



SLO-PITCH CITY LEAGUE RULES

GENERAL PLAYING RULES

1. Alcoholic beverages consumed outside of the licensed area (i.e. parking lot and players' benches) could result, in the suspension of the player and/or team involved, from any league play.
2. All Slo-Pitch Ontario Rules will apply unless otherwise stated.
3. All leagues will use the standard mat. (2' x 3')
4. Home team is decided by coin flip at the start of all games.
5. No metal cleats are allowed in any slo-pitch division. Detachable cleats are legal but, if there are any exposed fasteners, the shoes must be removed from the game.
6. **For 2011, Slo-Pitch City will follow the USSSA Bat Certification Program. To be legal they must be marked USSSA BPF 1.20 or for bats manufactured prior to 2004, marked BPF 1.20.**
For further details, you must check website:

www.asasoftball.com/about/certified_equipment.asp

7. All men's divisions will use a 12" ball, women's divisions will use a 11" ball. Both men's and women's divisions will use the core 40 Worth softballs, while co-ed divisions will use the Worth RIF Ball.
Men's - SPO12CY Ladies - SPO11EY
8. **JEWELLERY**
The player is solely responsible for any injury caused by his/her wearing any jewellery. The umpire may request any exposed jewellery be removed. Refusal to comply is an immediate suspension. Knee braces must be covered.
9. Abusive behaviour toward officials, team-mates, opposing players, or spectators will not be tolerated. Anyone who exhibits any kind of abusive behaviour toward any other person will be removed from the property, and may be subject to further sanctions, suspension, or prosecution, depending on the nature of the abusive activity. **NO WARNINGS, ZERO TOLERANCE.**



10. All games are considered OFFICIAL games if 4 1/2 innings are completed and the home team is in the lead, or if 5 innings are complete with the visiting team in the lead.
11. **The 9 inning game MERCY rule applies to all divisions. A 15 run mercy rule is in effect after 6 1/2 innings, if the losing team agrees to quit. If not the game will continue with a 1 1/2 hour time limit (from start of game) or 9 innings.**

The 7 inning game MERCY rule applies to all divisions. A 12 run mercy rule is in effect after 4 1/2 innings, if the losing team agrees to quit. If not the game will continue with a 1 1/2 hour time limit (from start of game) or 7 innings or darkness for diamonds 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,8.

12. If teams are tied at the end of seven/nine innings, the last legal batter of the previous inning will start at second base. Limit two (2) extra innings, after which the game remains tied.
13. Re-entry is allowed in all divisions of play.
14. A scoring and commitment line will be used in the Men's and Ladies divisions. All base runners attempting to score must do so by touching the ground in foul territory on or beyond the scoring line. There is NO sliding while attempting to touch or cross the scoring line.
Commitment Line - A player, who has touched and or crossed the commitment line with any part of the body - MUST continue on towards the scoring line. Once the player has touched or crossed the commitment line, any attempt to return to third base, he (she) will be called out. A base runner may be tagged out between the commitment line and scoring line.

CONTRACTS AND ROSTERS

1. The Slo-Pitch City Team Roster must be completed, filed with and approved by the league executive prior to the first scheduled game. The league executive reserves the right to rule on player eligibility and the players effects on team classification. Any team is subject to re-classification based on the ability of the team and the ability level of the players approved on the roster. Teams that add player(s) to their roster may cause re-classification based on the ability of the new player(s). Teams will be permitted to add players up to the maximum 20 until the final signing date of: **June 19, 2011**
2. Players are not permitted to play unless they have been approved to a team roster. Players may not sign additional rosters until they have obtained a release. Players and the team manager who violate this rule are subject to a three game suspension.



3. Team Managers are responsible for ensuring that all roster sheets are completed properly with all player information. When additional players are signed, it is the duty of the Team Manager to sign the player and bring the updated rosters to the League Executive for approval. Players may not participate in any game prior to signing the roster and receiving approval from the League Executive.
4. Players are eligible to compete in one co-ed division of play and are eligible to compete in one only single sex division of play.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. Teams may sign a maximum of 20 players and have until June 19, 2011 to add to their roster.
2. Players must be at least 19 years of age to be eligible to play, or must obtain parental authorization if younger than 19 years old.
3. Players are not eligible to play until they have been added to a team roster and it has been approved by the League Executive.
4. All managers and coaches who wish to be active players, must also sign the roster in one of the 20 allotted roster positions.
5. Suspended players are not eligible to play under any circumstances until the suspension has been completely served. Teams using a suspended player will be charged a forfeit and the suspension of the player will be doubled.
6. Players not appearing on the approved roster of a team are not eligible to play at any time for that team. If a team uses an ineligible player they will be charged a forfeit and the player and the team manger will be suspended for 3 games.
7. Team managers or their designate must have their approved official roster at all games. When the eligibility of a player is questioned, that player must show identification to the umpire. Refusal to show identification will result in the loss of the game for the offending team and suspension of the team manger and the offending player for 3 games.



8. Suspensions issued from a surrounding complex and/or a Slo-Pitch Ontario and/or Slo-Pitch National sanctioned event shall be upheld by the Slo-Pitch City League upon review.

FORFEITS

1. **If a team forfeits a game, the team is charged \$50.00 and this taken from performance bond of \$100.00. After two (2) forfeits, the \$100.00 performance bond must be replaced or team forfeits remaining games.**
2. Teams will be given a 10 minute grace period from the official starting time before a forfeiture is awarded. A forfeiture results in a loss for the offending team and a win for the opposing team.
3. **If neither scheduled team has enough players to begin a game following the 10 minute grace period, both teams are assessed a forfeit and the \$50.00 is deducted from each team's performance bond.**
4. If a team starts a game with the required number of players and one of its players suffers a legitimate injury and cannot continue, the team will be able to continue the game with 9 players. If the batting line-up falls below 9 players, the game is halted and a loss awarded to that team and a victory awarded to the opposing team. The team losing players to injury during the course of the game will not have a forfeit charged against its record.

PROTESTS

1. A protest must be filed with the umpire at the time of the alleged infraction and prior to the next pitch. This is for all situations excluding the question of player eligibility. The protest must then be filed in writing with the League Executive along with a \$100.00 protest fee in cash. If the protest is upheld the \$100.00 will be refunded. Protests are only accepted for clear rule violations and will NOT be accepted in the case of judgment calls made by the umpires.



SPECIAL RULES

1. **All games (April - August) - 9 Innings.**

APRIL – AUGUST:

8 GAMES @ 6:30 PM

2 GAMES @ 8:00 PM

All games starting Monday, September 12th - 7 Innings.

SEPTEMBER:

8 GAMES @ 6:30 PM

2 GAMES @ 8:00 PM

League tournament games, including play-offs will be seven (7) innings in length.

2. **Home run limit is in effect for league play:**

In all categories: Maximum of 5 Homeruns per team per game.

Where an over-the-fence home run is hit (that is in excess of the number allowed), the batter will be called out.

3. Teams may start a game with a minimum of 9 players. There is NO 'automatic' out for the tenth player. A 10th player may be added to the 10th position any time before the end of the game. Any team that starts a game with ten or more players may drop to the minimum of 9 players to finish the game. If a player is ejected from the game for any reason, the ejected player's team must have a substitute available to replace the ejected player or that team will forfeit the game. A team may not add extra players to the line-up AFTER THE FIRST BATTER'S SECOND AT BAT.
4. All players in attendance who are on the approved rosters of the teams competing with each other are eligible to be in the batting order. Only 10 players are allowed on the field at any one time in a defensive role. Players on the game line-up sheets can be moved in or out of the defensive line-up throughout the game, however the batting order must remain the same.



5. Anyone not in the starting line-up must be substituted into the game, and the substituted player may re-enter. Teams will be allowed a maximum of 3 courtesy runners per game and the umpire must be notified when the courtesy runner is entering the game. A courtesy runner must be an approved player for the team.
6. Due to the wide potential variance of weather in the Southwestern Ontario region, cancellation or postponement of games well in advance of game times will only occur in rare situations.
It is the responsibility of the team manger or one designate to call Slo-Pitch City after 5:30 p.m. for a decision as to cancelled games. [(519) 268-7976.]
7. Any decision to cancel or postpone scheduled games will be made by Slo-Pitch City due to inclement weather conditions prior to the start of the games and by the umpire-in-chief following the start of a game.
8. **RAIN-OUTS - will be scheduled the week beginning Monday September 19 or if necessary the League may schedule games for a Sunday afternoon in late August.**

HOW TO RE-SCHEDULE GAMES:

If you require a game to be re-scheduled, it is the responsibility of the team manager of the team requesting a change to:

- review the division schedule to see which teams you can exchange a date.
- must contact all teams involved re: change of dates to ensure that they are willing to make a switch.
- must contact league to confirm change. mike_guiler@hotmail.com or (519) 868 - 2398.

DO NOT CALL SLO-PITCH CITY AND ASK TO CANCEL GAMES, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ARRANGE A RE-SCHEDULE. A \$25.00 CHARGE WILL APPLY IF THE LEAGUE EXECUTIVE HAS TO RE-SCHEDULE YOUR GAME. THE \$25.00 FEE IS DUE AND PAYABLE PRIOR TO A RE-SCHEDULED GAME.



SCORE-KEEPING AND GAME LINE-UP SHEETS

1. The home team is the official scorer of each game.
2. Game line-up sheets must be completed by both teams and turned into the umpire prior to the start of the game. The player's first and last name are required on the line-up sheet. All players who are intending to play must appear on the game line-up sheet. Players not on line-up sheet will not be permitted to enter the game. Players may be added at the umpire's discretion throughout the game.

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REGULAR SEASON STANDINGS

1. Division standings will be based on points, 2 for a win, 1 for a tie. In the event of a tie for first place, SPOA tie-breaking rules will be used.
2. All other ties in the standings will be broken using the following tie-breaker formulas:
 - (1) win/loss record of the teams involved with each other.
 - (2) most victories.
 - (3) coin toss.
3. Standings will be updated and posted in a timely fashion on the bulletin board at the entrance to the Slo-Pitch City Sports Bar.
4. Any apparent discrepancies in the posted standings should be brought to the attention of the league executive immediately.

REGULAR SEASON GAMES AND TIMES

1. **Game times:** **GAMES BEGIN AT 6:30 PM / 8:00 PM.**

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings.



LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

1. This is a Slo-Pitch Ontario qualifying tournament for the provincials to be held in London on the weekends: August 26 - 28, September 2 - 4, 9 - 11, 2011.
All SPO rules are in effect for this tournament.

League tournament date:

Men's/Ladies: JUNE 17 - 19, 2011.

(Please note: Play starts Friday evening: June 17th.)

PLAY-OFFS

1. All teams will qualify for the play-offs. To be eligible all players must participate in a minimum number of games.

Men's/Ladies division (30 game schedule) - 11 games

Men's/Ladies division (24 game schedule) - 9 games

Men's/Ladies division (20 game schedule) - 7 games

Co-ed division - (15 game schedule) - 6 games

The league tournament is counted toward player play-off eligibility.

2. **Play-off tournament date:**

Co-ed: SEPTEMBER 17 - 18, 2011.

Play-off tournament date:

Men's/Ladies: SEPT. 30 - OCT. 1 - 2, 2011.

(Please note: Play starts Friday evening: Sept. 30th.)