

Langdon Softball Association Rules

Revised Sept 2022

1 - Rules of Play

- 1.1 The NSA Canada rules shall be the governing rules for this league, except in any case when they contradict with any rules below, in which case the rules below shall prevail. The NSA rules are available at <https://nsacanada.ca/rules/>
- 1.2 Teams' composition will consist of 10 players in the field. This will be a min 3 female players in field, with the below exception. Games are a forfeit if you only have 8 players, or you are missing 2 female players.
 - If you are short 1 female player, you must field only 9 players (7 male, 2 female)
 - The missing female batter is an automatic out.
 - A walk to a batter before an auto out, with 2 outs, will nullify the out and the next batter in the order will hit.
 - The gender of the batter is determined by how they are registered with NSA Canada.
- 1.3 Batting Lineup – you may bat all males and all females in a row if you wish there is no max 3 male in a row rule.
 - 12 players - consisting of 4 females and 8 males
 - 10 players - consisting of 3 females and 7 males
 - 9 players - consisting of 2 females and 7 males with an auto out, see above
- 1.4 Games (Round Robin Tournament and League) will start and end as per the posted schedule.
 - There is a hard stop at the posted end time for round robin games.
 - The final score will be recorded as the last fully finished inning (Top and Bottom)
 - Ties are allowed
 - Exception – No ties in elimination style tournaments. Count back to previous inning(s) will be used, and if tied all the way to 1st inning a coin flip will decide the winner.
 - Always play bottom of each inning even if home team is winning to aid playoff seeding.
 - There is no mercy rule in the round Robin games
 - Home team is decided by a coin flip in Tournaments, and by schedule for regular season.
 - If no round robin, i.e a knockout style format, home team will be decided by a coin flip.
- 1.5 Playoff games (League and Tournament) will be a planned full 7 Innings.
 - Home team is highest seed as decided by the Round Robin
 - If no round robin, i.e a knockout style format, home team will be decided by a coin flip.
 - If there is a tie after the 7th inning, the game will continue with another open inning.
 - Mercy rule is in effect for playoff games
 - 15 runs after 4 or 10 runs after 5 or after 6
 - If playing a double knockout formatted playoff final.
 - If the team from the winner's bracket loses game 1, then the home team for game 2 will be decided by a coin flip.
- 1.6 10 min grace period is allowed, and it will count towards the game time.
 - Team waiting with full roster can choose home or away.
 - If after 10 minutes, there is one team that cannot field a team, the winning team will be recorded as a 20-0 win.
 - If both teams cannot meet the min players required, they will both be given a loss and recorded as 0-0.

- In knockout format, a coin flip will decide the winner to progress the tournament.
- 1.7 Any walk to a male batter with a female batter on deck will receive 2 bases.
- The lady can choose to hit or talk a walk.
- 1.8 Each pitch must have a maximum height of between 6 and 12 feet from the ground. Any pitch outside this zone shall be called a “No Pitch” while in flight.
- A no pitch is still a live and may be hit by the batter.
 - A no pitch call not swung by the batter will be called a ball.
 - If the batter swings and misses a no-pitch it will be ruled a strike.
 - The strike zone is the whole mat. The plate does not count.
- 1.9 5 run rule is in effect (max 5 runs per inning) except for the last inning, which shall remain open inning.
- Extra innings which are also open.
- 1.10 Runner Must not touch home plate or the strike mat when running home.
- The runner must pass behind the mat in order to prevent collisions with the catcher.
 - If the runner touches home plate or the mat, the runner will be called out.
 - The catcher must be touching home plate, with ball in glove and not the mat to record the out.
 - No contact can be made to the offensive player after the commitment line otherwise they are considered safe.
- 1.11 A commitment line is used between 3rd and home plate (20ft from home plate).
- If the runner crosses the commitment line they must proceed to home and cannot return to 3rd base.
 - Any runner returning to 3rd base after crossing the commitment line will automatically be called out. If the runner is proceeding home the catcher must catch the ball and touch home plate (not mat) prior to the runner crossing the home plate line in order to put the runner out.
- 1.12 Home Run rule is 2 then match plus 1
- In the park home runs do not count.
 - Additional home runs hit, outside the 2 match plus 1, will be ruled an out.
- 1.13 The safety bag at 1st base is in use to avoid collisions.
- Runners are to use the orange side of the base (unless rounding to 2nd) and the first baseman is to use the white side.
 - Runner is out if they cross the white side and make no attempts at 2nd. Runner is safe if the 1st baseman touches the orange side of the base. If the runner makes a turn towards 2nd after touching the orange bag they will be considered in play.
- 1.14 Sliding is permitted by a base runner at 2nd and 3rd only.
- Any sliding at 1st or home will be called out.
- 1.15 No lead offs are permitted on the bases. A runner may only advance after the ball is hit.
- Any runner leading off is the third out of an inning. The batter at plate will begin at bat at the start of the next inning.
- 1.16 You are allowed 5 courtesy runners per game. The batter must make it to 1st, if they go to 2nd, they do not get a runner.

- The courtesy runner may start from home if both teams agree, and it will count as a runner, if batter gets out. Lead off rule applies.
- The courtesy runner will be the last out of the same gender as the batter. The player being substituted for shall remain in the game.

1.17 Men are not allowed to bunt. Woman are.

1.18 Only USSSA Thumbprint bats will be permitted in the league. Violation of this rule is an automatic out & ejection from the game.

- Then captains will have to meet with executive or tournament convenor for further ruling.
 - Continuous disregard can lead to expulsion from the league/Tournament.

2 - Playing Personnel

2.1 All Players must be 18 years old as of May 1, of the current year.

- With written documentation on liabilities, exceptions may be considered by the LSA Executive, but not guaranteed.

2.2 All teams must be registered and paid in full prior to playing the first game of the year.

2.3 Pregnancies require a Doctors Certificate/notice to allow participation. Players playing without this notice cannot hold the LSA, LSA Executive, or LSA Membership responsible.

3 - Player/Team Registration

3.1 Official Roster forms containing the name, address, phone number, email address of all players including full time or spares MUST be completed and submitted prior to June 1 of the current year to the Secretary, or before Games 2 in a tournament.

3.2 Any player participating after June, not on an Official Roster Form must notify LSA Executive for insurance purposes. Players only need to be on one teams' roster and may play for other teams within the league.

3.3 Teams that do not submit the roster prior to the deadline may be asked to leave the league for the season and will forfeit league fees.

3.4 Jewelry is not allowed to be worn by players and must be removed or covered. If worn, each player is responsible for any injury or damage caused by this jewelry.

4 - Team Responsibilities

4.1 Teams that do not show up for their scheduled season game and give less than 24 hours notice to the opposing captain will be charged with a \$100.00 fine. Should the fine not be paid to the league by the Monday prior to the playoffs, team will not be allowed to play in the playoffs and the fine will be added to their next year league fees.

4.2 The home team listed on the schedule is responsible for putting out the bases, supply a new ball and backup and put away the bases after the game and locking the bin. Failure to do so resulting in the loss of equipment will be the responsibility of the last home team.

4.3 All changes in the schedule must be approved by the Scheduler of the LSA.

4.4 Metal Cleats are not permitted. Person or persons wearing metal cleats will be automatically ejected from the game.

- 4.5 No outside Alcohol will be permitted at the diamonds.
- Teams (any player on that team will cost the entire team) caught with outside alcohol, will be asked to leave and will not get their tournament fees returned. This is to protect our liquor license and ensure one team does not ruin the fun for all players and the future play for this group.
- 4.6 Team managers are responsible to ensure their players are aware and knowledgeable of all league rules and guidelines.

5 - Rainouts or Unsafe Playing Conditions

- 5.1 The LSA Scheduler is responsible to post by 4:30 game day if the field is playable. Cancelled games will be re-scheduled by the LSA Scheduler at the earliest available time.

6 - Discipline

- 6.1 Team personnel that conduct themselves in an unsportsmanlike manner on or off the field, shall be subject to Disciplinary action by the LSA Executive. Teams using a suspended player will forfeit any remaining games on their schedule.
- 6.2 The LSA Executive has the right to suspend any league participant during the season for their actions on the field or on Langdon field property.
- 6.3 Any league participant suspended twice in one season will be suspended for a period of one year from that date.
- 6.4 An immediate and indefinite suspension of all league privileges shall be levied to any league representative or participant, that physically abuses, or threatens to physically abuse an umpire, another participant, spectator or LSA Executive.
Suspensions will range from 2 games to indefinite expulsion from the league to be decided by the LSA Executive Disciplinary board. Abuse can be defined as using profane or vulgar language, derogatory words, inappropriate words or obscene gestures, and any form of intimidation.
- The Disciplinary board will consist of a minimum of 5 members of the executive board. The Appeals board will consist of the remaining 2 executive members and 1 captain volunteer.
 - Should any of the executive be on the same team of the player or players in question, they are able to recuse themselves from the vote. Should the vote from the remaining executive be a 50/50 split, then a member from the appeals board will be the deciding vote.
 - At this time if the player or players in question wish to have the discipline given appealed, the appeals board will ask for another captain volunteer for the final decision. NSA has also offered their services should we require any recommendations on an incident.

7 - Amendments

- 7.1 All LSA Rules, Board Directions and Bylaw changes must be by a majority member vote, via AGM, Captain's meeting or Email. Bylaws will require a second Alberta Government approval prior to being made official.