

NAGAAA Player Ratings Guidelines (2016-2017 revisions)

Directions:

1. Answer YES or NO for each rating question.
2. Many questions have multiple parts. A YES to and one part of the question is a YES to the entire question.
3. All questions begin with the phrase: DOES THE PLAYER HAVE THE ABILITY TO....

Throwing

Questions 1-5 are intended to identify throwing ability and have nothing to do with the player’s ability to field the ball.

Questions 1-5 are linked. A player who gets a yes to question 4 (for example) automatically gets a yes to questions 1-3 as well.

Definitions	
Occasionally: to be able to perform the particular skill with some regularity or more often than not (i.e. the skill can be performed 3 out of 5 times).	Consistently: to be able to perform the particular skill with great regularity (i.e. the skill can be performed 4 out of 5 times).

Question 1	Question 2	Question 3	Question 4	Question 5
Occasionally throw a ball through the air 65 feet or better in the vicinity of another player?	Consistently throw a ball through the air 90 feet or better in the vicinity of another player OR occasionally throw to the proper place turning accurate infield plays against runners with average base running speed?	Occasionally throw a ball through the air 90 feet or better without a rainbow arc in the vicinity of another player OR consistently throw to the proper place turning accurate infield plays against runners with average base running speed?	Consistently throw a ball through the air 90 feet or better without a rainbow arc in the vicinity?	Consistently throw a ball without a rainbow arc to the proper place turning accurate infield plays against an aggressive runner with above average speed OR consistently make long throws without a rainbow arc from the outfield directly and accurately to the proper base completing proper plays against an aggressive runner with above average speed?

Fielding

Questions 6-14 are intended to identify fielding ability and have nothing to do with the player’s ability to throw the ball.

Questions 6-13 are linked. A player who gets a yes to question 11 (for example) automatically gets a yes to questions 6-10 as well. Question 14 is not automatically linked to any other question.

Definitions	
Occasionally: to be able to perform the particular skill with some regularity or more often than not (i.e. the skill can be performed 3 out of 5 times).	Consistently: to be able to perform the particular skill with great regularity (i.e. the skill can be performed 4 out of 5 times).

Question 6	Question 7	Question 8	Question 9	Question 10
Occasionally on purpose catch balls that are thrown to the player with a rainbow arc?	Occasionally on purpose catch balls that are thrown to the player without a rainbow arc?	Consistently on purpose field slow hit balls that are within a few steps OR consistently on purpose catch fly balls within 15 feet?	Consistently on purpose field medium hit balls that are within a few steps OR consistently on purpose catch fly balls that are more than 15 feet away?	Occasionally on purpose field medium hit balls that are in the hole OR occasionally on purpose catch fly balls that are more than 30 feet away?
Question 11	Question 12	Question 13	Question 14	
Consistently on purpose field medium hit balls that are in the hole OR consistently on purpose catch fly balls that are more than 30 feet away.	Occasionally on purpose field hard hit balls that are in the hole OR occasionally on purpose stop line drives in the gap from getting by the outfielders?	Consistently on purpose field hard hit balls that are in the hole OR consistently on purpose stop line drives in the gap from getting by the outfielders?	Occasionally on purpose make spectacular catches?	

Base Running

Questions 15-18 are linked. A player who gets a yes to question 17 (for example) automatically gets a yes to questions 15 and 16 as well. Rating is to be determined by answering the speed element along with one additional element in the question.

Definitions	
Occasionally: to be able to perform the particular skill with some regularity or more often than not (i.e. the skill can be performed 3 out of 5 times).	Consistently: to be able to perform the particular skill with great regularity (i.e. the skill can be performed 4 out of 5 times).

Element(s)	Question 15	Question 16	Question 17	Question 18
Speed	Below average speed (>5 seconds to go 70 feet).	Average Speed (4-5 seconds to go 70 feet).	Above average speed (approximately 3-4 seconds to go 70 feet).	Exceptional speed (<3 seconds to go from one base to the next).
Base Running Knowledge	Runs past first base, but doesn't run past other bases.	Gets solid jump start out of the batter's box; doesn't lead off; tags up; goes half way to next base on fly ball; rounds bases with "question mark" technique.	Aggressive jump out of the batter's box; makes a turn at first and goes half way to second on an outfield base hit; advances on a slightly bobbled ball.	Makes an attempt to turn a routine base hit into a double on a ball hit to a player who is adept at fielding and throwing.
Sliding	Does not slide.	Sometimes slides to be safe.	Executes several different slides to avoid tags; slides with a deliberate attempt to break up a double play.	Similar skills to the above average player but achieves greater frequency of success.

Hitting

Questions 19-27 are intended to be answered based on the outcome- not counting walks- of each completed at bat (whether the batter reaches base or is out on the final pitch of the base) not based on the outcome of each swing during an at bat.

Questions 19-22 are linked. A player who gets a yes to question 22 (for example) automatically gets a yes to questions 19-21 as well.

Definitions	
Occasionally: to be able to perform the particular skill with some regularity or more often than not (i.e. the skill can be performed 2 out of 5 times).	Consistently: to be able to perform the particular skill with great regularity (i.e. the skill can be performed 3 out of 5 times).

Question 19	Question 20	Question 21	Question 22
Occasionally hit a fair ball?	Consistently hit a fair ball?	Occasionally hit a fair ball with at least medium velocity?	Consistently hit a fair ball with medium velocity?

Questions 23-26 are linked. A player who gets a yes to question 26 (for example) automatically gets a yes to questions 23-25 as well. For questions 23-26 use a **Modified Batting Average**.

Modified Batting Average - The percentage resulting from the sum of a player's: 1) hits and 2) base safely reached on error divided by the player's at bats.

Against	Question 23	Question 24	Question 25	Question 26
D Division	.800 or better	.900 or better	.975 or better	1.000 or better
C Division	.600 or better	.700 or better	.800 or better	.875 or better
B Division	.300 or better	.500 or better	.600 or better	.750 or better
A Division	.100 or better	.300 or better	.400 or better	.600 or better

Question 27 is not automatically linked to any other question.

Question 27	Occasionally hit a ball over a 300 foot fence.
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Additional Definitions to Consider

Hit -A batted ball that allows the batter to reach base safely: 1) on a fair ball which settles on the ground, clears the fence, or strikes the fence before being touched by a fielder, 2) on a fair ball which is hit with such force or such slowness or which takes an unnatural bounce that it is impossible to field with ordinary effort in time to make an out, 3) when a fair ball which has not been touched by a fielder becomes dead because of touching the person or clothing of an umpire, or 4) when a fielder unsuccessfully attempts to retire a previous runner and in the scorer's judgement, the batter runner would not have been retired at first base by perfect fielding.

A hit shall not be scored: 1) when a runner is forced out on a batted ball or would have been forced out except for a fielding error, 2) when a player fielding a batted ball retires a preceding runner with ordinary effort, 3) when a field fails in an attempt to retire a preceding runner, and in the scorer's judgement, the batter runner could have been retired at first base, or 4) when a batter reaches first base safely as a result of a preceding runner being called out for interfering with a batted or thrown ball, or with a defensive player. In the event of any discrepancy between this definition and the official scoring rules of the ASA and the definition contained therein, the latest version of the ASA rules shall control.

Medium Velocity – a ball hit 55 to 80 mph or hit 150 to 250 feet in the air or a ground ball that would roll to a distance of 125-225 feet if not impeded.

Medium Hit Ball – a ball hit 55 to 80 mph or hit 150 to 250 feet in the air or a ground ball that would roll to a distance of 125-225 feet if not impeded.

In the Hole - a ball that is hit at a distance that is more than 12 foot radius from the infield defender.

Hard Hit Ball – described as a ball hit at a minimum of 80 mph or greater than 250 feet in the air or a ground ball that would roll to a distance of 225 feet or greater if not impeded.

In the Hole - a ball that is hit at a distance that is more than 12 foot radius (4-5 steps) from the infield defender.

In the Gap – a ball that is hit at a distance that is more than 30 foot radius (10-12 steps) from the outfield defender.

Line Drive – a ball that from the point of contact rises vertically less than 10% of the total horizontal distance it travels

Spectacular catch – when a player catches the ball while leaving his center of gravity or is able to overcome obstructions.

This form is intended to be used as a tool to assist those responsible for rating players so that ratings may be fair and consistent across all levels of play and across all leagues in the Open Division. All questions are intended to determine if a player possesses a skill or skills necessary for softball.