

Special Rules and Guidelines

The Cactus Cities Softball League reserves the right to amend and/or change these special rules and guidelines if deemed necessary. If amendment(s) to these rules are made, all CCSL coaches will be notified within a reasonable amount of time prior to implementing any changes. All current ASA rules will apply unless modified below. These rules apply to the Open division only.

1. Games are 55 minutes, with no new inning starting after 50 minutes. Games cannot end in a tie during the spring season. International tie breaker rules will apply.
2. Game time is forfeit time except for the 1st game of the day. A 5 minute window will be allowed for the first games of the day only. A score of 7-0 will be recorded for a forfeited game.
3. Forfeits: For every forfeit without notice before 8 pm the night before the game, the team will be assessed a fine of \$50.00 which will be due before that teams next official week of play. If the fine is not paid every additional week that follows will be a forfeit until the fine is paid. Every additional forfeit will require additional fines. You get one (1) courtesy forfeit without being charged a fine.
4. Each team is allowed one (1) courtesy runner per inning. The courtesy runner shall be the player that made the last out (or if there are no outs the courtesy runner shall be the player in the dugout who would be last up to bat). Please note, if that player comes back up in the lineup in the same inning after he or she already had a courtesy runner, that player cannot have another courtesy runner. You are permitted to use standard ASA substitution rules.
5. ASA Run Rule applies:
 - 20 run differential after 3 innings,
 - 15 run differential after 4 innings,
 - 10 run differential after 5 innings.
6. A team may start and play with a minimum of eight (8) players to avoid a forfeit. The ninth (9th) player on the line-up will be assessed an automatic out. If a team starts with nine (9) players, no automatic out will be assessed. If a player arrives at the fields after the start of the game, they are to be added to the bottom of the line-up only until the team has ten (10) players.
7. Membership forms (liability waiver), rosters, and players fees are due from each player before they are allowed to step onto the fields, without exceptions.
8. Rosters will be closed for the spring season two weeks after the official start date. Since February 7th is an exhibition day allowing everyone to get used to the new ratings, rosters will close on February 28, 2010 assuming no rain-out dates in the first two weeks. Changes after that date will need to be directed to the roster discretion commission as outlined in the CCSL bylaws.
9. One extra player (EP) may added to the line-up, meaning you may bat up to eleven (11) players.
10. Each batter will begin his/her at-bat with a one-and-one count with one foul to waste on the third strike. The delivery of a legal pitch will have an arc of not less than 6 feet and not more than 12 feet.
11. Home Runs:

The following are the divisional limits for out of the park home runs: A-4 progressive to a cap of 6 with no progressive allowed in the bottom of the last inning, B-2, C-1, D-0.

Once a team has reached their maximum of out of the park home runs, any additional out of the park home run will be considered an out. For the D division an unassisted home run hit over the fence is an inning ending out.

In games between teams of different divisions the rule for the upper division shall apply.

Special Rules and Guidelines *(continued)*

12. Only ASA approved bats that conform to NAGAAA rules adopted for each division will be permitted for use in league play within those divisions. Dented or bats otherwise deemed unacceptable by the Umpire are not permitted.

If a bat is manufactured before 2000, it is the judgment of umpire as to whether it will be considered a legal bat. Altered and shaved bats are not allowed, and can be measured by the state. Keep in mind, altered bats are considered a weapon and charges can be pressed against any team or individual that uses an altered bat.

13. The home team scorekeeper is official. Periodic checks with the umpire and the opposing team scorekeeper are strongly encouraged. Each team manager will be required to check the score at the end of the game and sign the umpire score card, thereby acknowledging the score is recorded correctly.
14. Teams are responsible for cleaning up their respective dugouts at the end of a game. Those teams scheduled in the last time slot of an official game day are required to clean up the bleacher area as well.
15. No player shall be compensated monetarily or otherwise to play for any team.
16. World series berths:

Given the open division has more than twenty (20) teams, this results in a total of five (5) berths awarded to the league. This means in total, we can support seven (7) open division teams going to the gay softball world series (GSWS) in Columbus, OH with the berths being distributed as follows:

- 2 – A division teams,
- 2 – B division teams,
- 2 – C division teams,
- 1 – D division team.

The best W/L record within counting divisional games receives the berth. If there is a tie with regard to divisional record, then head to head record between the tying teams will decide the tie. If there still is a tie after considering head to head record between the tying teams, then run differential will be considered. If a tie still remains after run differential is considered, a playoff game will decide the berth to the GSWS.

If the team that won the D division does not go, it is up to the board to decide if the 2nd place team should go in that team's place. Similarly, with 3rd place teams in the C or B division, it is up to the discretion of the board as to offer the berth to other teams should the 1st or 2nd place teams opt not to attend. We want to send the best representation of Phoenix and the teams that finish outside those top standings did not earn the right to go.

17. World series intent: Before rosters close, as team is required to officially declare their intent to attend the gay softball world series (GSWS). By declaring world series intent, your team is committed to attend the GSWS in its entirety if you win the divisional berth, to complete to the best of your ability, and above all represent yourselves and the league in an honorable fashion. If you win the berth, your team is required to put down a \$300 deposit payable to CCSL, Inc. no later than two (2) weeks after the completion of competitive play.

Should your team declare world series intent and not attend the GSWS, your team will be required to offer written explanations to CCSL's commission as to why your team did not attend the tournament, to explain what efforts if any were taken to remedy any hardship or extenuating circumstances, and how you gave enough time for another potential team to attend the GSWS in your place. Likewise, the team will be ineligible to play in any CCSL sanctioned event until the entry fee, hotel deposit, per-diem, and any other funds paid by CCSL in conjunction with the team entering the WS is repaid in full along with forfeiting the \$300 deposit paid to the Cactus Cities Softball League at the completion of the competitive season.