

NYSSO RULES INTERPRETATIONS - 04/19/2023

UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

EYE BLACK

There is no restriction on eye black. Since there is no restriction, the number of horizontal lines, vertical lines, etc. is irrelevant. Do not impose another sport's restriction on NYS high school softball. Since there are no restrictions there can be no questions.

WRIST/ARM BANDS

Players who use a wrist/arm band for their play card are required to wear them on the wrist/arm. They may not be worn on the belt. If they wish to store them out of sight in their pocket when not in use (just like batting gloves), that is permissible.

TOWELS/GORILLA GOLD

Offensive players may not have towels, Gorilla Gold rags, etc. hanging out of their pockets, waistband, etc. *Defensive* players may have such items securely placed in the pocket or waistband.

BAT CHECKS

Battles with noticeable rattles must be removed. Bats with shredded or missing grips must be removed. Athletic tape, pre wrap, electrical tape, etc. are not acceptable replacements or fixes for the bat grip. Grip tape or a new bat grip is required. Additionally, umpires may not direct players to remove bats from the dugout simply because the bat was not part of the equipment check.

GO PROS

Electronic and communication devices are not permitted on the field. Therefore, a catcher may not have a Go Pro or similar device on her helmet/mask.

HATS

Players (and coaches for that matter) may not wear their hats backwards. The bill must face forward. Offensive players wishing to wear a hat under their batting helmets are likewise required to wear the hat with the bill facing forward.

MECHANICS

GAME BALLS

Use a break in the action to reload on game balls. For example, when there is a charged conference, player-to-player conference, injury delay or between innings, reload on game balls. Also, try to start each half inning with a set of game balls. Don't wait until you're empty to reload.

CHARGED CONFERENCES

The plate umpire must record all charged conferences, both offensive and defensive. This isn't an option. It's part of your responsibility for which you receive financial compensation as an umpire. Organize your line-ups and line-up card holders so that they can be accessed quickly and efficiently.