

SPORT FEST WINDSOR SLO-PITCH
LEAGUE (SFWSPL) CONSTITUTION



League Co Conveners

Wayne Dupuis

League Web site www.sport-fest.ca

League Executive:

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Preamble

The name of our league shall be known as the Sport Fest Windsor (Men's, CO ED or Women's) Slo Pitch League SFWSPL . The purpose of the league is to provide recreational softball for adult men and women of Windsor and Essex County in the spirit of competition and sportsmanship.

All players, managers, coaches, governors and executive members must comply with the rules as stated in this document.

Article 1 Section 1

Executive

The executive shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary, Past President, Treasurer and Co Conveners.

1: Duties of:

A. President

- a. Chair all meetings
- b. Prepares agendas
- c. Presides over all league functions
- d. Chooses protest committees
- e. Delegates duties when required
- f. Carries out directives of the executives and the board of governors
- g. Deals with outside organizations on behalf of the SFWSPL

B. Vice President

- a. Replaces President in his absence
- b. Acts as a trustee to audit the league finances periodically
- c. Oversees the schedule of leagues with co conveners

C. Secretary

- a. Keeps an accurate account of all meetings
- b. Mails correspondence and/or phone/email information as necessary

D. Treasurer

- a. Records all financial transactions
- b. Receives all income for deposit in the SFWSPL/ Ciociaro Club back account
- c. Co-signs Cheques with the President
- d. Issues co-signed cheques or receipts pertaining to league business

E. Co Conveners

- a. Coordinate all leagues and playoff schedules
- b. Compile all rosters along with league registration forms and team waivers
- c. Keep league stats and record on website
- d. Determine rain out conditions & reschedule postponed games
- e. Coordinate in-house tournaments
- f. Coordinate league schedules with selected umpire association
- g. Make sure all teams have balls for league games and playoffs

- h. Monitor and execute league rules & regulations with all teams
- i. Monitor and enforce drinking regulations
- j. Monitor team payment of league fees
- k. Responsible for organizing and balancing of teams
- l. Investigate all protests within their series and report all such protests, with recommendations, to the Executive

Article 1 Section 2

- a. Representatives wishing to sit on the Executive must notify the league prior to the last managers meeting
- b. Executives members may be removed for cause by a 2/3 two-thirds vote by the board of Governors

Article 2 Board of Governors

- 1. Each team will designate one (1) Governor to sit on the board (B) in case of his absence, the Governors must designate a replacement
- 2. Each team will have one voice and one vote in meetings
- 3. Only the Governors and Executive will be allowed to participate in the meetings, unless the President gives permission to attend
- 4. Governors may be removed by a two thirds 2/3 vote of the Board
- 5. Motions pertaining to league business will require a simple majority to pass, unless otherwise specified

Article 3 Meetings

- 1. A. Meeting shall be called as necessary by the President
B. Four MANDATORY dates will be decided prior to the first meeting by the executive
- 2. Meetings to be conducted by parliamentary procedure
- 3. Notice of meetings will be emailed to each governor and executive. Meetings will also be posted on the website
- 4. Any team not represented at a membership meeting will be fined (\$25.00) twenty-five dollars, by the Board of Governors. Fifteen minutes grace before fine is levied. These fines will be levied at the discretion of the executive
- 5. League meetings will be held at the Ciociaro Club

Article 4 Playing Rules

- 1. All rules of the NSA Canada Slo Pitch Association will apply except where amended by the Constitution and/or the Windsor Umpires Association.
- 2. Open count(0-0)
- 3. 2 -75 minute time limit games. (If you hustle on and off the field you should have no problem getting your games in. Should the early game(s) be running behind, warm up in the courtyard and have your line-up card filled out and team ready to take the field. Teams exiting the field please evacuate the dugout as fast as possible to let the next team in.)
*Note to umpires...please keep the game moving. Cover this in ground rules please.
- 4. A minimum of nine (9) players is needed to start and finish a game. For Co-ed it must be a combination of 5 guys and 4 girls or vice versa. However, you may add a 10th (like a ghost player) if you are anticipating a player's arrival but it is an out every time until you can fill that void.
- 5. If a team fails to have 9 roster players within 15 minutes past starting time, the Game is forfeited. Another fifteen minutes is allowed for the second game before another forfeit. Start times for the games are 6 pm and 8:30pm at Ciociaro Park.
- 6. You must finish with the amount of players you started with once you have gone through the order the first time. (So try to always have a substitute for each gender to cover an injury, ejection, etc.)
- 7. All players in game must be rostered players (i.e.; no pulling anyone out of the crowd). However the opposing team may lend a player from their roster to give you 9 so you can play your game(s).
- 8. The forfeit team will pay full cost of umpire fees. \$25/per game. All penalties will be due within 1 week of forfeit; your team will not set foot on the diamond until you're paid in full.
- 9. If a team forfeits more than one game date they will be subject to league disciplinary action.
- 10. Games must be played at the times and dates scheduled except:
 - a. A team may request to the convenors and other team manager that a game be rescheduled within one week notice when a team had entered a Provincial or National Tournament. Teams

must play on scheduled dates or forfeit two (2) games plus a twenty-five dollar \$25.00 fine for each game will be deducted from your bond.

b. At least 48 hours notice must be given to cancel a game

11. Postponed Games

a. A postponed game due to weather or poor field conditions will be rescheduled by Co convenors at the earliest date.

b. Postponed games must be played as soon as possible and prior to the finish of the regular season when it affects the standings

12. A. Each team must supply a line up sheet supplied by Sport Fest Windsor with Team name, date, first and last names spelled correctly and legible.

B. The umpire will be responsible for maintaining the score & substitutes on the line up sheet and he will submit the sheets to the league box at the concession. The convenors will enter scores and maintain the website.

13. A 12 run mercy rule applies to all games after 5 complete innings of league play. Playoffs not included

14. In the event of a tie, international rules will apply. Sudden death. The last out from the previous inning will go to 2nd base and the inning will start with 1 out.

15. Alternate hitter (AH) rule is in affect (any roster player).

16. Courtesy runners- 3 per game maximum (any roster player).

17. The strike zone to be determined by a mat measurement 2 ft. X 3 ft. to be placed on the plate. A courtesy line will be used in all leagues.

18. Foul ball on strike two count constitutes an out. If a fly ball is caught in foul territory, the runner may advance after the second strike. See Windsor Umpires Association Ruling (any foul ball caught in play will be an out).

19. The relaxed step rule will be in effect.

20. Home run rule applies in fenced in diamonds, Division limits A=4, B=3, C=2,D=3, E=2 after the allotted home run limit, anyone hitting the ball out of the park after your limit will be considered an out.

21. No alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs will be allowed in the vicinity of the playing field. A zero tolerance policy will be effect. Tailgating or drinking outside the designated area will result in immediate disqualification of the team or teams and forfeit of league fees.

22. No player under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs will be allowed to participate in a game. (Umpires discretion).

23. Players, managers and coaches must conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. Zero tolerance rule for profanity (Umpires discretion)

Article 5 Team Rosters

1. Each team is allowed a maximum of (20) players

2. Players must be 18 years of age or older by May 1, 2009

3. Teams have until June 15th to add players to their rosters by written contract only

4. No player will be signed after this deadline without the approval of 2/3 majority of league Board of Governors and proof of cause is presented

5. Players playing with more than one team within the league night (more than 1 co-ed or 1 men's) are prohibited and that player will be suspended for the playing season including playoffs unless that player has gotten approval from the league convenors and other teams in that league.

6. If a player wishes to play with a team other than the one he signed with, he must obtain a written release from his first team prior to signing and playing for the other team

7. A player must play in at least 40% of it's games during the season to be eligible for the playoffs

8. Team using ineligible players in the season or playoffs will forfeit the games and will be subject to further action by the executive

9. On a forfeit, both teams will complete line up cards (including spares) and have them signed off by team managers. Forfeit team must show only players that were present at time of forfeit.

Article 6 Uniforms-Equipment

1. Managers should make every effort to assure that all team members wear matching jerseys

2. All equipment must comply with NSA Canada Slo Pitch Association/ Windsor Umpires Association rules
3. Balls will be supplied by the league at each game night. One new ball and one good used ball for each game. Use new balls for the first game
4. Bases are supplied by the league (mat included) with a safety base at first base
5. No steel spike are allowed
6. ASA2004 approved bats will only be allowed in SFWSPL rules.

Article 7 Protests

1. Protests are to be submitted in writing and be in the hands of any one of the co convenors no later than 24 hrs. After the said game with a \$50.00 protest bond. (Not included in league fees) The protest money will be returned if the protest is upheld
2. All protest on any umpire's judgement will not be accepted
3. Protest will be settled by the co convenors. Unless otherwise involving the co-convenors directly, than a 3rd party from the board may get involved.

Article 8 League Fees

1. Entry fee is \$1200.00 per team. Plus a \$100.00 performance bond that will be returned at the end of the season. However you may keep this bond with the league after the season to guarantee your teams spot for the following season.
2. All fines levied against teams must be paid before playoffs begin
3. Entry fees to be paid in full prior to the start of the season. Any team withdrawing after April 30th . will forfeit entry fee deposit
4. Team rosters must be submitted to Co Convenors by the start of the season and the final roster in by June 15th
5. Should the SFWSPL disband, the money left in the bank account will be distributed equally between Sport Fest Windsor and the Ciociaro Club

Article 9 Player/Coach/Manager Ejections

1. Any player, coach or manager that is ejected two times during the season will be suspended indefinitely and called in front of the league Executive. He or she will be subject to further suspensions as decided by the executive. A performance bond after the 3rd ejection could also be levied depending on the severity of the situation. This will be decided by the SFWSPL Disciplinary Committee and/or the Windsor Umpires Association
 - 1st ejection-One (1) date or two (2) games
 - 2nd ejection-Three (3) dates or six (6) games plus reinstatement

Article 10 Officials

1. All league games should be officiated by a carded umpire
2. Once the game starts, the Umpire has total jurisdiction over the playing area including the field, players, benches and spectators
3. Umpires may suspend a game due to darkness, weather conditions or forfeit due to unruly players/fans at any time-the latter subject to executive review
4. The Umpire may remove anyone from the playing area if they interfere with the progress of the game

Article 11 Playing Field

1. Sport Fest Windsor volunteers will be responsible for having the field ready to play at least 20 minutes before game starting time
2. On each baseline the edge of the gravel closest to the outfield constitutes the foul line all the way to the fences. Any ball hitting the gravel is a foul ball. Any ball hitting right on the grass/gravel line will ruled fair or foul by the umpire. The foul poles will be used for homeruns
3. The Umpire and Co Convenors are responsible for cancelling games due to poor playing conditions during the game. Prior to the game, the Co Convenors are responsible and must contact the Windsor Umpires Association and teams at least one hour before game starting time. Team captains or representative(s) are fully responsible for alerting co-convenors if they cannot field a team for a scheduled game at least 48 hours before by email or telephone. Telephone preferred. We will try to

get this information out to you by 4:45-5p.m. However, it is still the responsibility of the team rep to check the website or get in contact with the co-convenors to see if the park is still open.

4. The diamonds must be cleared 5 minutes before starting time
5. Five minutes before game time both team coaches/managers will meet with the Umpire to review ground rules determined by the Umpire
6. Time between games is 5 minutes
7. Playoff diamond will be assigned by the Co Convenors according to playoff position
8. Any teams not affiliated with SFWSPL are not permitted to use the diamonds without prior written approval by the Executive

Article 12 Divisional Structure & playoffs

1. All ties in the structure must be broken
 - a. Best win/loss record will be used between teams
 - b. Run differential between the two teams head to head will be use if A does not work
 - c. Sudden death will be used if A & B don't work (Coin toss will determine home team)
2. Co Convenors will schedule league and playoff diamonds
3. All playoff games not completed due to darkness or weather conditions will be completed from the point at which the game was suspended
4. The team finishing highest in the standings will be the home team for the first game of each series. Home team will then alternate for each subsequent game until the winner is declared
5. All sudden death games will be scheduled by the Co Convenors
6. PLAYOFFS- Top 8 teams in all divisions will qualify for playoffs (i.e. 1 will play 8, 2 will play 7, 3 will play 6 and 4 will play 5 in eight team divisions.
7. Any league night that has less than 8 teams will be done in a round robin fashion.
8. Balls in regular season and playoffs will be supplied by SFWSPL
9. In our inaugural season if enough teams are registered, the following season, the bottom team of the A division will move to the B division. The top team from the B division will move to the A division. The bottom team of B division will move to the C division. The top team from the C division will move to the B division. All teams are subject to ranking by the Co Convenors after the regular season play.

Article 13 Awards & Prize Money

1. Prize money will be posted on our website when a final number of teams for each league is determined.

Article 14 Miscellaneous

1. The League executive will have final say on all non voting matters
2. Any Governor may request a meeting to deal with league business
3. Awards, trophies, banquets etc to be decided by Executive and Governors

Note: Insurance deductibles must be set in this years 2009 changes

**VERY IMPORTANT:
ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY WILL BE IN EFFECT ALL SEASON LONG.
THEIR WILL BE NO TAILGATING, DRINKING IN THE DUGOUTS OR DRINKING OUTSIDE
THE DESIGNATED AREA.
IMMEDIATE TEAM DISQUALIFICATION AND FORFEIT OF FUNDS.**

YOU CAN SAVE LIVES.

Register as an organ or tissue donor with OHIP.

**Visit your local OHIP office or download a donor form at www.giftoflife.on.ca
and then discuss your wishes with your family.**

