SLO-PITCH LEAGUE PLAYING GUIDELINES

The New Westminster Parks and Recreation Co-ed Slo-pitch League strives to provide recreational softball for individuals of all abilities and skill levels based on the principles of low cost to the participant, maximum participation, socialization, and most importantly...fun!

As such, the following guidelines have been developed to help facilitate the conduct of play.

- ***Playoff Date:*** The playoff games are schedule for Friday, July 16 and Saturday, July 17.

CODE OF CONDUCT:

All customers, visitors and volunteers are expected to treat each other with respect, dignity and fairness. As such, the following is prohibited:

- Behaviour, actions or language that promotes discrimination, racism, hatred or is demeaning.
- Aggressive acts, threats, violence or profanity.
- Illegal behavior or destruction of property.
- Use or possession of alcohol, cannabis, drugs or other intoxicating substances.
- Use or possession of weapons.
- Any action or interactions with children or youth deemed harmful, abusive, coercive, manipulative or illicit in nature.

Alcohol consumption is not permitted in most sport field areas in the City of New Westminster. Please review designated areas and drink responsibly. Teams violating this law are liable to a $100 fine, and may be dismissed from the NWPR Slo-pitch League with no money refunded.

Help us make the league a safe place for everyone and report any unusual behavior to a staff member or league coordinator.

THE PLAYERS:

1. A total of 10 players on the field each inning. Each team must include at least four players of the same gender. If your team is short players, your team can play the game without defaulting, but each time that missing player's spot comes up on the batting roster, your team will get an automatic out. Players must be at least 19 years old to participate in this program.
2. Each player must play in the field for a least 1 inning at some point during the game.
3. Each player must bat in the batting order even if they do not play in every inning.
4. The batting order will alternate between differing genders.
5. The pitcher may be any player.
6. Players may play on only one team in the NWPR Slo-pitch League.
7. In order to be eligible to participate in the playoffs, players must play in at least 50% of their team's games.
8. Rosters should be submitted to the league coordinator with the team application. Additions or changes to the final team roster may be made prior to the commencement of the 4th game by submitting the changes to the league coordinator via email.
9. **If your team is short players, please email the league coordinator for a list of pick-up players to contact.**
10. Players concerned about injuries during play should use protective equipment. It is strongly recommended that masks and body protectors be worn by catchers and it is required that all teams have a batting helmet available for use of their team members.

THE GAME:

All playing guidelines are set and as such are not subject to modification upon consent of both team captains. All rules as stated in the Softball Canada Official Rule Book www.softball.ca shall apply except for the following amendments.

1. Games will begin precisely as scheduled and have a time limit of 1.5 hours from the start of the game. The 2nd games of the night must start within the 15 minute grace period of the scheduled game time.
2. Failure to be ready to play within the 15 minutes grace period after the scheduled starting time shall result in a game default. Two points will be awarded to the team who shows and the defaulting team will lose 1 point. The defaulted game score will be 6-0.
3. Each game will consist of 7 innings (within the 1.5 hour time limit) with a maximum of 7 runs per inning. If at the end of the 1.5 hour time limit, the full 7 innings have not been played, teams should use the score from the last fully completed inning to determine the winner. There are no open innings in the regular season.
4. Teams will umpire their own games upon mutual agreement between both captains. There should be a plate umpire and a base umpire at all times.
5. Both teams must keep score. The two captains are to meet after the game to finalize the score.
6. The "Home" team is responsible for supplying bases, first base safety bag, mat and a game softball. On the artificial turf diamonds, the bases and first base safety bag will be provided for season games, however, all teams are required to supply their own grass field bases during playoffs. Bases are to be placed 65 feet apart. All teams must provide a home plate mat. The mat is to measure 24" X 36" should be placed over the triangular portion of home plate. A ball landing on the exposed plate is considered a “ball”. A ball landing on any portion of the mat is considered a strike. A commitment line is to be drawn 20 feet from home plate, between home plate and third base.
7. The pitcher must be at least 50 feet from home plate.
8. Pitches must arc above the height of the batter, at least 6 feet from the ground and no higher than 12 feet from the ground. A pitch with no arc is automatically a ball unless swung at.
9. Regular 3 strikes / 4 balls rules will be used. A foul ball after the second strike will result in an automatic out. No intentional walking (umpires discretion). Should this occur, the next batter has the option of an automatic walk.
10. A commitment line is to be drawn on the 3rd base line, 20 feet from home plate, between home plate and third base. When running for home base, the runner must run across a line that is drawn from home plate to the back stop (this line should be a continuation of the 1st base line). If the runner touches home plate or the mat, the runner is out. When there is a play at home, the catcher may have their foot on the plate or mat for the runner to be called out.
11. Deliberate chopping or bunting will result in an automatic out.
12. Sliding is not permitted.
13. Any player dangerously throwing a bat will be automatically out.
14. No stealing.
15. Three Outfielders and the Rover must remain 60 feet behind the bases prior to the batter making contact with the ball. The 60 foot markers should be paced out prior to the commencement of the game and markers should be placed on the 1st and 3rd base lines as well as behind 2nd base. Please use safe visible markers, particularly behind 2nd base (ie: a sport disc cone or something that will not be easily tripped over.)
16. Leading off: A base runner cannot leave the base until the bat has made contact with the ball. Runners found leading off will be automatically out.
17. Infield Fly Rule does not apply in this recreational league.
18. Metal cleats or screw in cleats are not permitted.
19. This league will use Cor44, 12” softballs. Please visit www.softball.ca for other approved and non-approved equipment lists (ie: bats).

ALL THE REST:

1. Season stats will be updated weekly and available for view online under the Slo-Pitch League tab at www.newwestcity.ca/sportsleagues.

   The winning team must email the game score in to leagues@newwestcity.ca by 10:00 am the following Monday. Please provide the following information:

   - Game Night / Division
   - The two team names
   - Score awarded to each team

   Failure to report the score prior to 10:00 am the following Monday may result in a tie being awarded to both teams. Tied games or rained out games are to be reported by the "Home" team.

2. In the event of rain, both teams must show at the field prepared to play unless captains from both teams have contacted each other prior to the game and made alternate arrangements. Leaving only a message on an answering machine is not considered appropriate. It is the responsibility of the two rained out teams to make-up their game at some later date during the season.

   Rain outs must be reported to the league coordinator at the time of cancelation.

3. Point System:

Win	+2 points
Loss	0 points
Tie	+1 points
Default	-1 points

4. Team rankings will be determined by the team with the greatest number of points. If two teams are tied, the winner of the games between the two tied teams will be used. Should the two teams still be tied, the scores per game will be calculated. End of season standings will be available with the playoff package.

5. The 2026 playoffs are scheduled rain or shine for Friday, July 17 and Saturday, July 18.

6. All rescheduled games must be played before Monday, July 13, with scores submitted by 10:00am, or your score will result in a tie.

7. Insurance is not provided through the City of New Westminster. Team insurance can be acquired through local insurance agencies.

8. The New Westminster Parks and Recreation Slo-pitch League organizers shall retain final authority over rule interpretation and dispute resolution.

Team Captains may contact the league coordinator, with any questions or concerns:
leagues@newwestcity.ca