



Centrefield Sports Co-Ed Slo-Pitch League Rules

A. GENERAL PLAYING RULES

1. **Alcoholic beverages consumed on ANY part of Centrefield premises (including outdoor premises) WILL result in the suspension of the player and/or team involved, from any league play. NO WARNINGS, ZERO TOLERANCE.**
2. All leagues games will use the standard mat. (2' x 3')
3. Home team is decided by coin flip at the start of all games.
4. No cleats are allowed on any part of the field. Turf or running shoes are the only footwear permitted.
5. Centrefield Sports will allow the use of all ASA, NSA, USSSA approved bats.
6. **NO JEWELRY.** A batter or runner is ruled out immediately if discovered wearing exposed jewelry and/or any such item deemed hazardous by the umpire. Any advance by other runners as a result of this player hitting the ball, is nullified. If a defensive player is discovered wearing exposed jewelry, the manager of the offensive team may take the result of the play or have the play nullified and the batter return to bat with the same count as before the infraction, and all runners return to their previous base. Facial jewelry may not be covered by tape or any other type of covering. In all cases, the **PLAYER MUST REMOVE THE JEWELLRY.**
7. 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.**
8. The 7 inning game MERCY rule applies. A 12 run mercy rule is in effect after 5 innings **if the losing team agrees to quit. If not, the game will continue with a 55 minute time limit** (from start of game) or 7 innings. No NEW inning may start after 45 minutes. If teams are tied at the end of seven innings the game remains tied.
9. All balls hit onto the exterior or roof of the playing field are playable balls. If the ball is hit off the left field wall and caught it is considered a legitimate hit and should be played as such. If the ball is hit off the roof and caught, it is considered an out. Any ball tangled in the netting in the playable area is considered a ground rule double. A raised hand and umpire viewing is required.
10. **All batters will begin with a 1-1 count.**
11. The official line-up must consist of a minimum of 5 males and 5 females. The batting order must alternate (i.e.: male, female, male, female etc.). The team must be able to finish the game with a minimum of 5 males and 5 females. Unequal Batting Order: The following procedure is recommended to use when there are unequal numbers of males/females: List the males (M1, M2, M3, M4, M5, M6) and females (F1, F2, F3, F4) separately in two lists. The batting order is followed by rotating through each list as you alternate between the two lists.

12. If a player is unable to continue the game and no legal substitution is available when he/she is due up to bat, the batter is declared out. Play continues with the next same sex player in the batting order coming to bat. Note: The team would now use the unequal batting order procedure as described above. If, with 2 out, the batter before the missing player is walked (intentional or unintentional), the automatic out is waived and the next same sex batter will bat. (This does not apply if the player is declared unable to continue just prior to the team's offensive half of the inning.)
13. If a player is ejected from the game for any reason leaving the team with less than ten players, the ejected player's team must have a substitute available to replace the ejected player or that team will forfeit the game.
14. Blood Rule - If a player is removed from the game, the following male/female is also skipped in the batting order until the removed player returns. The additionally removed player may continue to play defense.
15. The co-ed division will use the Scoring (Safe) Line - a line drawn in foul territory starting at the top left-hand corner of home plate perpendicular to the third base line. 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 N O T 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 an attempt to avoid a collision.
16. The co-ed division will use the Commitment Line which is drawn 15 feet from home plate. Any player crossing this line must continue towards home plate. Returning to the 3rd base bag after crossing this line would result in an out.
17. The co-ed division will use the Worth RIF ball.
18. When a male batter receives A N Y walk, he is awarded second base and the female batter may take an award of first base or she may take her turn at bat.
19. Courtesy runners - It must be male for male or female for female, or female for a male.
20. In an effort to complete games within the time allotted, the 7 run rule will be used. 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.
21. No batter can be thrown out at first base from an outfield position, minimum 4 fielders. (The fielder cannot relay ball to infielder to make out at first base.)
22. Due to limited space and the safety of others, there will be **1 minute allotted at the beginning of the game for throwing warm-up**. In order to make the most of this time, arriving early with gear ready and stretching complete is recommended.
23. For pitcher safety reasons, a pitching screen will be placed in front of the pitching mound. The pitcher may field all balls hit in their area if they so choose however, if a batter hits a ball that comes into contact with any part of the pitching screen, the batter is OUT. All base runners would return to the base they were at prior to the hit. The pitching screen may be removed from the game if **both teams** are in agreement that they will play without it. The umpire should be notified and then the screen can be removed.
24. Anything hit in the last two blue areas in centerfield above the yellow line are considered a home run.

B. CONTRACTS AND ROSTERS

1. The Centrefield Sports Team Roster must be completed online or in person, and 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. Teams will be permitted to add players up to the maximum 30 until the final signing date of: **November 30th, 2011**.
2. Players are not permitted to play unless they have been approved to a team roster.
3. 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.

4. Team Managers are responsible for ensuring that all roster sheets are completed properly with all player information for all their team members. When additional players are signed, it is the duty of the Team Manager to ensure the new player has filled out the roster and submit it 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.

C. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. Teams may sign a maximum of 30 players and have until November 30, 2010 to add to their roster.
2. Players must be at least 19 years of age to be eligible to play.
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 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 without the approval of the League Executive they will be charged a forfeit and the player and the team manager 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 a suspension of the team manager for 3 games and the removal of the questioned player.

D. FORFEITS

1. If a team forfeits a game, the team is charged \$20.00.
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 have enough players to begin a game following the 10 minute grace period, both teams are assessed a forfeit and the \$20.00 is charged for both teams.

E. 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 \$50.00 protest fee in cash. If the protest is upheld the \$50.00 will be refunded. Protests are only accepted for clear rule violations and will N O T be accepted in the case of judgment calls made by the umpires.

F. SPECIAL RULES

1. 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 (5 male / 5 female). Teams may play a game with 9 players but the ratio must be 5 girls / 4 guys. Players on the score sheet can be moved in or out of the defensive line-up throughout the game, however the batting order must remain the same.
2. 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.

3. The goal of the Centrefield Sports league is to provide a place for players of ALL levels to come and play the game of Slo Pitch. In doing so we understand that some players may be more advanced/less advanced when it comes to their abilities to play the game. For that reason, any player who demonstrates an aggressively competitive level of play that could or has contributed to the injury of another player will receive ONE warning from the League Executive. If further aggressively competitive play is demonstrated, the player will be immediately removed from the league without registration refund.

G. SCORE-KEEPING AND GAME LINE-UP SHEETS

1. The home team is the official scorer of each game and is required to submit the final score sheet to front desk immediately following the 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 is 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. **PLEASE PRINT**

H. 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 the following tie-breaking formulas will be used:
 - (1) win/loss record of the teams involved with each other.
 - (2) most victories.
 - (3) coin toss.
2. Standings will be updated and posted in a timely fashion on the website of Centrefield Sports. Any apparent discrepancies in the posted standings should be brought to the attention of the League Executive immediately.

I. REGULAR SEASON GAMES AND TIMES:

1. Game times: Mon / Wed / Fri - **9:15 pm, 10:15 pm, 11:15 pm**
2. Season runs 16 weeks including playoffs.

J. PLAY-OFFS

1. Teams will be divided into a 2 pools for playoff rounds. (Pool A and B). To be eligible all players must participate in a minimum number of 6 games.
2. Each team plays a game every week except for Christmas through New Years Eve. A single elimination format will be played for playoffs for the top 12 teams only.

K. OTHER

As this is our first year of operation for this league, the rating of a team or individual is difficult and so an open division has been created. The season will be assessed and modified next year with two separate divisions if it is deemed necessary. At Centrefield Sports we ask that you play respectfully and considerately towards all your opponents, team mates, and focus on having fun!

Thank you.

Tracy Regan

Tracy L. Regan
League Executive
GM, Centrefield Sports Complex