

WOODSTOCK COMMUNITY SERVICES LOBBALL LEAGUE 2016 RULES

All games shall be played according to SPO rules, except for the following changes:

- 1 All players must wear rubber-soled shoes; either running shoes or rubber cleats. NO METAL SPIKES.
- 2 A team will consist of no more than 10 players on the field at any one time (minimum of 8 players)
- 3 There will be a 15 minute grace period for teams not having 8 players at game time.
- 4 Players must be 19 years of age or older before September 1st
- 5 A roster of all team players is to be handed in by May 31st of the current year, with first and last names of all players.
*** A fine of \$25.00 will be imposed for not having your roster in by the deadline and an additional \$25.00 fine per game for each game played after the deadline until the roster is submitted.
- 6 A regulation game shall consist of seven innings or after the fifth inning the mercy rule shall apply when one team has 10 or more runs over the other.
- 7 No more than 5 runs may be obtained by the batting team per inning. After the 5th run, the teams change positions. This applies to all innings except the last where there is no limit on runs.
- 8 **PITCHING**
... The pitching rubber will be 50 feet from home plate
... The pitch shall be delivered with an underhand motion
... The pitch must have an arc of at least 6 feet and no more than 12 feet

ILLEGAL PITCH
... A pitched ball that is less than 6' or more than 12'. The Umpire must call this an 'illegal pitch' before it reaches the plate. If the batter swings at the pitch, it then becomes a legal pitch. If the batter does not swing, it is then called a ball.
- 9 **BATTING**
... The Umpire calls a strike for each legally pitched ball entering the strike zone before touching the ground and at which the batter does not swing if the ball touches home place.
... A strike is called for each pitched ball struck at and missed by the batter.
... A ball is called when a delivered ball by the pitcher hits the batter outside the strike zone.
- 10 A batted ball that strikes the matt will be called a ' Dead Ball ' and will count as a strike on the batter.
- 11 ***THIS RULE APPLIES TO THE BATTING ORDER WHILE ALTERNATING BETWEEN MALE & FEMALE***
If a male batter, who is followed by a female, is walked on four (4) straight pitches from the first pitch of his at bat, he will go directly to second base and the female has the option of taking a walk or having her turn at bat.
- 12 All players present at any game MUST be substituted into the game. A player must play in at least 3 innings to be counted as being in attendance for the game.
- 13 A co-ed ball will be the only acceptable ball to be used in any game.
- 14 HOME PLATE will be made of plywood and measure 2' x 3'

15 Each team will supply a home plate Umpire when they are at bat.

16 BASES

... All bases are to be fastened down and placed 65 feet apart

... A SAFETY BASE will be used at first base.

... The first base person must play the inside white bag at all times, thus eliminating contact between players. If the first base person touches the orange bag, the runner will be called safe. If the runner touches the white bag on anything other than a multi-base hit, he/she will be called out.

17 A BATTER IS OUT

... When the third strike is called foul

... When a third strike is called dead

... When the ball is bunted

... When the catcher catches a ball that has gone higher than the batter's head

18 When a female is at bat, all outfielders must be 150 feet from home plate. They cannot move closer until the ball has been hit or a ball will be called on the batter. On unmarked diamonds, it will be left to the discretion of the umpire.
If an infielder chooses to play on the grass when a female is at bat, he/she will be considered an outfielder and must play behind the 150 foot line.

19 BASE RUNNING

... NO SLIDING. Overrunning of bases is allowed. Runners must turn to the right after crossing all bases if not advancing to the next base. Under no circumstances is a runner permitted to steal a base. A base runner must be batted or walked around the bases. The base runner must remain on the base to which they are entitled until a legally pitched ball has reached home plate and is hit.

... The ball is in play as long as there is a play as the result of a hit by the batter. The ball remains alive until the ball is held by a player on the infield and in the opinion of the Umpire all play has stopped.

NOTE ... There will be a line drawn from the front corner of home plate on an angle back to the screen (keeping the same distance between the line and 3rd base as between home plate and 3rd base). The runner coming from 3rd base must cross the line at a safe distance from home plate and the catcher must play home plate.

... The runner will be called out if they touch home plate.

... The runner will be called safe if tagged by the catcher.

... A courtesy runner, the last recorded out (girl for girl ... guy for guy) will be allowed for a specific player but must be announced prior to the beginning of the game. The runner must start with his/her hand in contact with the centre of the screen, behind the batter, and must not break contact until the ball is hit. If the courtesy runner leaves early, the ball will be considered a 'dead ball' and runners do not advance. If this occurs on the 1st or 2nd strike, the batter continues to bat. If this occurs on the 3rd strike, the batter is out.

... If a courtesy runner is used from the screen, that runner may only advance as far as first base on the hit. There is no limit as to how far any other runners, already on base, may advance.

... Courtesy runners may be used on the bases but only in the case of an injury occurring during the current play.

20 The infield fly rule is in effect for all games.

21 Home team is responsible for balls and bases.

BOTH TEAMS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR HANDING IN THEIR SCORE SHEETS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE GAME. EACH TEAM MUST HAVE THEIR OWN PLAYERS NAMES IN FULL AND MUST BE LEGIBLE. (If not then players will not be given credit for that game). THE SCORE MUST ALSO BE RECORDED ON BOTH SCORE SHEETS.

22 A minimum of five (5) females must be in the batting order at any one game and must be alternated in the batting order, starting from either the first or second position. If a team has only four (4) females out at their game, then they may continue to play but an automatic out will be recorded where the 5th female was to bat. If a team has less than four (4) females then the game will be forfeited.

- 23 Even though a minimum of five (5) females must appear in the batting order, teams are only required to have four (4) females on the field at any one time.
- 24 Weather related cancellations must not be made prior to 1 1/2 hours before the game. The home team is responsible for making the call. The latest a game can be cancelled due to weather is 45 minutes prior to game time. If no call is made or received, both teams must meet at the diamond to play the game or make a decision. If a team does not call or show up, they forfeit. When a cancellation occurs, the convenor must be notified.
The City will advise me by 3:00 PM on inclement weather days as to whether the diamonds are playable or not.
- 25 One (1) non-weather related cancellation will be allowed for each team. The cancellation notification must be made at least 2 weeks and 1 day prior to the date of the game or it will be a FORFEIT. The City has advised that if they don't receive notice of a cancellation at least 2 weeks in advance, the league will have to pay for the diamond even if not used.
- 26 **THIRD BASE TO HOME PLATE**
... A runner at third, once crossing the 2/3's line, is committed to running home. A runner may be tagged out before the 2/3's line, but, after crossing it, no contact with the runner can be made.
- 27 League Entry Fee is \$500.00 per team, payable by April 30th of the current year.
- 28 After a team forfeits 4 games they will be removed from the league and replaced by another team.
- 29 Players who must leave the game early may do so without penalty of being an automatic out. This applies to all cases except when the player leaving is the team's 5th female. In this situation, the batting order position left vacant will become an automatic out. Players who arrive late for the game may be added to the bottom of the batting order, even though the team may have gone through their order already.
- 30 **PLAYERS MAY ONLY PLAY FOR ONE TEAM IN THE LEAGUE.** Whichever team a player plays for first is their team for the remainder of the season, regardless of which team's roster they appear on.
- 31 Victoria Park (North Diamond) A ball hit to the road in right field, either in the air or rolling on the ground, will be an automatic home run if not touched by a player on the opposing team.
- 32 **THIS IS MANDATORY FOR THIS SEASON**
Please advise all players on your team that Slo Pitch Ontario will not tolerate the wearing of jewellery on the diamond and their Insurance for injuries relating to the wearing of jewellery will be null and void.

PLAY-OFF TOURNAMENT

Will be held September 9, 10 & 11, 2016.

A player must have played a minimum of 8 games during the season to be eligible for Play-Offs at the end of the season.

The jewellery rule will be strictly enforced during the Tournament. If you are caught by the Umpire wearing jewellery while at bat, you will be an automatic out (there will be no warning given).