

FRIDAY NIGHT CO-ED SLO-PITCH LEAGUE

2023 LEAGUE RULES

This is a **fun** league. The umpire's decision is **final**. Anyone arguing may be ejected from the game.

1. Game start times will be 7:00 pm and 8:30 pm. A maximum of twenty (20) players allowed per team per game. A minimum of nine (9) players per team is required to start a game. At least four (4) players must be females. One player may be borrowed to make nine (9) players from any team in our league. If you have nine (9) players, you may not borrow a player to make ten (10). Any player arriving late must be added to the bottom of the batting order. Whenever a team's regular player shows up to play, the 'borrowed player' must exit the game. No borrowing players in the playoffs.
 - Example 1: If a team has six (6) females and three (3) males, one (1) female must bat as a male
 - Example 2: If a team has six (6) females and four (4) males, one (1) female must bat as a male
 - Example 3: If a team has six (6) males and three (3) females, that team cannot play
 - Example 4: If a team has five (5) females and four (4) males, the 5th male is an out each time through the roster
2. If you fail to field at least nine (9) players ten (10) minutes after the scheduled game's start time, your team will forfeit that game.
3. If a team is aware that they will not be able to field a team for a game, that team will notify both the opposing team's Captain and the League President by or before the Wednesday (9:00pm) of that week's game. That game is a 'forfeit' and the opposing team receives a 'win'.
4. If a team forfeits a game during the regular season, it will be deemed a loss. The opposing team will receive the win. The Executive will take into consideration forfeits when reviewing the standings when assessing divisions and the Finals tournament.
5. All games will consist of a maximum of 9 innings or no new inning after 1hr-15min. There will be a five (5) run limit per team per inning. The "Last Inning", called by the umpire, is an open inning (no run limit). Tied games will stand. There is a fifteen (15) run mercy after 4 ½ or 5 innings depending on which is the home team. The "**Mid-Season Tournament Weekend**" will follow the same limits on innings and time. The "**Finals Tournament Weekend**" will have its own limits on innings and time. In the event of bad weather, a complete game is 5 innings or 4 ½ innings if the home team is ahead. The Executive and/or Umpires will decide all weather cancellations at the diamonds.
6. If games are cancelled prior to their start time on that Friday, both team representatives will be notified around 5:30 pm for the 7:00 pm games; 7:00 pm for the 8:30 pm for the games. All games that are not allowed to start or finish will be counted as ties and awarded as such.
7. Batting order shall be alternate between male and female. Exception stated in Rule #1 with missing players or extra females.
8. If a male batter receives a walk, intentional or otherwise, he will be awarded two (2) bases. The following female on the roster must go up to bat. If a female batter receives a walk, intentional or otherwise, she will be awarded one (1) base.

2022 amendment: All batters will receive one bases for a walk, intentional or otherwise. **Note:** we reserve the right to change the rule throughout the season if there are issues or complaints.
9. A third strike foul is an out. If not caught, the ball is dead and runners may not advance. If caught, all base runners may advance with risk of being put out. Any legally foul ball hit back to the catcher and caught, regardless of height, is an out.
10. The pitch must have perceptible arc between 6 feet (1.83m) and 12 feet (3.66m) above the playing surface. If not within this limit, the umpire shall declare an "Illegal Pitch" which results in a "Ball" added to the batter's count. If the batter elects to play the pitch, the ball is 'live' as if it were a legal pitch.

11. This league will use a strike mat measuring 2 feet (0.61m) by 3 feet (0.91m). Any ball that is within the legal height range and strikes the surface of the mat shall be considered a "Strike".
12. A team may use up to five (5) Courtesy Runners per game. The courtesy runner will be a male running for a male and a female running for a female.
13. Sliding at 2nd and 3rd base is allowed, or returning to 1st base. Any aggressive sliding into a base as decided by the umpire will result in the runner being called out and ejected from that game. No fake tags will be allowed. Verbal obstruction will also not be tolerated.
14. There is an Infield Commitment Line drawn between 3rd base and home plate. Once a runner crosses this line, either totally or in part, the runner must continue towards home plate. Runners returning to 3rd base after crossing the Infield Commitment Line are automatically called "Out" except when tagging up on a legally caught ball. No tagging is allowed at home plate.
15. To score at home plate, the runner's whole foot must make contact with the ground beyond the safe line. No sliding allowed at home plate! Any runner touching home plate/mat or sliding will be called "Out".
16. Anticipation Steps are allowed. Once the pitch is in the Strike Zone, the base runner may leave the base. If no play occurs, the runner must return back to the original base before the next pitch or that person will be called "Out".
17. Players on your roster must be twenty-five (25) years old in this calendar year. Each team will be allowed to roster 3 female players and 3 male players between the ages of twenty (20) and twenty-five (25) years old in this calendar year. They must be clearly identified with a date of birth on your roster for the Executive.
18. The league will supply balls, score sheets and umpires. Teams are responsible for turning in team rosters at the beginning of the season. The home team is responsible for turning in the game roster sheet for their game into the designated location at the BRGC. Please ensure there are first and last names. If first and last names are not legible on the score sheet, they will not be credited as participating/playing.
19. Pregnant women are not allowed to play in this league. Even with a doctor's certificate, they are not allowed.
20. Outfielders are not allowed to make a throw/play at 1st base for either a male or female batter.
21. 'Out-of-the-Park Home Run Limits' for male batters are three (3) per game with every home run after that counted as a double during the regular season. There is no limit for Home Runs by female batters.
22. Jewelry is allowed.
23. Please instill into your players that when arriving for games or leaving the parking area while games are being played, to keep your headlights off so as not to affect the players in games in progress. This is a safety hazard.
24. Please **NO** Trunk Bars. This is a liability to both our league and the BRGC. Please support our host by purchasing food and drinks from the establishment, especially after games.
25. Illegal Bats Amendment: The batter shall not enter the batter's box with an illegal bat. The 1st time this occurs, there will be a warning to the team and the batter is out; the second time this occurs on that team, there is an ejection of the batter who used the bat.
26. If a fly ball hits any light standard in the outfield in the air, it will be an automatic double, unless it is clearly going well over the fence, at the discretion of the umpire who may call it a homerun.