



## Softball City Administrative rules for 2025 League Play

### Section 1 – Player Eligibility

To be eligible to play on a team that is sanctioned by Softball City Slo-Pitch leagues, players must meet the following requirements:

#### 1. Age Requirement:

- Players must be **18 years of age or older** at the time of participation in the league (during the calendar year).

#### 2. Identification:

- **Government-issued photo ID** must be provided within **24 hours** during the regular season, and upon request during the playoffs.
- If a player does not present valid ID within the required time frame, the team will forfeit the game.

#### 3. Exceptions for Younger Players:

- Teams can request permission for players who are **16 or 17 years old** to be included on their roster.
- Requests must be **written** and submitted to Softball City for review.
- **Final decision** on the request will be made by Softball City.
- If permission is granted, a **parent or guardian's consent** is required for the player to participate.
- **No player under the age of 16** will be allowed to participate for safety reasons, and no exceptions will be made.

#### 4. Consequences for Violations:

- If a team violates any of the player eligibility requirements (e.g., fielding an ineligible player), the game will result in a **forfeit**.
- This rule applies to both league and playoff games, and the penalty can occur regardless of when the violation is discovered.

### Section 2 – Roster

#### 1. Roster Submission Deadline:

- A team's roster **must be completed** before the **first scheduled league game** of the season. This ensures all players are properly registered and eligible to play.

#### 2. Roster Size and Player Restrictions:

- A team can have **up to 40 players** on its roster.



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- If the coach is also a player, they must be listed as a player on the roster.
  - **Players can only be listed on one team's roster** per league night (no cross-team participation on the same night).
3. **Roster Completeness:**
- Every player **must** be named on the roster. If a player is missing from the roster, the roster will be considered incomplete, which can lead to penalties.
4. **Player Acknowledgement:**
- By being included on the roster, a player indicates they are aware of and agree to abide by **Softball City rules, regulations**, and the league's **intent**.
5. **Roster Submission Penalties:**
- **Failure to submit the roster by the specified date** results in a **\$25 fine** for the team.
  - Additionally, the team will **forfeit all games played** until the roster is submitted.
  - After **two forfeitures**, Softball City will determine the team's future in the league, which may include potential expulsion.
6. **Adding and Removing Players:**
- Teams can **add players** to their roster if there is space available on their **Roster Sheet**.
  - **Deadline** for roster additions is **four weeks** after the season starts.
  - Teams may **remove a player** due to injury to create space on the roster.
  - To add or delete a player, **Softball City must be notified in writing**, and the **online roster** must be updated accordingly.
7. **Player Transfers:**
- **Transfers** between teams are allowed **once** during the first **four weeks** of the season.
  - The receiving team must have **space** on their roster.
  - **Notification to Softball City** is required for the transfer to be valid. If not done, the transfer will be **nullified**.
  - Games played for the first team will count as games played for the second team.



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### Section 3 – League Structure

The league structure is organized by **divisions** and **specific league nights**. Here's how the schedule is set up:

#### 1. League Night Breakdown:

- **Sunday:** B/C Division teams only
- **Monday:** D/E Division teams only
- **Tuesday:** B/C Division teams only
- **Wednesday:** Men's teams only
- **Thursday:** A/B Division teams only

#### 2. Division Placement and Choice:

- Teams choose to play on specific nights based on their **skill level** (A, B, C, D, E, Men's).
- If a team **chooses** to play on a night designated for a **higher caliber** division (e.g., a B/C team playing on a Thursday night for A/B division), this decision is made **at the team's discretion**.
- **No action will be taken** if the team feels **out of place** or is uncomfortable with the level of competition on the night chosen. The choice to play in a higher-caliber division is entirely up to the team, and they must be prepared for the competitive level.

#### 3. Men's Division for the 2025 Season

- For the **2025 season**, the structure of the **Men's Division** will depend on two main factors:
  - a) **Number of Teams:** The decision will be influenced by how many teams are registered in the Men's division.
  - b) **Skill Level:** The skill level of the teams will also play a key role in the division's structure.

Based on these factors, Softball City plans to:

- **Create two separate divisions** within the Men's category, allowing for more balanced competition.
- There may be **a few crossover games** between teams from the two divisions, providing additional opportunities for competition and allowing teams from different divisions to face each other.



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### Section 4 – Scheduling

#### 1. Fair Scheduling Effort:

- Softball City will make every effort to accommodate the scheduling preferences of each team. **Assignments of diamonds, dates, and times** will be as **fair and equitable** as possible, considering all teams' needs.

#### 2. Rescheduling Games:

- If a game cannot be rescheduled on the designated league night for any reason, it will be **rescheduled** on an **available night** or **weekend** to ensure the season continues smoothly.

#### 3. Forfeit Fines:

- A team that **forfeits a game** with less than **48 hours' notice** will be fined **\$50 per game**.
- If a team **forfeits 3 or more games**, they will be **disqualified from playoff eligibility**.

### Section 5 – Playoff Eligibility

#### 1. Minimum Game Requirement for Playoffs:

- To participate in the league **playoffs**, a player must have **played in at least 4 games** during the regular season with their respective team.

#### 2. Impact of Forfeits on Playoff Eligibility:

- If a team forfeits **one game during the playoffs**, they will receive a \$50 fine. Forfeiting during the playoffs can result in exclusion from the current postseason and potential future consequences.

#### 3. Picked-Up Players:

- A player who is **picked up by a team** that they are not originally listed on (sparing for) cannot count those games towards playoff eligibility, as they must have been registered with that team for a certain period.

#### 4. Transfer Players and Playoff Eligibility:

- A player who transfers to another team during the regular season will **still count their games** played with their **previous team** toward playoff eligibility, allowing for a smooth transition when switching teams.



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### Section 6 – Playoff Structure

- **Double Knockout Format:** The playoffs will be held in a **double knockout** format. This means that a team must lose **twice** before being eliminated from the tournament, giving them a second chance to stay in contention.
- **Seeding for Playoffs:** The standings from the **regular league play** will determine the **seeding** for the playoff matchups. The better a team performs in the league, the higher their seeding in the playoffs.

### Section 7 – Ties for Positioning in Playoffs

In the event of a tie at the end of league play, the following criteria will be used to break the tie and determine final standings:

1. **Win/Loss/Tie Record:** The first tiebreaker is the team's **win/loss/tie record**. A win counts for **2 points**, a tie for **1 point**, and a loss earns **0 points**.
2. **Most Games Won:** If teams are still tied, the next factor is the **total number of games won** during the league.
3. **Fewest Games Lost:** If there's still a tie, the **fewest games lost** will be considered.
4. **Most Runs Scored:** If needed, the team with the **most runs scored** during the season will be ranked higher.
5. **Least Runs Against:** If the tie remains, the **least runs against** (i.e., the team with the best defensive record) will be used as a tiebreaker.
6. **Coin Toss:** If all other tiebreakers fail to resolve the tie, a **coin toss** will be used to determine the final ranking.

### Section 8 – Team Responsibilities Before/During/After Games

1. **Ball Retrieval:**
  - If a ball is hit **foul** or a **home run** is hit over the fence, the **team that hit the ball** is responsible for retrieving it and bringing it back to the umpire.
2. **Cleanliness:**
  - Teams are expected to **remove all garbage** from the diamond and dugout areas after the game.
  - If players are chewing **sunflower seeds**, the shells must be disposed of in a **cup/bottle** or directly into the **garbage** to help maintain the park's cleanliness.



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### 3. Failure to Fulfill Responsibilities:

- Teams that fail to meet these responsibilities will be fined **\$50 per infraction**.

## Section 9 – Unacceptable Behaviour

### 1. Physical Strike:

- Any **physical strike** by a member during league activities will result in a **3 to 5-year suspension** from the league, starting from the date of the incident. Re-admission after suspension requires a **written request** to Softball City management.

### 2. Threatening to Strike:

- A member who threatens to strike someone will be suspended for the remainder of the **season**, including any playoff games. Re-admission after suspension is subject to **Softball City management approval**.

### 3. Verbal Abuse or Threats:

- Verbal abuse or general threats can lead to a penalty ranging from a **warning** to a **one-year suspension**, depending on the severity and nature of the abuse.

### 4. Drunken Behavior:

- **Drunken players** will be ejected from the game and/or park at the **umpire's discretion**.

### 5. Alcoholic Beverages:

- If a team member consumes **alcoholic beverages** not purchased from Softball City's restaurant or concession, the team will be fined **\$50**. Repeated violations may result in **expulsion** from the league.

### 6. Smoking (Including Vaping) in Non-Designated Areas:

- Any team member **smoking or vaping** in non-designated areas will result in a **\$50 fine**. Repeated infractions could lead to **expulsion** from the league.

### 7. Smoking Marijuana:

- Smoking marijuana in **any area** of a league-sanctioned event will result in a **\$50 fine**. Multiple infractions may lead to **expulsion** from the league.



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### 8. Sportsmanship:

- Managers/coaches are expected to promote **sportsmanlike behavior**. Failure to do so may lead to the manager/coach and the **entire team** being placed on probation or expelled from the league.

### 9. Ejection from Game:

- Any player ejected from a game will also be **suspended for the next two games**, including the **second game of a doubleheader**.

## Section 10 – Suspensions/Fines

### 1. Withdrawal of Registration:

- Softball City management reserves the right to **withdraw the registration** of any team or individual who acts contrary to the best interests of the game of slo-pitch or the Softball City league.

### 2. Enforcement of Suspensions from Other Organizations:

- Softball City may consider **suspensions** imposed by other sporting organizations and will address such suspensions in accordance with Softball City management policies.

### 3. Fine Schedule:

- **Failure to submit SPN Roster Sheet as required: \$100** (Section 2)
- **Forfeiture of a game without 48 hours notice: \$50 per game** (Section 4)
- **Failure to complete team responsibilities: \$50** (Section 8)
- **Any drinking or smoking offence: \$50** (Section 9)

## Refund Policy

Due to the unpredictable climate in **British Columbia**, there may be instances of rain affecting scheduled games. If teams complete **14 games** (including league and playoffs), Softball City will have substantially fulfilled their commitment.

- If teams play fewer than 14 games, the following **refund policy** applies:
  - **13 games played:** Teams will receive a **\$100 refund**.
  - **12 games played:** Teams will receive a **\$150 refund**.
  - Softball City will make every effort to reschedule games that are affected by weather, but if rescheduling is not possible on the designated game night, other nights or weekends will be explored.