talk with players, can set up specific plays or situations, can do whatever they want as if it was a practice. Naturally, both coaches should be afforded the same courtesy.

We continue to care about safety. We will continue to enforce the Jewelry Rule, sportsmanship rules, and the other rules of softball. This is also an excellent time to work out the cobwebs and for us to get ready for the season.