



ADDENDUM TO THE 2019 CSSA RULES-
FOR TRIAL USE OF PITCHING SCREEN
IN ALL DIVISIONS- Revised 2-8-19

This addition to the CSSA RULES is for a special trial of using a safety screen for pitcher's protection for **ALL** Divisions games **in the 2019 season**.

Use of Screen:

- The use of a screen is not required, but is an option for **ALL teams**.
- The screen will be used in a situation where a team/pitcher chooses to use it for protection of the pitcher. If one team/pitcher in a game chooses to use the screen, **the other team is NOT required to use the screen, but can if desired**. If only one team is using the screen, then it should be moved on/off the field quickly so as not to delay the game.
- Teams/pitchers choosing to use the screen must provide the screen for both teams to use.

Screen:

- Screen size- 4' maximum in width, and 6'6" maximum in height.
- Placement- Screen would be placed 1' to 3' in front of the rubber, or 1' to 3' in front of the position from which the pitcher will be releasing the ball.
- Screen should cover one half the rubber/pitcher's box width, on left side for right-handed pitchers and right side for left-handed pitchers.
- The screen shall not be moved to facilitate defensive plays, including throws. If the screen is intentionally moved by the defense while the ball in play and, in the umpire's judgement interfered with play, the umpire shall award such bases to runners as would have been reached had the screen not been moved.

Batted Balls:

- A batted ball- line drive, grounder, pop-up, etc.- that strikes the screen in any way shall be ruled a dead-ball foul ball. If this occurs on the third strike, then the batter is out.
- On a called infield fly, if the ball hits the screen it will be a dead ball, the batter is called out and any runners do not advance at their own risk, as with normal infield fly rules.

Thrown Balls:

- Any thrown ball that strikes the screen is a live ball and runners advance at their own risk.

Pitcher:

- The pitcher shall make the pitch, and then be in position behind the screen when the ball is struck. Failure to follow this process, **the pitch** will be called a **ball**. **If pitchers continue not being behind the screen when the ball is struck, then the screen shall be removed from the field.**
- There are no restrictions or limits on the pitcher's participation other than the item above.
- Pitchers that use the screen **are REQUIRED to wear** a pitchers mask and **are recommended to wear additional** protective **safety equipment** such as **head gear**, shin guards ~~or~~ and **heart/chest** protector.
- The pitching distance will be 50-60 feet from home plate, with a pitcher's box as specified on Page 10, Field Specifications, of the 2018 RULES. Pitchers can pitch from any location/spot inside the pitcher's box, and place the screen as described above.