

PETERBOROUGH CO-ED SOFTBALL LEAGUE

RULES & REGULATIONS

The PCSL uses the following majority approved rules as compliment to The Official ASA Guide & Playing Rules.

1. ROSTERS & LINEUPS

A. Player Eligibility

- * Player must be at least 18 years old or turn 18 years old during the season.
- * Players in the PCSL can play in any other baseball or softball organization during regular season.
- * Any team that uses an ineligible player will forfeit all games in which he/she appears.
- * Playoff eligibility: Players must attend ½ of their regular season games and **full names must appear on line-up cards**. Must be at games for at least 4 innings. * * Attendance will be monitored by league President.

B. Number of Players

- * The number of men in a line-up can never exceed the number of women.
- * A team may play any configuration of men and women in the field (voids ASA rule 4 Section 1 Para C).
- * Short-handed rule: This rule maybe used with the following requirements:

A team may start with 8 players, with at least 4 girls

A team starting the game with 10 or 12 players may continue the game when a player leaves the line-up and no substitution is available.

If the player leaving the game is batter/runner he she be declared out.

When the player who has left the game is scheduled to bat, an out will be declared for each time at bat.

The player leaving the game may return or a sub may be used when one becomes available as long as the players that left the game was not ejected. Voids ASA rule 4 Section 1 Para D

C. Batting

* The batting order will alternate sexes. The 12-inch incrediball will be used for all batters. Voids ASA Rule 7 Section 2 Para D **EXCEPTION**: Two males may bat back-to-back if PCSL rile B Section 2 Para D applies.

* A Strike is called for each legally pitched ball that touches any part of the plate or orange strike zone mat before touching the catcher, umpire, or ground. A pitch that in the judgment of the umpire to most likely on the plate or strike zone mat: that first hits the batter will be a strike. Voids ASA Rule 1-strike zone

* The batter shall not hinder the catcher from catching or throwing the ball by stepping out of the batter's box, intentionally hinder the catcher while standing within the batter's box, or interfere with a play at home. EFFECT: The ball is dead, the batter is out and each runner must return to the last base that in the judgment of the umpire, was touched at the time of the interference.

D. The Line Up

* **Free substitution is permitted: however, any player re-entering a game, either as a batter, runner, must sit out a complete rotation before re-entering the batting order.** He or she can then enter the order in any spot {the player doesn't have to return to the same position in the field. { Pitchers may return as pitchers. ****NOTE**** This rule does not restrict the number of times a player can be removed and re-entered. Voids ASA Rule 4 Section 5 Para A, B, and C

* Substitute: Any member of a team's roster who is not listed as a starting player

* **If the player is in the game illegally as a runner, the player is ejected and a substitute entered or the starting player is re-entered, assumes the position on the base.**

2. FIELD RULES

A. Forfeits and Stoppage of Play

- * A team forfeits a game if it does not have the required number of players within 15 minutes after the

scheduled starting time.

* Any team that forfeits three games is subject to expulsion from the PCSL

* No alcohol is to be seen on the benches of any game. The umpire will give one warning to have the alcohol removed. If it is not removed the umpire is to forfeit the game.

* If an umpire feels that a person is under the influence of alcohol and is a danger to themselves or the other people playing, the umpire may tell the coach to remove the player. If the coach does not comply, the umpire may eject the player, and the space may not be filled.

* No new innings may begin if there is only 5 minutes before the start of the next game. If the game is tied at that point, the game will be resumed-starting at the time play is halted-at a later time.

NOTE If five innings of a game have not been completed by the time the next game is scheduled to start, the incomplete game will be resumed- starting at the time play is halted- at a later time.

B. Running the Bases

* The infield fly rule will not apply. Voids ASA Rule 9 Section 2 Para I, **unless the umpire feels the ball was dropped purposely to attempt a double play.**

* The umpire may call a runner out for failing to slide into a base or for not avoiding contact with a fielder at a base where there is a play. **Making sure to use the orange over run bag for close plays to first base**

* If an awarded base is in error, after one pitch is thrown {legal or illegal}, the error cannot be corrected.

C. The Pitcher

* The ball must be delivered with a perceptible arc and reach a height of 6 feet from the ground. There is no maximum height for the arc. Voids ASA Rule 6 Section 3 Para H

* **Intentional walks are not allowed. If four straight balls are thrown making the count 4 balls no strikes to a male batter, the next batter- a female- has her choice at taking a walk or hitting.** Voids ASA Rule 7 Section 1 Para C#3

ILLEGAL PITCHER

* A Player legally in the game, but one who may not pitch as a result of being removed from the pitching position by the umpire because of:

Two charged defensive conferences in one inning.

Pitching with excessive speed after a warning.

After a warning, makes any motion to deliver the pitch prior to having one or both feet in contact with the pitching plate. EFFECT: If an illegal pitcher returns to the pitching position and has thrown one pitch the illegal player is ejected from the game.

D. Equipment

* **Catchers mask is by choice.**

ASA Rule 3 Section 6 Para A,B,C & D are void-Regarding uniforms

* ASA Rule 3 Section 6 Para E,F & G will be enforced-Regarding no casts and jewelry

E. The Umpire

* The umpire may declare a player out of unnecessary roughness or unsportsmanlike conduct.

F. Home Runs

* Teams are limited to 5 over the fence home runs by males. Any over the fence home run hit in excess of 5 is a ground rule single. Voids ASA Rule 5 Section 8

There is no limit to female over the fence home runs. Voids ASA Rule 5 Section 8

* At Ecco Field, any ball hit over the screen is a home run. Any ball hit over the fence and into the screen to the left of the second telephone pole in left field is a ground rule double. Any batter that hits or is to the right of the last screen-supporting pole in the left-centerfield is a home run.

Any ball hit over the fence at Ecco field by a woman will be a home run.

G. The De-Militarized Zone

- * The DMZ is a line 150 feet from the home plate connecting the two foul lines. **All four outfielders may not cross this line until a pitched ball reaches the plate.** If an outfielder catches a batted ball inside the DMZ line and the umpire determines the outfielder was inside the DMZ line before the ball was hit, the batter will be awarded first base.

3. OTHER RULES

A. Miscellaneous

- * PCSL will use the Amateur Softball Association's rulebook for matters not covered here.
- * The home team provides the game ball and line-up card.
- * No alcohol beverages are permitted on the playground. The coaches are responsible for ensuring that their players observe this rule.
- * **Line-up card must be filled out with players first and last name and they must be present and then given to the umpire prior to the first pitch of the game. A coach or designated representative must sign the card by the end of the game. Any substitutions are to be brought to the umpire and opposing coach's attention. Any questions regarding the eligibility of a player must be brought to the attention of the umpire at the game.**
- * Void ASA Rule 6 Section 6- Regarding the catches having to stand in the catcher's box.
- * If a player is ejected from a tournament game-they may not play in any other games for the weekend. Ejection rules are noted in the ASA rulebook.
- * Any player, coach or umpire does not allow on or off the field physical aggression of any kind.
- * ASA Rule 4 Section 8- Regarding Blood Rule: There can be no free flowing blood by anybody on the field. Umpire will call time so the player can cover it. Clothing does not have to be changed, if not saturated and dripping.
- * In a tournament, if a team forfeits a game in the winner's bracket- they are out of the tournament.
- * If a spectator reaches into the field of play and interferes with a fielder's opportunity to catch a fly ball, the batter is out and runner {s} must return to the last base legally touched.
- * When there is spectator interference with any thrown or fair batted ball, the ball is dead at the moment of interference and the umpire shall award the base or bases that in his/her judgment the runner {s} would have reached had there not been interference.

RULE FOR TIE BREAKER

In the event of a tie:

1. Go by the total "win" record of all tied teams against each other. The team with the most wins will get the position.
2. In the event of still a tie, then the total runs scored between the tied teams will be used. The team with the highest runs scored will get the position.
3. In the even of still a tie, a coin will be flipped to determine the position between tied teams.

RULES FOR UMPIRING

- * Every time is required to umpire games during the season. Any player wishing to umpire should read the Peterborough Co-Ed Softball League's Rules and Regulations
- * It is the team's responsibility to make sure if they are schedule to umpire the game, to have a person available. If a team who is scheduled to umpire does not show, they will be fined \$50.00 per no show \$25.00 if only one umpire shows **unless the one umpire is cleared to umpire solo by the league president.** The fees need to be payable prior to Play-Offs. If a team who is schedule to umpire and has 3 No Shows- that team will be ineligible for Play-Offs
- * It is also the umpire responsibility if there is roughness, foul language, un-sportsmanship like conduct at the game and any player or players are asked to leave, that team or teams will be fined \$100 each and subject

to game{s} suspension. If a team has 3 incidents- that team will be ineligible for Play-Offs

Please notice all **HIGHLIGHTED** areas in these rules are new and is the responsibility of the coaches to make sure their players are aware of not only these changes, but also all the rules.