

Pasco Recreation Services

2019 Men's & Co-Ed WSL Softball

Rules and Regulations

The goal of Pasco Recreation Services is to provide opportunities for physical exercise, socialization, and healthy and constructive use of leisure time for adults through sports programs.

Please remember that regardless of the league or caliber of competition, the main objective of the program is to have fun and provide activity. Abuse of umpires and facility staff will not be tolerated.

WSL will govern the sport in conjunction with the Pasco Recreation Services Department Slow-pitch Softball Rules.

1. LEAGUE STRUCTURE

- A. The league fee covers: the officials, bases, facilities, maintenance and operation costs, administrative costs, awards and WSL registration
- B. By participating, all players agree to release Pasco Recreation Services and all cooperating agencies, employees, officials or managers thereof from all liability for damages to persons or property that may be sustained as a result of participation in the program.

2. LEAGUE CLASSIFICATION

- A. The Recreation Specialist and WSL guidelines and officials classify teams. Classifications are based on the following criteria: League standings from previous years, teams registering in each division, # of teams returning and the caliber of the players on the team.

3. FACILITIES

- A. Players in dugout. No children will be allowed in the dugouts or playing area. Only the players, coach, and scorekeeper will be allowed in the dugouts. (Liability and Safety reasons)
- B. No outside alcohol is permitted in the complex.
- C. Please use trash receptacles.
- D. No glass containers are allowed in the complex.
- E. No scooters, skateboards, bicycles, roller blades allowed at Pasco Sporting Complex due to safety concerns.
- F. No climbing on fences. If a home run is hit, please do not climb the fence to retrieve the ball. The umpire will have a second ball that he/she will put into play.
- G. No soft toss into fencing.
- H. Excessive digging in by batters will not be allowed, due to the holes that are created around home plate and the extra maintenance work that is caused by the holes that are dug. First infraction is a warning and all subsequent infractions by any player on that team are an out.

4. EQUIPMENT

- A. No metal spikes are allowed.
- B. Balls will be provided to the team managers. The home team will provide one new ball and visiting team will provide one good used ball each game.
- C. Uniforms - uniforms are not required for league play. Teams playing in any level of tournament play may be required to have matching uniforms with numbers. Teams are responsible to check with the tournament director ahead of time as to the uniform requirements.

5. ROSTERS/ELIGIBILITY

- A. There is maximum number of 25 players on a league roster.
- B. The combination League/WSL roster is due at registration time. Each player's **SIGNATURE, address, and phone numbers must appear on the form.** All players must be on the roster before they play their first game. All additions must be made at the Parks and Recreation office (office hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) Or at the Pasco Sporting Complex prior to participating in a game. Players can switch teams one time only during the season, as long as both team managers agree. Players must be 18 years of age or older.
- C. Rosters will remain open for player additions until the 2nd Friday in July for summer league. After the 2nd Friday in July players may only be added if a team is shorthanded subject to approval by the Recreation Specialist. No deadline for the fall league WSL tournament players can be added up until the last week of the season. All additions to the roster must be made in person at the Pasco Recreation Services, 525 N. 3rd AVE. Pasco, WA 99301. It is the managers' responsibility to make sure the roster addition has been made. No player additions may be made by phone.
- D. **Team rosters are kept at the complex and can be updated prior to each game.**
- E. **Protesting ineligible player(s):** A player protest must occur during the game. The protesting team must notify the other team of the player they are protesting and why they are protesting. The name of the protested player must be verified by the umpire and noted on the score sheet. (It is the responsibility of the protesting team to make sure this is done.) The game will be completed. The protesting team must contact the Pasco Recreation Services Office the next working day. The Recreation Specialist will verify the eligibility of the protested player. Automatic penalty: Player and team manager will be suspended from the next 2 league game and placed on probation for the remainder of the season. The offending team will forfeit the game.
- F. If an ineligible player is discovered by the Recreation Specialist within 24 hours after the game is played the game will be a forfeit. The ineligible player and team manager will receive a two game suspension.
- G. A player may not play on more than one team in the same league. (i.e. a player can play in men's and co-ed but not on two men's teams or two co-ed teams).

Players must be signed on each teams' roster.

Players can only play on **ONE WSL TOURNAMENT TEAM** in the same league (i.e. a player cannot be on two men's or two co-ed WSL rosters)

6. GAME ROSTER AND PLAYERS

- A. **Playing shorthanded:** A team may start and finish the game with a minimum of eight (8) players in men's league. The missing players will bat in the lowest possible position(s) in the batting order. No out will result in all missing player's batting positions. If additional players arrive after the game has started, the short team may add players as they show up. The added players will bat at the bottom of the batting line up. A team can play short-handed in any position they choose, other than pitcher and catcher. A team not having a minimum of 8 players at game time or anytime during the game will forfeit the game, exception: A team can start with 7 if they are on offense. Games forfeited at game time will still be played and officiated as a practice game provided there are 8 players for each team between the two teams playing the game. Players must be on a League roster. The same rules as an official game apply to the practice game.
- B. **Substitutions:** will follow the WSL Rules.
- C. **Courtesy runners:** will be only one courtesy runner per inning. The runner can be anyone in the batting line-up and if the courtesy runner used is on base when it is their turn to bat in the order this will be an out for their team.

7. OFFICIAL GAME RULES

- A. **Time limit:** There will be 1:15 time limit; however, no new inning shall start after 1 hour 5min.
 - 1) There will be 3 warm-up pitches between innings, unless a new pitcher is entering the game.
 - 2) All players must be timely in getting on and off the field between innings.
- D. **Grace period:** There will be a 10-minute grace period for the first game only. This time will come off of your playing time. All games after the first game will be a forfeit. If the previous game runs late the scheduled game will begin 5 minutes after completion of that game.

Failure to field a team at game time will result in a forfeit.
- E. **Completed games:**

7 completed innings (6 if the home team is ahead) Weather related-four innings must be completed (4 if the home team is ahead)

10 run rule - if a team is ahead by 10 runs after 4 ½ innings of play or any completed inning thereafter, it will constitute an official game.

Games not declared official will be replayed from the exact point where they left off.
- F. **Home Run Rule:** Men's leagues will use the progressive home run rule with a limit of 4 home runs until the opposing team reaches 4 home runs, then teams may hit one more than the opposing team throughout the rest of the game. Home runs that violate this rule will be declared a dead ball out and all runners will hold their positions prior to the home run. * Co-ed Exceptional Rule Women are **ALLOWED UNLIMITED HOMERUNS.**
- G. **Score book:** If the home team does not have a designated scorekeeper to manage the score book while their team is on defense then the visiting team, as long as they have someone to manage the book while on defense, will become the official book.

8. CONDUCT OF PLAYERS

- A. Teams and team managers will be held responsible for the action of their players and spectators.
- B. If team managers are satisfied or dissatisfied with the performance of an umpire, the manager is requested to file, in writing, specific complaints or suggestions to Pasco Recreation Services. The Recreation Program Specialist will then review these comments. If the comments require review, such action as needed will be taken by the Recreation Specialist, WSL Softball Umpire Association. (Concerns not put in writing will not be addressed.)
- C. Casual profanity/Unsportsmanlike conduct Rule:
Any team member in a game using profanity or unsportsmanlike language, expletives not directed at an umpire(s) or opposing player(s), and loud enough to be heard by spectator(s) will result in an out being called against the offending team.

If a team is at bat and unsportsmanlike words are used, the next batter will be declared out.

If this act is committed by a player at bat, that player will be called out.

If the act is committed by the defensive team their first batter up when they are on offense will be declared out. The outs will be treated as a delayed dead ball situation.

If the violation occurs in the bottom of the last inning, where the fielding team may not bat again, the ejection rule will apply. If the team goes below (8) players it will constitute a forfeit.
- D. If, in the opinion of the umpire(s) the game cannot be continued in a sportsmanlike manner, the offending team shall forfeit the game.
- E. Only the manager may speak to the umpire. The umpire will direct all conduct warnings to the managers, and it is the managers' responsibility to control all player conduct.
- F. Officials are not required to warn a player or manager prior to ejection. When a player is ejected from a game, he/she must leave the complex immediately or the team will forfeit the game.

9. PENALTY ASSESSMENTS AND PROCEDURES

The following are penalties that will be assessed for each specific act that occur before, during or after a game (penalties decided by one or all of the following: Umpire, WSL Director, Onsite Recreation Staff, Recreation Specialist, or Pasco Recreation Services Manager).

Level One Violation

- A. Possession or consumption of alcohol while participating in a game.
- B. Intentional throwing of bat (not directed at an individual).
- C. Minimal swearing directed at another player, umpire, spectator or the Recreation staff.

- D. Taunting or using language or gestures to provoke another player or umpire.
- E. Abusive language or continued swearing directed at another player, umpire, spectator or Recreation Staff.
- F. Participating in a game as an ineligible player.
- G. Attempting to arouse spectators against an official.
- H. Not leaving the complex when asked to by umpire, WSL league official or Recreation Staff.
- I. Unsportsmanlike conduct.
- J. Kicking or throwing dirt at an umpire.
- K. Approaching or following an official off the field after the game is complete with the intent of verbal harassment or physical harm.

Automatic penalties:

First Level One Offense: Ejection from that game and suspension from the following league game. Probation will be for the remainder of the calendar year. Player/Team must submit a letter of reinstatement within 7 days of incident to Pasco Recreation Services and the league Player Board

Second Level One Offense: Ejection from that game and suspension from the following four league games. Probation will be for one calendar year. Player/Team must submit a letter of reinstatement for review 30 days prior to the start of the next season to Pasco Recreation Services and the League Player Board.

Level Two Violations

- Verbal or physical threats to a player, umpire, spectator, WSL League Director or Recreation Staff.
- Fighting whether initiated or done in retaliation.
- Making physical contact with intent to do harm to a player, umpire, spectator, WSL League Director or Recreation Staff.
- Throwing or kicking an object at a player, umpire, spectator, WSL League Director and/or Recreation staff with intent to do harm.
- Harassing players, spectators, WSL League Director or Recreation Staff.
- Causing, aiding, or assisting to the damage or destruction of property Pasco Recreation Services or individuals associated with the program.

Automatic Penalty: Ejection from that game and suspension from all Parks and Recreation leagues for one calendar year. To be reinstated following the suspension the player must write a letter to Pasco Recreation Services, WSL and League Player Board then request a meeting with the program administrator and WSL & League Player Board asking to be reinstated.

- WSL will be notified of the ruling made regarding the violation. Names of players suspended may be published in the Pasco Recreation Services rulebook along with the Violations and length of Suspension.

FOR ALL PENALTIES: At the discretion of the Recreation Specialist a hearing may be held to increase or decrease the penalty according to the degree of violation. This hearing will include the Lead Recreation Specialist, Recreation Specialist, WSL Representative and League Player Board. Player/Team Manager must be present to state your position and give version of what occurred that lead to the suspension or removal from the program.

- 1) **After completing this step the Player/Team Manager can request a meeting with the Recreation Services Manager to appeal the decision made at the hearing.**

10. PROTESTS

- A. Decisions involving an umpire's judgment calls may **NOT** be protested.
- B. Protests for league play must be done according to the WSL rule book with the following exceptions:

All protests must be written on the score sheet, both teams notified of protest, and the umpire must sign the score sheet acknowledging the protest. Protests not declared prior to the next play will not be heard. All protests **MUST** be received in writing within two working days, but reported verbally within 1 working day to the Recreation Specialist at the Pasco Recreation Services office. A \$25 protest fee must be submitted with all protests. The fee will be refunded if ruling is reversed. The protest, if needed, will be presented in front of the Pasco Recreation Specialist and UIC for due process. The manager or coach shall be the only person permitted to protest the interpretation.

Umpires that are protesting the results of a game or the actions of a player/team manager/spectator must report verbally within 24 hours and present the protest or action in writing within 2 working days to Pasco Recreation Services.

Protest must be written on both teams score sheet, both teams notified of protest, and the umpire must sign the score sheets acknowledging the protest.

11. CANCELLED GAMES/RAINOUTS

If no official umpire arrives for a game, the game may be played if both managers agree and there is a volunteer umpire to umpire said game or it will be rescheduled. If the game is started with a volunteer umpire, it must be completed. Both coaches are required to sign the score book as proof of agreement. (Refund will not be given.) Complaints against a volunteer umpire shall not be considered. Winning team is responsible to report the score into the onsite field supervisor prior to leaving the complex.

All games which are declared no game because of poor weather conditions, unplayable field (umpire's decision), umpire not showing up, will be rescheduled the next working day for a date determined by the Recreation Specialist. Teams must notify the Pasco Recreation Services before 9:00 am the next working day as to any dates that would be a conflict. The Recreation Specialist may cancel games at his/her discretion.

Rained out games will be replayed the next available day and time. (Teams should be prepared to play that same week.)

If games are unable to be rescheduled refunds will not be given.

If it has been raining for a few days prior but has stopped, be sure to call and double check that the fields are playable.

A decision will be made at 4:30 p.m. or earlier to whether the games will be canceled or not. It is the team managers' responsibility to call in at 545-3456 to see if the games are cancelled.

12. LEAGUE STANDING

League standings are posted weekly at the Pasco Sporting Complex.

League standings - standings will be determined in the following manner:

Tie breaking criteria:

Head to Head: Games played between the teams that are tied will be compared and the team winning the most games will take the higher place.

If still tied, points scored for and against the games played between the tied teams will determine the winner.

13. **CoEd exceptional rules:**

A. Using a 3/2 count and 1 courtesy foul.

B. 5 Men & 5 Women on the field can have more women than men (**i.e. 6 women 4 men**)

C. Women will hit 11"ball and Men will hit 12"ball

D. May pick up players if short until they have a maximum of 10 players to avoid forfeits. Players must have a league player's card to participate in the game prior to getting on the field.

E. Run rule will be as follows 20 runs after 3 innings, 15 after 4 inning and 10 after 5.

F. Courtesy Rule for Co-Ed is one runner per sex per inning. No Exceptions.

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