



FUN FACTS

Q: In what two years did the US softball team win the gold?

A: 1996 and 2000. The Olympics are played only on even numbered years. 1999 and 2001 are odd numbers, so there were not any Olympic games those 2 years. That was the clue if you knew that.

Q: After the pitcher has released the ball in a live ball situation, a runner can steal a base anytime they want to, except when a foul ball has been hit?

A: The runner can steal anytime they wish unless the ball is hit or if there is a foul ball. However, they can still if the catcher misses the ball or if there is a wild pitch, or even if the pitcher doesn't catch the ball when thrown back to them unless it is a dead ball (foul ball).

Q: You are the batter. You have 2 strikes, and 2 balls. You decide to bunt. After you bunt the ball, it rolls in foul territory and stays in the foul territory. Are you out?

A: YES. In fast pitch, any time a bunted ball rolls passed the foul line into the foul territory, it is a strike. Whether you have 1 or 2, or even no strikes, a bunted foul ball is considered a strike if it rolls into the foul territory and stays there.

Q: Can a runner advance to a base after a fly foul ball has been caught after tagging up?

A: You can do this in slow pitch also.

Q: What team did USA beat in gold medal game in 2000?

A: Japan

Q: How many players are there on the US softball team?

A: 16

Q: If a hit ball lands in the outfield in fair territory, and bounces foul, the ball is?

A: A batted ball to the outfield is determined by where it lands, as opposed to an infield hit which is determined by where it settles.

Q: How many innings long is a softball game?

A: For both slow pitch and fastpitch softball, games are 7 innings long

Q: Who invented the game of softball?

A: Softball was invented in 1887 by George Hancock, a journalist for the Chicago Board of Trade. He designed the game to be a form of indoor baseball to be played during the winter.

Q: What was the first year that saw fastpitch softball as an Olympic sport?

A: Fastpitch softball was first played in the Olympics at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia in the United States. In that year, the gold medal went to the United States, the

Silver to China, and the bronze to Australia. A softball pitch at the 1996 Olympics was clocked at 73.3 MPH.

Softball has been played in every summer Olympics since 1996 and will be played in the 2008 Olympics in China. Sadly, baseball and softball were voted out of the 2012 summer games in London.