

# **INTRA-DEPARTMENTAL SLOW-PITCH** **LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS**

(REVISED March 1, 2019)

**IMPORTANT:** *Players must be sworn members of the department and be dues paying members of the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club (LAPRAAC). LAPRAAC will verify membership. Civilian employees, reserve officers, and student workers are not eligible to participate.*

## **RULES OF PLAY:**

The United States Slow-pitch Softball Association (USSSA) rules have been adopted. Deviations from these rules are as follows:

1. A mat will be used. Both the mat and the plate are a strike.
2. **TYPE OF PITCH THAT IS PERMITTED:** The pitched ball must arch at least three (3) feet after leaving the pitcher's hand and before it passes any part of home plate.

The pitched ball shall not rise higher than twelve (12) feet above the ground. **The umpire will call an illegal pitch as soon as he determines that the pitch is illegal.**

LAPRAAC will introduce a pitcher's box for safety reasons. The pitcher will be allowed to stand 10 feet behind the 50-foot rubber to give him a greater distance to field the ball.

3. The same shall consist of seven (7) innings. The time limit for any game is seventy (70) minutes. No new inning may start after the allotted time.
4. **TIE GAMES:** If a game is tied at the end of 70 minutes, one extra inning of play will be allowed to resolve the tie. If the game is still tied after the inning is over, then it will count as a 1/2 game won for each team.

If the umpire calls the game due to bad weather or forfeit, then a 1/2 game won for each team will be assessed.

5. **LEAGUE STANDINGS:** The overall win, loss, or tie record will determine standings.
6. **TIE BREAKER SYSTEM:** In the event of a tie in the standings, the tie will be resolved by the following:
  - A. Head to head competition of teams involved.
  - B. A one (1) game playoff for final league stands and tournament seeding if section A does not apply, when practical and time permitting.
  - C. If time does not permit, teams with the:
    1. most runs scored -VS- each other, or
    2. most runs scored against -VS- each other, or
    3. total season runs scored -VS- each other, or
    4. total season runs scored against -VS- each other, or
    5. coin toss

NOTE: Following the games, the scores will be reported by the team Captain of the home team via text sent to Joe Oliveri (818-439-9469). Joe is LAPRAAC's Head Umpire. He works the Valley League (Sepulveda Basin).

7. **CANCELLED GAMES:** In case of a cancelled game due to weather, fields, recreational priority, or any other UO, games will resume the following scheduled date. Cancelled games will be made up at a time determined by the LAPRAAC Athletic Director. Any team requesting to cancel a game must give at least 24 hour notice to the Head Umpire, or that game will be forfeited.

8. **ROSTERS:**

- A. Team rosters *shall* be submitted to the LAPRAAC Athletic Director. Rosters must include each player's first and last name and serial number.
- B. Team rosters can be unlimited. Additions or deletions to a roster must be made in *writing* to the LAPRAAC Athletic Director. E-mail is preferred (abarragan@lapraac.com). No changes will be accepted over the phone. Eligible players may be added to the roster throughout the year. **However, for a player to be eligible to participate in the playoffs, he/she must have played in at least two (2) games during the regular season.**

Exception: Probationers just out of the Academy, lateral transfers, and rehires.

9. **LEAGUE FEES:**

- A. All league fees shall be submitted to the LAPD Athletic Director. Failure to submit team fees in a timely manner may result in the team being dropped from the league.
- B. Each team shall submit a check for **\$400.00 payable to: LAPRAAC.**

10. **HOME TEAM WILL:**

- A. Sit in the third base dugout.
- B. Report the score of the game to the Head Umpire.
- C. Retrieve foul balls down the left field line.

11. **AWAY TEAM WILL:**

- A. Retrieve foul balls down the right field line.

12. **SCOREKEEPER:**

- A. The umpire will keep the official score. However, each manager is required to keep score as well to confirm with the umpires what the running score is after each inning.

13. **SPORTSMANSHIP:**

- A. The umpire is in complete charge of the game! Any unprofessional conduct by the players or manager shall necessitate ejection from the

game. Any participant that is ejected from the game shall leave the facility (manager's responsibility). Failure to do so will result in the ejected player being suspended for the next scheduled game and the team he/she is playing on forfeits the game from which he/she was ejected.

- B. Any player ejected for fighting will be suspended for the next two (2) league games. If ejected a second (2nd) time for fighting, the player ejected will be suspended from league play for one (1) year.
- C. This league is sponsored by LAPRAAC. Sportsmanship rates high in our leagues; even above winning! Any player, manager, sponsor, or official representative of a team who is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct on or off the field is liable to immediate suspension. Like it or not, we have an image or conduct that we must project to the eyes of outsiders.
- D. Managers will be responsible for the conduct of their players and shall:
  - 1. Do everything possible to assist the umpire in conducting the game in a professional manner.
  - 2. Keep the batting line up in the proper order.
  - 3. Do everything possible to keep IOD to a minimum. This includes discussing with your team the appropriate use of IOT time. In other words, if your injury is minor, return to work on restricted duty. Do not use this as additional vacation time or the department will cancel the valuable benefit!
- E. PROFANITY OR ABUSIVE LANGUAGE:
  - A. Any player using profane language will be ejected from the game. Umpires have been instructed to eject the player the instant the profanity occurs; without any prior warning to the team players!
- F. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:
  - A. A person shall not enter, be, or remain in any park while in possession of, transporting, purchasing, selling, giving away, or consuming any alcoholic beverage (LAMC SEC.)!!! Failure to adhere to this rule will cause a team or teams to forfeit the rest of the season, including the year-end tournaments.
- G. Any player whose actions may endanger the safety of others will be ejected from the game without prior warning, i.e. throwing a bat, ball, or equipment in anger or frustration, or intentionally spiking an opposing player.

14. PROTESTS:

- A. Protests will not be received or considered if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy or judgment on the part of the umpire.
- B. Any protest must first be lodged with the umpire prior to the next legal pitch or the protest will not be received.

- C. All protests must be filed with the LAPRAAC Athletic Director, in writing, by 1700 the occurring day.
- D. Any protest involving eligibility of player(s) may be lodged at any time up to the last out of the last inning. No protest involving eligibility will be received after the game has concluded.

15. MISCELLANEOUS:

WITHDRAWAL OF A TEAM:

- A. If a team withdraws from the league, players will be free agents and can select a new team to play with; as long as the new team does not already have three (3) outside players.
- B. The remaining teams will be notified by e-mail.
- C. Teams with three (3) additional players from outside divisions will not be allowed to draft a player from a dropped team (adopted 2-13-92).
- D. The team with the least amount of games won will draft first, followed by other teams in the standings.
- E. In the case of a tie for games lost, refer to Tie Breaker System on page 1.
- F. Each team remaining may pick up one (1) player only.
- G. A player will be dropped from the league if he/she refuses to play for a team.

ADDITIONAL RULES:

- A. All teams may pick up to three (3) additional players from outside divisions (but only from divisions that do not have team (adopted 2-13-92). If a player cannot locate a team to play for, then he or she should contact the LAPRAAC Athletic Director. Combo teams or entire building teams are not allowed to pick up any additional players.
- B. Each player listed on the roster may play in any league game. **To be eligible for year-end tournaments a player must play a minimum of two (2) league games.**
- C. Teams must have no less than eight (8) players to start and finish a game. Teams will forfeit if seven (7) or less players are fielded at any time.
- D. There will be free substitution. A player that is removed from the game may return, but cannot bat until all other team players have batted before him or her.
- E. A player appearing on an official roster shall play only for that team throughout the season, unless:
  - A. The team withdraws from the league.

- B. A transferred player may play on another team if he/she obtains a release, in writing, from his/her manager. (15.7) (as of March 22, 2007).
- F. 1 BALL - 1 STRIKE TO START: Each player after having two (2) strikes will be allowed only one (1) foul ball. On the second foul ball after two strikes, the player will be out.
- G. Use of metal spikes on cleats is **PROHIBITED** ON 1a City fields and in our league.
- H. No warm up period on infield. A team must warm up in the outfield prior to game time.
- I. **THE PLAYERS AND SUBSTITUTES:**
- A. (USSSA RULE SE. 3(H) ADDITIONAL HITTER (AH))  
The AH rule can be used throughout the entire program. A team may insert an AH into its line up. The batting order must remain constant; however, any ten (10) of the eleven (11) players can take a defensive position throughout the game. The umpire must be notified prior to game play.
- J. **TWELVE RUN RULE:**
- A. The game shall be declared official when after five (5) innings of play, a team is ahead by **twelve (12) or more runs.**
- K. If a team forfeits out of the league at any time during the season, their games, played or not, shall be considered byes. The forfeiting teams will be dropped from the schedule and forfeit all reference in the standings. Teams that have played the forfeiting teams shall consider said game as a practice. Teams yet to play the forfeiting teams are unaffected and will receive a bye.
- NOTE:** When a forfeit occurs, **always check with the Athletics Department for an updated schedule.**
- L. There is a ten (10) minute grace period for the start of the game. (Adopted 2-13-97, previously twenty (20) minute grace period).
- M. **SLIDE RULE:**
- A. Any runner is out when he/she does not slide or attempt to get around a fielder who has the ball and is waiting to make the tag.
- N. **BATS:**
- A. LAPRAAC will provide the bats for each and every game. Bats will be monitored by the umpires.
- B. The use of an illegal bat will result in batter being called out **AND** ejected. In addition, all runners will return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.



O. **RAIN OUT INFORMATION:**

- A. For field information (such as a rain out) please call the Athletic Department at 323-221-5222 ext 219 or 228 or Alex Barragan's direct cell 323-321-3209 after 0730.

P. **EXPANDED BATTING LINE-UP RULE:**

- A. A manager may, at his/her discretion, bat the entire line-up. This will optimize the playing of any given team. However, if a manager opts to bat his/her entire team, he/she must do so throughout the entire game. A manager may only remove a player from the batting order due to injury or loss of said player to a work-related assignment.
- B. When batting the entire line up, if a batter must leave or cannot take his/her turn at bat, the next at bat for that individual shall be considered an out. From that point on, no penalty assessed.

**EXCEPTION:**

- A. An injured player shall be considered an out for one time only. An injured player may not return to the line up. It is the responsibility of the manager who opts to utilize this rule to notify the umpire in charge and the opposing manager prior to the start of the game.
- C. This rule will not affect the free substitution rule. Additionally, if a player is removed from the batting order (offense) for an injury or work-related reasons, he cannot re-enter the game. If he/she is injured in the field (defense), he/she can reenter the game under the free substitution rule.

Q. **PAB RULE:**

- A. As a result of conflict, the following rules shall apply to participation of those officers housed in the PAB Facility:
- A. Due to many years of past practice, PAB may develop a competitive athletic team to play under PAB.
- B. Officers housed within PAB facility shall be defined as a given entity or division whose Commanding Officer is actually located in PAB (i.e. RHD, BFD, ATD, etc.).
- C. Those units who are housed in the PAB facility but whose command staff is housed elsewhere are not considered apart of the Parker Center Facility. They shall be considered housed where their command staff sits.
- D. Any division in PAB may decide to develop a team of its own and participate as the division solely (e.g.

the RHD softball team). If a given division decides to do so, officers must play for the division until other rules apply.

R. REPORTING THE CORRECT SCORE:

- A. Reporting the correct score is important as far as total runs scored and total runs against is concerned for the purpose of qualifying for the year-end tournaments.
- B. It will be the responsibility of the home team Manager to verify the correct scores with the umpire at the end of each game.
- C. The head umpire shall forward the correct scores to the Athletic Director.

S. RED DAVIS TOURNAMENT QUALIFICATION PROCEDURE:

- A. The top half of all teams combined will compete in the Red Davis Tournament. The second half of all teams combined will compete for the Larry Moore Title. This equates to us having an "A" and "B" bracket.

T. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY RULE (LONG TERM LOANS):

- A. (Adopted 3-11-91) - On May 5, 1989, the Athletic Committee agreed that the criteria for officers assigned to Parker Center whose Commanding Officer sits at PAB shall play for the recognized Parker Center Team.

EXCEPTION:

- A. If an officer is assigned to PAB and his/her division has a team entered into the Intra-Departmental League, the officer shall play for his/her divisional team.

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