



MEN'S, WOMEN'S, AND COED ADULT SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL LEAGUES **2016 ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS**

TEAM ROSTER/ PLAYER FEES

1. All team fees must be paid in full by deadline date. Team rosters must be completed by 2nd week of games.
2. SELCRA reserves the right to check any line-up at any time and forfeit the game if a team is found to be playing with illegal players. It is the manager's responsibility for the above and to make sure that all players are using their correct address.
3. SELCRA will not be held responsible for any player who is injured.
4. A player may not substitute for another team in the league.
5. All participants in this league shall be 18 years of age or older, by the date they register. Individuals presently attending high school may not be concurrently participating in inter-scholastic sports.

UMPIRE PAYMENT

Each team shall be responsible for paying umpire twelve dollars (\$12) directly before the start of each game. Failure to pay prior to the game will result in a forfeiture for that team. CASH ONLY, U.S. Currency, no coins.

BRIGHTON AREA SCHOOLS (BAS) POLICY

It is a privilege for SELCRA to be able to use BAS facilities. Your cooperation in following the following policies is greatly appreciated to help us keep our facility privileges.

1. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on school property. This includes both players and spectators. Do not jeopardize your team's status in the league by violating this rule. Any complaint about the use of alcoholic beverage must be presented in writing and the burden of proof is on the complainer.
2. The Brighton Area Schools have adopted a drug free school zone. The use of tobacco in any form is not permitted on school grounds. This is a state law, please follow it.
3. A "no pet" policy is enforced on all BAS property. This policy is enforced to prevent any pet related liabilities.

PLAYER/MANAGER CONDUCT

1. Managers shall be responsible for the eligibility of their players and for the validity of their contracts.
2. Managers shall be responsible for the conduct of their players before, during and after the game.
3. Players/managers that are ejected from a game will be issued an automatic one game suspension for their next scheduled game. Ejected players are required to leave the premises immediately. Suspended players are not permitted to be at the site of the game for which they are suspended.
4. A minimum one game suspension will be issued to any player involved in any of the following acts of misconduct (the suspension will be in effect for the next scheduled game following the incident):

- **THREATS** to any official/umpire or SELCRA employee will not be tolerated. If a threat is made to an official or SELCRA employee, that person(s) will receive a one game suspension for the next scheduled game.

- **FIGHTING** will not be tolerated. If a fight occurs, the player(s) involved will receive a one game suspension for the next scheduled game.

- Any person(s), who physically touches or makes an obscene gesture at an umpire/official/SELCRA employee, will be suspended indefinitely pending a hearing.

- **TAUNTING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.** Taunting is unsportsmanlike conduct and will result in ejection of the offending player and a minimum one game suspension from next regular scheduled game. A warning may be given, but is not required, before ejection. An Umpire OR SELCRA Employee can rule on the taunting violation.

Taunting includes any actions or comments by managers, players or spectators which are intended to bait, anger, embarrass, ridicule or demean others, whether or not the deeds or words are vulgar or racist. Included in conduct that berates, needles, intimidates or threatens based on race, gender, ethnic origin or background and conduct that attacks religious beliefs, size, economic status, speech, family, special needs or personal matters.

Examples of taunting that would lead to ejection include, but are not limited to, 'trash talk'; physical intimidation outside the spirit of the game; reference to sexual orientation; 'in the face' confrontation by one player to another; standing over/straddling a tackled or fallen player.

All cases are subject to review by the SELCRA Recreation Superintendent and Recreation Director to determine length of suspension. Suspension may remain in effect through tournament and carry into the following season.

5. Any player who receives two (2) ejections during league or tournament play will be suspended from any league or tournament games remaining in that season. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A) All players will begin with a 1 ball and 1 strike count each time at bat.
- B) Game time is forfeit time. It is important that the 6:20 p.m. game start on time due to the absence of lighting equipment for the fields. Forfeit score is recorded as 7 – 0.
- C) There shall be a 1 hour 10-minute time limit for each game. No new inning may begin after 1 hour of play. The second game of the evening will start within 5 minutes of the completion of the first game and will be official after 7 innings or when the umpire determines it is too dark to continue, whichever comes first. In the case of darkness, the game will end at the completion of a full inning and will be considered a complete game regardless of the number of innings played.
- D) A team may begin or finish game with eight (8) eligible players. A ninth or tenth player arriving late must bat in the ninth/tenth position when entering the game. If a team starts with 10 players, they may finish with as few as eight players. **NOTE: For each scheduled batter that is not available to bat when due up, their team will receive an “automatic” out.** If at any time during the game a team falls below 8 eligible players that team must forfeit the game.
- E) Any player whose name is not on the team roster and is not listed on the score sheet at the start of game is not eligible to play in that game. Violation of this rule shall result in a forfeiture of the game, and a minimum one game suspension of the illegal player.
- F) **Pitching Rule:** The ball must be delivered at a moderate speed underhand – below the hip – with a perceptible arc (from the time it leaves the pitcher’s hand) of at least six (6) feet from the ground, before the ball passes any part of home plate. The pitched ball should not reach height of more than twelve (12) feet at its highest point above the ground. Speed of the pitch and height are left entirely to judgment of the umpire.
- G) **1 to waste** – The batter is out on the second foul ball hit (whether caught or not) **AFTER** two strikes. If the foul ball (after two strikes) is caught, base runners may advance at their own risk.
- H) **Courtesy Runners** – Each team is allowed one (1) courtesy runner per inning. If a team requires more than one (1) courtesy it must be approved by the opposing team. Umpires may grant an exception to this rule if a player has a legitimate pre-existing injury or is injured during the course of the game. Both the umpire and opposing manager must agree to allow a courtesy runner. If the injured player is substituted for, the courtesy runner is no longer in effect until the assigned player returns to play. In the Coed league, the courtesy runner must be of the same gender as the player who requires a runner. Violation of this rule shall result in a forfeiture of the game.
- I) Out of the park home runs are limited to three (3) per team per game. All other balls hit out of the park in fair ground will be called out, and all runners must return to the base they occupied prior to that pitch. A ball that is touched by a fielder and then passes over the fence will not count into above totals, it will be a four (4) base award.
- J) No steel or metal spikes are allowed. All-purpose sports shoes may be worn. Some type of footwear must be worn.
- K) **Continuous batting order** – Any/all players present at game starting time may be placed in the batting line-up. A team may not change their batting line-up during the game and

must bat all players for that game. A manager can bat any number of players they choose (i.e. 13 of 15 present). All players that are on the field defensively must bat. The umpire and scorekeeper must be notified if a team is not batting all present players. Once again, for each scheduled batter that is not available to bat when due up, their team must receive an automatic "out". For players that are ejected or injured during the game, an "automatic" out will be issued each time that spot in the battling line-up is reached.

L) **If a batted ball hits the pitcher - batter is out, ball is dead, runners return to their original bases.**

M) **Standings** – Standings will be based on win/loss/tie percent system and posted at www.selcra.com – Adult Softball. Standings will be updated throughout the season as long as scores are submitted to Bryan Bollin via email at bbollin@selcra.com by Monday of the following week. Ties in record by teams will be decided by the following:

- 1) head-to-head competition between teams involved
- 2) run differential in games between tied teams
- 3) overall run differential

N) Stealing is not permitted in SELCRA softball leagues.

1. Clarification Notes:

A) Overthrows: When the ball is in play and is blocked or is overthrown into Foul territory. EFFECT – all runners will be awarded two bases and the award will be governed by the position of the runners when the ball left any fielder's hand.

B) The pitcher shall take a position with one or both feet firmly on the ground and in contact with the pitcher's plate. This position must be maintained at least one second and not more than 10 seconds before starting delivery.

C) The batter must take his/her position within 20 seconds after the umpire has declared, "Play ball".

D) **SLIDE OR SURRENDER:** When a defensive player clearly has the ball and is waiting for the runner and the runner deliberately and forcefully runs into the defensive payer, the runner is declared out. The offender shall be ejected, the ball dead and all other runners must return to the last base touched at the time of the collision.

E) **RE-ENTRY RULE:**

"Any of the starting players... may be withdrawn and re-enter once, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever he/she is in the line-up." A player not substituted for may not re-enter the game in later innings. Any player not available to bat when due up will receive an automatic out. Situation – Player A appears in the line-up as one of the starters and is replaced by Player B. Player A may re-enter the game once, but must re-enter in the same batting position. NOTE:

The original player and the substitute(s) cannot be in the line-up at the same time.

- 1) Violation of the re-entry rule results in the use of an illegal player.
- 2) Violation of the re-entry rule is handled as a protest, which can be made anytime DURING THE GAME.

- G) **FAKE TAG:** “When a runner is obstructed while advancing or returning to base by a fielder who neither has the ball nor is attempting to field a batted ball, or a field without the ball fakes the tag, the umpire shall award the obstructed runner and each other runner affected by the obstruction the bases they would have reached in his judgment, had there been no obstruction.” The runner does not have to stop or slide, only slow down, to be considered a fake tag. A “FAKE TAG” in game play may result in that player being removed from the game.
- H) Basepaths for all leagues will be 65’. Pitching distance for all leagues will be 50’.
- I) **BLOOD RULE:** A player, coach or umpire who is bleeding or who has blood on his uniform shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment can be administered. If medical care or treatment is administered in a reasonable length of time, the individual will not have to leave the game. The length of time that is considered reasonable is left to the umpire’s judgment. The umpire shall:
- 1) Stop the game and allow treatment if the injured player would affect the continuation of the game.
 - 2) Immediately call a coach, trainer or other authorized person to the injured player.
 - 3) Apply the rules of the game regarding substitution, short-handed player and re-entry if necessary.
1. In all leagues there is a Mercy Rule. If the scores are separated by 15 runs after 4 innings and 10 after 5 innings, the game will be officially ended. The lower scoring time must have at least 4 or 5 at-bats depending on the run differential.
2. Flip/Flop Rule. **Both managers and the umpire must be in agreement for this rule to be in effect. If not the rule will not be applied.** “In the inning when the Run Rule (Mercy)...is exceeded and the Home Team is losing, the Home Team will remain at bat and become the Visiting Team. If the Team (new Visiting Team) does not score enough runs to reduce the run difference below the Run Rule the Game is over. If they reduce the run difference to below the Run Rule then the new Home Team will bat. If they subsequently score enough runs to exceed the Run Rule the Game will be over, if they do not the Game will continue under that format. If the situation reverses the Teams would flip/flop again.”
8. **FALSIFICATION OF ANY PLAYER INFORMATION** on the team roster will result in a two (2) year adult athletic league suspension followed by a two (2) year probation from ALL adult athletic programs at SELCRA.

COED LEAGUE RULE ADDITIONS

1. Five males and five females must be on the defensive team at all times (except if they have only 8 or 9 players). The positioning of these players must be as follows:
 - 2 males and 2 females in the outfield
 - 2 males and 2 females in the infield
 - 1 male and 1 female in the pitcher and catcher positions
2. You must alternate the sexes in the batting order. No exceptions will be made for this rule except if you have more females than males playing. The batting order must be

alternated from the first batter on down through the line-up... male, female, male, female, male, female, female, female, etc...

Teams can play with 5 males and 4 females and receive an automatic out in the batting order for the missing female. A team must have 4 females, if not, the game will be ruled a forfeit. Teams may play with more females than males. Examples: 5 females and 4 males, or 8 females and 2 males, but never 6 males and 4 females...

3. Any walk to a male batter will result in a two base award. The next batter (a female) will bat. **EXCEPTION: With two outs, the female batter has the option to walk or bat.**
4. A defensive player may not intentionally cut in front of another defensive player in order to make a play on a routine batted ball. If, in the umpire's judgment, a fielder deliberately makes a play that another player occupying a regular position should have made, the offending player will receive one warning. On the second offense, the player will be ejected from the game. Exception: The pitcher may cover any play at home plate only.
5. Each team will be allowed to hit three (3) home runs out of the park per game. All other balls hit out of the park in fair ground, the batter will be called out and all runners must return to the base they occupied prior to that pitch. A ball that is touched by a fielder and then passes over the fence will not count into above totals, it will be a four (4) base award.

PROCEDURES

1. Field maintenance service (dragging, lining and bases) is done by a third-party service. Fields are prepped in the afternoon on scheduled game days. In a situation where the field is in use by another team/group/league right before league games, every effort will be made to re-dress the fields before the game starts, but in some situations this will not be possible.
2. Game cancellations due to inclement weather will not be made until after 4:30 p.m. Information about rainouts, etc., can be obtained by calling (810) 299-4140. After 5:00 p.m., under most circumstances, the umpire will make the decision at the fields. Team managers will be contacted if a game is cancelled due to inclement weather.
3. If a game is called during play due to inclement weather, and enough innings were played for an "official" game, the score will be final. If the minimum game standards are not met, the game will be "replayed" (from the start of the game) at a later date.
4. Make-ups will be completed in a timely fashion. Once games have been rescheduled, changes in the make-up dates will be at the discretion of the league director. SELCRA reserves the right to schedule make-up games depending on field availability.
5. Equipment to be provided by teams: bats, practice balls, gloves, etc.
6. The Umpires will discuss ground rules with team managers prior to the start of each game. It is the responsibility of the manager to relay the ground rules to his/her players.
7. The team that is batting will keep score of their own score. After 3 outs the scorebook will be handed to the other team to keep their own score. If there is a discrepancy in the score, the umpire's decision will be final after hearing both managers' remarks. Conflicts must be settled after the completed inning in which it occurs.

8. *No protests. All umpire decisions are final.*

POLICIES

1. A season ending single-elimination tournament will be played at the conclusion of the regular season. Awards include sponsor trophies and/or individual awards (t-shirts).
2. Doubleheaders may be played on some league nights.
3. **Official game balls are as follows: Men's and Coed leagues – 12 ".52 cor.;** Women's leagues – 11" .44 cor. - - all are leather cover softballs. Each manager is required to provide one (1) game ball at each game. Twelve (12) softballs will be given to each manager prior to the start of the season.
4. Safety considerations must always be evaluated by managers and umpires. The majority shall decide playability of the field. Neither SELCRA, nor Brighton Area Schools, nor the umpires will be responsible for any injuries incurred as a result of individuals participating in the SELCRA softball program.
5. All participants in any softball league should be prepared for player identification checks throughout the season. **All players should have their driver's license in their possession at all times.** Failure to provide a current valid Michigan driver's license (with photo) or a state of Michigan picture I.D. may result in forfeiture of game and further suspension.
6. Participants in the Coed league may also play in other leagues (i.e. a female/male can play in one Coed and one women's/men's league. Games will not be scheduled to accommodate players playing in more than one league.) **EXCEPTION** – A player cannot play on two women's/men's teams or two Coed teams.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. SELCRA and/or the league coordinator reserves the right to act on any situation not covered herein.