



## Slo-Pitch City League Rules

Absolutely no one shall be allowed to consume any alcoholic beverages outside of licenced areas or **in the parking lot** at Slo-Pitch City. Any player, coach or team representative caught drinking outside of designated areas, in the parking lot, or on the players bench, may have their team suspended for the remainder of the tournament. **All team managers and coaches should impress this rule upon your team and fans.**

1. **All games** will have a time limit of 1 hour and 15 minutes or 7 innings. No new inning will start after 1 hour and 10 minutes. (all divisions)
2. Teams must be prepared to play 10 minutes prior to scheduled game time. **Coaches and managers-** it is your responsibility to have you players on time and at the proper diamond.
3. Teams may start with a minimum of 9 players. No out shall be declared when the 10<sup>th</sup> position in the line up is scheduled to bat. A 10<sup>th</sup> player may be added to the 10<sup>th</sup> position any time before the end of the game. Any team that starts a game with 10 or more may drop to minimum of 9 players to finish the game. A team may add extra player(s) at a later time. **If a player is ejected from the game for any reason leaving the team with less than 10 players, the ejected players team must have a substitute available to replace the ejected player or that team will forfeit the game.** If, with 2 out, the batter before the missing player is walked, the automatic out is waived, and the next batter will bat.
4. Any player or team representative that has been ejected from a game **must sit out** the next game of the tournament. If the infraction or behavior has been deemed to be flagrant, the player or team representative may be out for the remainder of the tournament pending further review and sanctions by Slo Pitch Ontario and Slo Pitch National.
5. Only the catcher, pitcher and first baseman **may** have trappers
6. No re-entry rule- Teams may bat more than 10 players with free substitution, in and out of the playing field. (**Exception:** If the tournament convenor supplies line-up cards, re-entry rule is allowed)
7. Home team will be decided by a coin toss. Home teams **will not** bat in the 7<sup>th</sup> inning if a head in round robin games. If a team wants to ensure maximum bats, they should bat first.
8. Pitching arc will be a minimum height of 6 feet and a maximum of 12 feet. The pitching distance will be a zone 24" wide from 50-65 feet.



9. Home plate will be a 2-foot by 3-foot mat. Any legal pitch making contact with the mat will be called a "strike".
10. A foul ball on the 3<sup>rd</sup> strike is an out.
11. No lead-offs will be allowed, however a relaxed or courtesy step is allowed.
12. There will be 3 courtesy runners allowed per game-anytime anywhere but must be on the playing roster submitted to the convenor. For co-ed teams-see co-ed rules.
13. In all D, E divisions (Men's, Ladies and co-ed) a run cap of 5 will be used in each inning except when an inning is declared an "open inning" by the umpire.
14. Mercy Rule: 12 runs in effect if losing team has had 5 bats.
15. Home run rule: any ball hit over a fenced diamond will be an automatic out if over the designated limit. Limits are:  
Thursday Men's **5 HR**      Division 1 men's **3HR**    Division 2 Men's **2 HR**    Division 3 Men's **1+1**  
   Ladies D-**2HR**     Ladies Rec-**1HR**
16. Games will be played "rain or shine". SPC, the organizers and the SPC UIC will rule on all field playing conditions.
17. Tie Breaking Rule: If teams are tied at the end of 7 innings, last legal batter will start at second. (SPC sanctioned tournament- **start with NO outs**)

**Jewellery- NOTE: it is strongly recommended that any type of jewellery not be worn in any SPC play. If worn, each player is solely responsible for any injury or damage that may be caused by this jewellery. The umpire may have any player remove any jewellery or equipment that he/she deems dangerous**

**Please note: SPC sanctioned tournaments- NO Jewellery**



18. Any player, coach or manager openly using profanity during the game will be called on a technical out whenever this happens at the discretion of the umpire. For offensive teams, the out will be applied immediately. For defensive teams, they will begin their turn at bat with an out for each infraction.
19. Scoring and commitment line will be used in all divisions. For co-ed teams-see co-ed rules.
20. The Softball Canada Rule book, the Slo pitch Ontario Handbook and the SPC UIC will have the last word on any rule interpretation or other issue. (The SPO handbook will govern SPO sanctioned tournaments. The SPN rulebook will govern SPN sanctioned tournaments.

## **SPO tournaments will follow SPO bat policy. SPN tournaments will follow SPN bat policy.**

### **Contracts and rosters**

1. The Slow Pitch City team roster must be completed, filed with an approved by 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 reclassification based on the ability of the team and the ability level of the players approved on the roster. Teams that add players to their roster may cause reclassification based on ability of the new players. Teams will be permitted to add players up to the maximum 20 (30 coed) until the final signing date of Coed- **June 15th, 2019.**
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 3-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 roster 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 complete in one coed division of play and are eligible to compete in 1 only single sex division of play.



## Player Eligibility

1. Teams may sign a maximum of 30 players and have until June 15th, 2019 to add to their roster.
2. Players must be at least 16 years of age to be eligible to play or must obtain parental authorization if younger than 16 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 30 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 fee 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 anytime for that team if a team uses an eligible player, they will be charged a forfeit fee and the player, and the team manager will be suspended for 3 games.
7. Team managers and their and they're 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 empire refusal to show identification will result in the loss of a game for the offending team and suspension of the team manager and the offending player for 3 games.
8. Suspensions issued from a surrounding complex and/or a SPO and or SPN sanctioned event shall be upheld by the pitch city league upon review.

## Forfeits

1. If a team forfeits a game the team is charged \$50 and this is taken from the performance bond of \$100 after 2 forfeits the \$100 performance bond must be replaced or teams forfeit remaining games.
2. No grace period. Games are to start at official starting times.
3. If neither scheduled team has enough players to begin a game both teams are assessed a forfeit and the \$50 is deducted from each team's performance bond.



## Protests

A protest must be filed with the umpire at the time of the alleged infraction. This is for all situations including the question of a player's eligibility. The protest must be then filed in writing with the league executive along with **\$100 protest fee in cash** at the end of the game. If the protest is upheld the \$100 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 umpire.

## Special Rules

1. League tournament games, including play offs will be 7 inning game.
2. Home run limit is in effect for league play.
3. All players in attendance who are on the approved rosters of the teams competing are eligible to be in the batting order. Only 10 players are allowed on the field at one time in a defensive role. Players on the game lineup sheets can be moved in or out of defensive line up throughout the game however the batting order must remain the same.
4. Anyone not in the starting lineup 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 then the empire must be notified when the courtesy runner is entering the game a courtesy runner must be in approved player for that team.
5. Due to a wide potential variant of weather in South western Ontario region cancellation or postponement of games well in advance of game times will only occur in rare situations Sunday coed: it is the responsibility of the team manager or one designated to check **Slo-Pitch City web site** or call Slo Pitch City after 3 PM on Sundays for a decision as to cancelled games 519-268-7976.
6. 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.



## How to reschedule a game

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

- review a 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.

**Call Slo Pitch City (Marnie) and ask to cancel games it is your responsibility to arrange a reschedule.**

## Scorekeeping and Game line up sheets

1. The home team is the official score of each game
2. game lineup sheets must be completed by both teams and turned into the umpire prior to the start of the game period the players first and last names are required on the lineup sheet all players who are intending to play must appear on the game lineup sheet. Players not on the lineup sheet will not be permitted to enter the game. Players may be added at the umpire's discretion throughout the game. **PLEASE PRINT**

## Regular Season Standings

1. Division standings will be based on points. 2 points for a win, 1 for a tie, in the event of a tie for 1st place SPOA tie breaking rules will be used.
2. All other ties in the standings will be broken using the following tie breaking formulas:
  1. Win/ loss record of the team 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 Slo Pitch City sports Bar.



4. Any apparent discrepancies in the posted standings should be brought to the attention to the league executive immediately.



## CO-ED RULES

2. The batting order consists of a minimum of 10 players (minimum of 4 females) any 10 (maximum of 6 males) may play defense but a male has to catch. Batting order must alternate sexes.
3. **Unequal batting order:** the following procedure is recommended to use when there are an unequal number of male/females. List the males (M1, M2, M3, M4 and females F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, F6) separately in 2 lists. The batting order is followed by rotating through each list as you alternate between the 2 lists.
4. If a player is unable to continue the game and no legal substitute is available when he/she is due up to bat, the batter is declared out. If, with 2 out, the batter before the missing player is walked intentionally or unintentionally, is waived and then next same sex batter will bat.
5. If a player is ejected from the game for any reason leaving the team with less than 10 players, the ejected players team must have a substitute available to replace the ejected player or that team will forfeit the game.
6. Home run rule any ball hit over a fence diamond will be an automatic out if over the designated limit. The limits are:  
**SPO Co-ed Comp- 5 Co-ed C- 3 Co-ed D-2 Co-ed rec-1**
7. **Co-ed walk rule:** if a male batter receives any base on balls, he will be awarded first and second base with the next batter, a female, **must** bat.
8. Courtesy runners may be used anytime, anywhere, but must be on the playing roster. A male must run for a male, and a female may run for a female or male.
9. A scoring and commitment line will be used in all co-ed divisions. All base runners attempting to score must do so by touching the ground in foul territory on or beyond the scoring line. Sliding into home plate is not allowed runner will be ruled "out". Baserunners are out if they touch home plate whether a play is being made or not. A baserunner is not out if the plate is touched in an attempt to avoid a collision
10. **Commitment line:** once the runner crosses the line, he/she must continue home. Defense players may tag offensive players out before they cross the scoring line.
11. No outfielder (minimum of 4) may make a force out at first base on a hit ball.



## Play-offs

All teams will qualify for the play-offs. To be eligible all players must participate in a **minimum of 4 games**. League tournament is counted toward player play-off eligibility.

## Additional coed rules

(the following are rules in addition to the general rules for all of league play.)

1. All slow pitch Ontario rules and slow pitch city rules apply otherwise stated.
2. The official lineup consists of a minimum of 10 players. (minimum of 5 males)  
any maximum of 5 males may play defense batting order must alternate sexes.

**Extra players** additional pairs of extra players (1 male, 1 female) up to a maximum of 20 players can be used. If more than 10 players are on the batting order, any 5 males and 5 females may play defense.

3. The coed division will use the commitment line - in foul territory drawn 21 feet from the back of home plate and perpendicular to the third baseline. When a runner crosses this line by touching the ground before on the line does not reach home plate, he/she shall be called out when the ball is legally held by a defensive player in contact with home plate. Once the player has touched or crossed the commitment line call mom any attempt to return to third base, he/she will be called out. A baserunner may be tagged out between the commitment line and scoring line.



## Blood rule

If a player who is injured or is bleeding from an injury and is assumed to be able to continue play in the game, will be given a reasonable amount of time to tend to his/her injury or the bleeding a reasonable amount of time will be determined by the umpire.

A player who is bleeding must be immediately removed from the playing field to have the bleeding controlled clean up and the moon completely covered. If the blood on any of the players clothing, then the clothing must be changed before a player is allowed to participate in the game again.

4. The coed division will use the scoring line- a line drawn in foul territory starting at the top left-hand corner of home plate perpendicular to third baseline. A runner attempting to reach home must do so by touching the ground in foul territory on or beyond this line. Sliding into home plate is not allowed. The runner is out if he/she touches home plate whether or not a play is being made. A runner is not out if the plate is touched in attempt to avoid a collision.
5. The coed division will use the worth RIF ball.
6. When a male batter receives **any** walk, he is awarded second base and the female batter must hit for her turn at bat.
7. Courtesy runners it must be male for male or female or female or female for male.
8. In an effort to complete games within the allotted time, the 5-run rule will be used in co-ed play. Each team will be restricted to either 3 outs per inning or a maximum of 7 runs scored per inning whichever occurs first **exception:** only the last inning is an open inning.
9. No batter can be thrown out at first base from any outfield position, minimum 4 fielders standing beyond the Enfield markings. The fielder cannot relay ball to infielder to make out at first base.