



## 2017 Spring Slo-Pitch Leagues *League Rules (7&3 Coed)*



All 2017 SPN rules will be in effect with the following exceptions:

1. Bat rules: See SPN website for current Bat Policy. As of 2017, all bats used must carry the latest USSSA compliance thumbprint on the taper of the bat.
2. Balls: Softball City will use the big ball, small ball format for all coed leagues. Male batters will use Worth 12" Optic Hot Dot Softballs (.52 COR, 275 lb max compression) and female batters will use Worth 11" Optic Hot Dot Softballs (.44 COR, 375 lb max compression). Females have the choice of using the 11" or 12" ball.
3. Five run limit per team per inning. At 60 minutes the umpire will call time and notify both teams that the next inning is open. No last bats to improve run differential. If the home team is ahead and the clock expires while the visiting team is batting, the game is over after the third out of the top half of the inning.
4. The clock starts at the designated time. If a team is shorthanded, automatic outs are in effect. Under no circumstances can automatic outs be waived, even if both teams are short players. This applies to both female and male players.
5. Tie games remain a tie after seven complete innings or if time expires.
6. No metal cleats.
7. Progressive homerun rule: a team may hit a maximum of two homeruns more than their opponent at any time during the game. If a team hits a third homerun more than their opponent the batter is automatically out. Runners cannot advance on automatic out homeruns.
8. For 7 & 3 coed leagues, there must be at least three females in the batting order throughout the entire game. An out will be declared if either the female player is not available for her at bat or if she is injured and there are no female substitutes. Teams cannot play with less than eight players. If a team is short a female, they are only permitted to play with six males (6 & 2 configuration). Automatic outs will be applied to both slots in the respective batting order. The batting order cannot have two females in a row and no more than three male batters in a row, with exception to when a team is playing down two players (6 & 2), then there is a maximum of four male batters in a row.
9. If teams wish to bat an extra male, they must also bat an extra female. Both those players must finish the game or be replaced by a legal substitute. If they cannot finish the game and there are no legal substitutes then automatic outs will be in effect.

10. Teams may pick up players from other teams with the consent of the opposing coach. Any pickup must be registered with SPN prior to the start of the game. (Without being registered with SPN, players are not eligible for insurance.) No pickups are allowed for playoffs.
11. Courtesy runners are allowed from any base at any time. All male players listed on the lineup sheet are allowed to run in place of another runner once per game. Female players may run unlimited.
12. Third strike foul is an out.
13. No bunting.
14. Outfielders are not allowed to throw females out at first base. Relays are permitted.
15. Lead off rule: runners may leave their base when the ball crosses the front of the plate or hits the ground in front of the plate.
16. SPN Walk Rule: any walk to a male batter with a female batter on deck will result in two bases being awarded to the male batter and the female must bat.
17. The 20 foot commitment line along third base is in effect. Runners who cross or step on this line cannot return to third base.
18. Sliding into, touching, crossing over, and running in front of home plate is not allowed and will result in an automatic out.
19. Lineups must be submitted to the umpire prior to the game with first and last names of the players and their jersey numbers (if they have them). If the names are not legible or do not include last names they may not be noted incorrectly for the player to be eligible for the playoffs.
20. If a team is down 12 runs after five innings of play, the mercy rule takes effect.
21. A player must play at least three regular season games and be on the team's roster to be eligible for the playoffs. This will be monitored throughout the season.
22. This is a no protest league. All umpire decisions are final.