

GREATER SACRAMENTO INTERFAITH SOFTBALL LEAGUE

2024 SEASON

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Game Times:** See Schedules, 55 minute games, additional time may be allowed for tie games. No new inning after 55 minutes.
- Grace Period:** Ten minute grace allowed to field team before forfeit game – play 45-minute game. No new inning after 45 minutes.
- Rain:** Call John Jackson, (916) 747-0695, after 3:00pm game day to verify games. Rain out games moved to end of season (If necessary and depending on field availability).
- Score:** Scorekeeper will take score for all games.
- Home/Visitors:** Home – Field First – 1st Base Line Dugout Visitors – Bat First – 3rd Base Line Dugout
- Legal Game:** 8 players needed to start game and must have at least 3 women. Arriving players can be added at any point in the game and there can be more Women than Men or more Men than Women. If a team only ends up with 4 women then they can only play 5 men for a total of 9 players. Male batters must be added between female batters if more females and vice versa if other males or females arrive during game.
- Short Players:** **Can use other players from other teams to field team to avoid forfeit ONLY if short of players on roster and EXCEPT during playoffs. If enough players on roster are there at game time then must use those players. If enough players on roster are not there at game time then can use other players from other teams until players on roster arrive. At that time those players from other teams must be swapped out with the arriving players on the roster.**
- Tie Breaker:** If the score is tied after the completion of seven innings of play or after the 55 minute time limit has expired, one additional inning will be allowed. At the beginning of each half inning, the batting team will begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in that respective half inning being placed on second base. A substitute may be inserted for the runner following regular substitution rules.
- Umpires:** No Show USA umpire, play as scheduled using person from team(s) to call the game. Games will not be rescheduled because an assigned official USA umpire not at game.
- Team Rosters:** All team rosters frozen as of May 21, 2024. Every player must read the general release waiver on back of the roster and sign the front of the roster before he/she is allowed to participate on any team.
- Team Lineup:** Line up cards will be provided and must be submitted to the scorekeeper before each game. Advise scorekeeper of any substitution during game.
- Game Balls:** Home team will provide one new and one good used 12” ball. Visitors will provide one new and one good used 11” ball. Forgot new ball – both teams will provide two good used balls. Please provide ASA stamped Yellow Optic softball(s) (any 12” .52 COR/300 lbs. or 11” .44 COR/375 lbs.) for every game.
- Defense:** Any player may play at any defensive position so desired by the manager.
- Pitching:** Pitchers will pitch at least 6 ft. but no more than 12 ft. above the ground from the farthest pitcher’s plate. A mat behind home plate will be used. Also, this league is SLOW pitch. The 11” ball must be pitched to the Women and the 12” ball must be pitched to the Men. Wrong Ball pitched to batter – offensive coach has choice of accepting play or re-pitch.
- Batting:** **Teams may bat their entire roster up to 16 players. If players on the roster arrive late, they must be added to the bottom of the lineup before the batting rotation has completed.** Two women may bat in a row; however, if two men bat in a row, it will constitute as an out each time in between those men. Also, no Bunting is allowed.
- Batting Count:** Every batter will come to the plate with 1 strike and 1 ball count to expedite game. All batters will be allowed one courtesy foul on the Third Strike. Any foul ball after that will constitute an out.
- First Base:** A double first base will be used, which has a white side (inbounds) and an orange side (out of bounds). Runner advancing from home plate to first base must use orange side on a single base hit or it will constitute as an out at the discretion of the umpire. Otherwise, the runner may use white side to advance to second base except on an overthrown ball. Fielder must use white side of first base or the runner will be safe at the discretion of the umpire.
- Home Plate:** Home plate will only be used for defensive plays. Any runner that steps on home plate will be out.
- Score Line:** A score line will be used that is extended from home plate. Base runners advancing to home plate must run towards and pass the score line ONLY.
- Commit Line:** A commit line will be used between third base and home plate. A base runner that advances past the commit line must continue home. **If a fielder has the ball and steps on home before the base runner passes the score line, the base runner will be out.**
- Sliding:** To prevent injuries, runners may slide or dive into a base except for the runner advancing from home plate to first base or the runner advancing from third base to home. Therefore, there will be ABSOLUTELY no over running of bases except for the runner advancing from home plate to first base.

- Walks:** A walked female batter will be awarded one base and a walked male batter will be awarded two bases. If a male batter is walked with two outs, female batter has the option to walk or bat.
- Halo Rule:** **An imaginary pitcher's box will be used. Any ball hit by a male or female on the fly that is head height or below that passes through the pitcher's box or strikes the pitcher will be an automatic out. All runners must return to their bases. This is a judgment call by the umpire.**
- Base Running:** No stealing. Any player, in the judgment of the umpire, intentionally runs into or over a fielder, or intentionally knocks the ball out of the fielder's hand on a play, will be automatically out.
- Double Play:** Runners must slide or get out of the way except for the runner advancing from home plate to first base. Penalty – runner is out plus runner close to home base also out (umpire judgment).
- Home Run:** **There is no fence or street around the outfield, so no Home Run rules will be in effect.**
- Ground Rule:** **No ground rules because no unusual objects are in the field of play. All balls batted in fair territory will be in play.**
- Mercy Rule:** **12-Runs after 5 innings (4 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead)** Exception: Playoffs and Championship Games
- Thrown Bat:** One warning then batter will be out
- Leaving Player:** If a player leaves for injury or a non-injury reason and no substitute is available, the game may proceed and that player's turn at bat will be counted as an out.
- Player Reentry:** Players taken out of a game must return in same batting order when taken out of game. Penalty for violation – player and manager out of game.
- Equipment:** Each team provides own equipment. Only ASA/USA approved bats allowed. No bats that are on the USA Non-Approved Bat List are permitted. No Metal Spike Cleats allowed.
- Insurance:** Insurance is responsibility of each individual team and/or church. GSISL provides No medical or any other insurance protection.
- Prohibits:** Players are not allowed to wear any hanging jewelry. No drinking of intoxicating beverages and no smoking on the field else the player will be ejected from the game.
- Playoffs:** Playoffs games will be at the end of the season. Each teams must have played in at least three league games to be eligible for the playoff games. Player must be on the original roster or the amended roster that is turned in before roster frozen date to be eligible for the playoffs. IDs will be checked against the rosters.