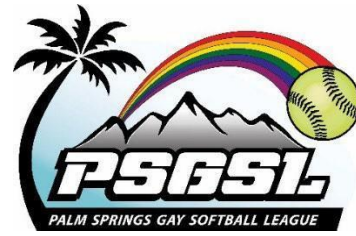


Palm Springs Gay Softball League

Rules & Regulations



All teams participating in the PSGSL are required to use the rules of play adopted by NAGAAA and USA Softball, with certain exceptions as noted herein. These rules and regulations supplement the USA Softball National Guidelines, NAGAAA, and PSGSL governing documents and serve to address situations unique to our area and may be adjusted as needed, if deemed necessary for the best interest of game-play.

Code of Conduct

1. No manager, coach, player, or other individual(s) affiliated with a team shall commit any of the following acts, any of which may be justification for suspension or disqualification of any player or team:
 - a. Unsportsmanlike conduct on or off the field. Physical violence, verbal attacks or threat of any kind against players, spectators or umpires while participating in practice, league or tournament competition or while presenting themselves as a member of the PSGSL.
 - b. Participating under an assumed name, falsifying affidavits or roster or intentionally giving incorrect information to league officers will be considered as committing fraud and disciplined as such.
 - c. No coach, manager or player shall be intoxicated during a game. In addition all players are to follow the facilities rules and regulations. Regardless of facilities standards, PSGSL prohibits coaches, managers and or players to consume alcoholic beverages in the dugout.
2. Excessive contact or excessive intentional interference between a baserunner and defensive player is not tolerated and may result in an out and possible ejection at the umpire's discretion. Runners must give themselves up, get out of the way, or slide when a play is being made at a base. Any intentional interference with a defensive player may result in the runner being called out at the umpire's discretion.
3. An umpire has the right to suspend a game to handle unruly spectators, players and/or coaches. In such cases, a designated team representative must address and attempt to resolve the situation immediately to the umpire's satisfaction for play to continue. Unruly spectators with no known team affiliation will be addressed by the umpire or a league official.
4. Each coach/manager is required to assist in maintaining the facilities used during games and keep dugouts clean. Especially when there is damage caused by an individual player of your team to the facilities being used for games.

Player / Team Eligibility

1. Only players listed on an official PSGSL team roster are eligible to play in the league. Teams shall forfeit all games in which an ineligible player participates or is included on the game line-up.
2. Teams shall be comprised of a minimum of twelve (12) and a maximum of eighteen (18) players on their official team roster. A player may not appear on more than one (1) PSGSL roster at a time.
3. Uniforms within the Spring season: Each player must wear a "team jersey" which must be similar in color and style, and must have a player/roster number as described by USA Softball rules. Non-uniform decorations or tied cloth is NOT allowed on a player's head, neck, or body. Fall Season Addendum: players must have a non-repeated number on their jersey.

Team ratings will be calculated by adding the top 10 rated players.

Division	Team Ratings Thresholds	Individual Ratings Thresholds
Open E	Up to 75	Up to 8
Open D and <u>Masters D</u>	Up to 110	Up to 12
Open C and <u>Masters C</u>	Up to 140	Up to 15
Open B	Up to 180	Up to 20
Open A	No less than 170	Not applicable

Game Play

1. An official team line-up must be given to the umpire and opposing team upon umpire's calling for lineup cards prior to the start of the game. Failure to do so will constitute a forfeit. Changes to the line-up, including the addition or removal of a player(s), are not permitted once submitted to the umpire.

Spring Season Only Addendum: Line up cards handed into the umpire will be used for GSWS eligibility.

2. Official team line-ups may have up to twelve (12) players plus substitutions. Line-ups must include first and last name and uniform number. All substitutions must also be included on the line-up. Managers/coaches must advise the umpire of any changes in the line-up during the game.

Fall Season Only Addendum: Teams may bat their entire roster. All extra hitters must be included in the official line-up and may bat in any spot in the order. If a team is batting more than 12 players, and a player is injured during the game, and no substituting player is available, the player will be removed from the batting order and not considered a reoccurring automatic out.

3. Forfeit time will be game time – No Exceptions. Official game time will be determined by the umpire's watch. Umpires must notify each team of the official starting time of the game.
4. Teams must have a minimum of nine (9) of their officially rostered players in the dugout to begin a game. Only players listed on the official team line-up provided to both the umpire and opposing team before game time are eligible to enter the game once it has started. Should a player listed on the line-up not be available at the time of their at-bat, that player's turn will be recorded as an out until they enter the game. Should a team only list 9 players on their official lineup at the start of a game the empty tenth spot will be recorded as a reoccurring out for the entirety of the game.

5. Pick-up Players:

Fall Season/Short Term Exception: Teams may pick-up a maximum of two (2) eligible players. The player(s) must be rated to play in your team division or lower. This is to allow games to be played that otherwise would be forfeited. Teams may, if they have 9 players, pick up an additional player to prevent a recurring out at that position. The pickup player(s) must wear their team's jersey during play. The pickup players may play in any position on the field and anywhere in the line-up. A game with a pickup player will not result in a forfeit but be recorded based on the outcome of the played game. If the two teams are from different divisions, the pickup player(s) must be from the lower division. Coaches/Managers/Team Representative must identify pickup players at a plate meeting with the umpire prior to the start of the game.

6. A game will be fifty (50) minutes or seven (7) complete innings, whichever occurs first. Innings in progress at the end of regulation time will be completed. Games tied at the end of regulation play will use the USA International Tie-Breaker procedure to determine a winner. The last batter shall start the tie-breaker inning at second base. This player may be substituted at any point during the inning.

Fall Season Only Addendum: Games shall utilize the five (5) run per inning rule, with unlimited runs

allowed after the completion of the fourth inning. Should the home team be trailing by 15 runs at the start of the bottom of the fourth inning, a maximum of six (6) runs will be allowed during the home team's turn at bat. Games tied at the end of regulation play will be recorded as such and forego the USA International Tie-Breaker procedure to determine a winner.

7. Mercy Rule: The game will be called should a team be ahead:
 - a. 20 runs after 3 complete innings of play
 - b. 15 Runs after 4 complete innings of play
 - c. 10 runs after 5 complete innings of play
8. Bats must meet USA Softball standards. A complete list of approved bats can be found by clicking "certified equipment" at www.asasoftball.com. Any illegal bat, discovered prior to the start or during the game, will be immediately removed from the field of play, photographed and documented by team and owner of the bat. Any player found in violation of using a previously documented illegal bat a second time will be suspended for 1 game.
9. All batters will start with a 1-1 count. Only one (1) foul ball after two (2) strikes will be allowed. Afterwards, the batter is out.
10. The pitcher must take a position with both feet firmly on the ground and at least one foot in contact with the pitcher's plate when releasing the ball. All pitches must comprise an arch of at least 6' and not more than 12'.
11. Baserunners cannot lead off the base until the ball crosses home plate or contact is made.
12. A runner who moves more than 2 steps out of the base path to avoid a tag shall be called out. Runners must avoid fielders attempting to field a hit. If a fielder is blocking the base/in the base path while waiting to receive a throw, fielder interference will be called and the runner will be safe. Please refer to code of conduct directives regarding runner interference.
13. Appeal Plays: The ball does not have to be thrown, intent just has to be verbalized.
14. Courtesy Runners:
 - a. Teams are allowed one (1) courtesy runner per inning, in addition to any player granted ADA Accommodation.
 - b. Any player on the official line-up may be used as a courtesy runner once per inning.
 - c. A courtesy runner is in the game when he/she touches the base.
 - d. A courtesy runner whose turn at bat comes while he/she is on base shall be called out; removed from the base; and immediately come to bat. A second courtesy runner may not be substituted at this time, nor can a substitute be inserted in the batting line-up in their spot to circumvent the rule.

Fall Season Only Addendum:

- a. Teams are allowed two (2) courtesy runners per inning, in addition to any player granted ADA Accommodation.
- b. A courtesy runner may not run for an existing courtesy runner for the remainder of the inning.
- c. If a runner violates a, b, or c, he/she will be called out and removed from the base.

15. Home Runs:

Any excess over the number of homeruns permitted by each division will be an inning-ending out:

 - a. A Division: Five (5)
 - b. B Division: Three (3)

- c. C Division: One (1)
- d. D Division: Zero (0)
- e. E Division: Zero (0)

When two (2) team classifications are playing one another, the home run rule for the lower division prevails. After hitting a homerun over the fence, the batter does not have to touch any of the bases. PSGSL follows USA's "hit and sit" rule. All runners on base at the time of the homerun do not have to touch any more bases. The players may simply run off the field if desired.

16. Ratings and Rosters Information:

All players must have a rating submitted by the coach/manager of the team on which they compete prior to their first game of the start of the Spring or Fall Season to be eligible to play.

17. Forfeited games will be recorded as a 7-0 win for the opposing team. Any team forfeiting a game will be fined \$30 if the forfeit is communicated before 6pm the preceding Friday to the scheduled game or \$45 if communicated later. Fines for forfeited games must be paid within seven (7) days to avoid all subsequent games being forfeited until the fees are paid. A forfeit fee may be imposed even if a team is able to pick-up enough players and play the forfeited game.