

GCLS LEAGUE RULES

These are the GCLS League’s RULES, which have exceptions and modifications to Softball Canada Rules to accommodate the ‘house league/Recreational’ nature of our league. Where the rule is not stated we refer to Softball Canada Rules for interpretation. (using SBC rules as guidelines)

*The league **CONSTITUTION** and the **RULES** are available to all members on line: <http://www.gcls.com>
(under Registration tab)*

CATEGORY	RULES
Rule 1	DEFINITION
GCLS League	GCSL is classified as Recreational Fast-pitch League
Coach/Team Captain	There will be no team coaches only base coaches who will be members of the designated team. In the event that the captain of a team must resign her position, the team will be required to elect a new captain
Substitutes	In the event that a team is unable to field a complete team by game time, they will be allowed to have a maximum of three (3) substitute players. These spares must be currently registered players in the league. A team can call in a spare when: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It has less than nine (9) players 2. The main pitcher or catcher is absent or injured such that they cannot pitch or catch 3. In either case, a team cannot use the same spare more than three (3) times during the regular season. The game will be forfeited if a team is caught using the same spare more than three (3) times. No team player shall be displaced (including alternate pitchers and catchers) from her position by a spare pitcher or catcher when the team is able to field 9 or more regular team members.
Rule 2	PLAYING FIELD
Playing Field	Bases should be measured as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • back of home plate to pitcher’s mound 40 ft. • back of home plate to 1st and 3rd base 60 ft. • back of home plate to 2nd base 84 ft.
Setup & Dismantling Field	The team designated as the “ HOME ” team will be responsible for setting up and dismantling the field and turning the lights off
Rule 3	EQUIPMENT
Official Softball	11” Ball (low rise, yellow ball) as specified under SBC rules

GCLS LEAGUE RULES

CATEGORY	RULES
Rule 4	COACHES (TEAM CAPTAIN), PLAYERS & SUBSTITUTES
In field Fly	<p>Requirements for an Infield Fly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Runners on first and second base OR first, second and third base. • Less than 2 out. • Not a bunt. • Not a line drive. • Can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort this includes the, pitcher, catcher or any outfielder positioned in the infield. <p>Once an Infield Fly is declared by the Umpire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if the hit becomes a foul ball, no penalty, treat like any other foul ball • if the hit remains a fair ball, the batter is out regardless of whether the ball is caught or not <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → the ball remains alive & the runners may advance at their own risk → if the fly ball is caught, the runners must tag up before they advance → if the fly ball is not caught, the runners can choose to advance & <p style="text-align: center;">force play is NOT in affect</p>
Main Pitcher & Main Catcher	<p>Main PITCHER for a team will be the ‘protected pitcher in the draft round’ & designated by May 31st</p> <p>Main CATCHER will be drafted as a full-time catcher & designated by end of May 31st</p> <p>The alternate pitcher/catcher is drafted by the team captain as a back-up to the main pitcher/catcher</p>
Players & Player responsibilities	
Team Roster	The league consists of 10 teams. It is mandatory for a team to maintain a roster of 13 players until the end of June. After that time, it will be up to the captain whether to replace a player that has dropped out or not.
Registration Refunds	There will be no refund of the league fee to a member <u>after June 30th</u> . All refunds prior to June 30th will be pro-rated.
Eligibility for playoffs	A player must play at least eight (8) games of the regular season in order to be eligible to play in the playoffs (the number of games may be waived by a vote of the Executive, in exceptional circumstances. For players joining the league part way through the season, playoff eligibility will be decided on at the time of registration (no less than 60%)
Grace Period	Players have a grace period of thirty (30) minutes from the start of the game. After the grace period, they may not enter the game.
No Show	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any player who cannot make a game or cannot continue to play for the season must inform her captain so that a replacement can be found • Any player missing three (3) games without notifying her captain will automatically be removed from the league. Advise your captain ahead of time when you will be away on holidays or unavailable for a particular game.
Captain	<p>Only the captain of a team can question a call made by the umpire</p> <p>It is the responsibility of the winning team to deliver the score sheet to the league statistician (to be placed in the suggestion box at the Sports club)</p>

GCLS LEAGUE RULES

CATEGORY	RULES
Players & Player responsibilities (cont'd)	
Pregnancy	<p>If a player should become pregnant, she will be allowed to play until the end of her 12th week; regardless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players must get clearance in writing from her doctor to play • The player must sign a waiver specifically absolving the league, its participants, umpires, the facility owners, the Province & Softball Canada of any liability should she experience problems with her pregnancy due to her participation • Copies should be given to the Executive as well as the Umpire's Association contracted to do the games the player participates in
Medical leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a player is injured or applies for medical leave of absence, the player will be granted leave of absence for one year and have the right to register as a returning player for the following season. • If a player takes more than a year leave of absence, the member will have to register as a new player.
Rule 5	GAME
Regular & playoff games	<p>All regular & playoff games shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commence at 6:15 pm and 8:00 pm, respectively • No new innings to start after 7:50 pm and 9:35 pm, respectively • Consist of 7 innings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → In case of time limitations or inclement weather, a game is considered complete → if 5 innings have been completed or after 4.5 innings if the home team is ahead in runs → All incomplete games will be rescheduled and be played at a later date from the beginning of the game as a new game. Original line-up may be changed & all team mates will have equal opportunity to participate in a rescheduled game
Delays in Games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be no official start time. If the diamond is available and an umpire can be called in, the decision will be made by the President and Vice President if the game will proceed. If either the President or Vice President is unavailable, then the Statistician will step in. • After a 15-minute grace period, if a team has less than eight players, including the spares, the team will forfeit the game. • If a team has eight players including spares, the game MUST be played. The game MUST start as soon as eight players are present. • Upon arrival, late & spare players should be added to the bottom of the batting order
Inning	<p>A team is allowed three (3) outs or a maximum of ten (10) batters per inning, whichever comes first. The announcement of the 10th batter in an inning is a joint responsibility between the captain and the scorekeeper and must be declared when she goes to bat. If the 10th batter is walked, the next batter in the order will go up. The inning cannot end with a walk. The inning will be over when the batter:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. strike's out, or; 2. a third out is made, or; 3. a batted ball is thrown to a player who must then touch home plate, or 4. A batter is called out on 3rd strike at the plate when they're the 3rd out. <p>If & when the 10th batter is not announced, no runs will be counted on that & subsequent plays</p>
Mercy Rule	After the completion of the 5th inning, if a team is leading by more than 15 runs, the losing team will have the option of continuing or calling the game.
Lead-Off	No base-runner can lead from a base until the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.
Minimum Play	The team captain is to ensure that each player plays a minimum of 4 innings per game, whenever, wherever possible.

GCLS LEAGUE RULES

CATEGORY	RULES
Rule 6	PITCHING RULES
Pitching Rules & use of Pitching Rubber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pitcher must have their front foot on the rubber at the start of the pitching motion • The rubber must be pegged into the ground (rubbers have come w/pegs) • Full-time & part-time pitchers must be designated by May 30th • Back-up pitcher must pitch by the 4th inning (see Exceptions) • Main pitcher must sit minimum of one inning per game • When a main pitcher is away, a team can call a spare pitcher (same pitching rules & regular season rules apply for playing the spare pitcher)
Definition of designated Pitchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main Pitcher: drafted in the protected pitcher round - 4 • Part-time pitcher: pitchers who have identified minimum of 1-2 innings on registration form
Exceptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a situation where a spare pitcher is away for a team, the captain of the other teams will have the option to allow their full-time pitcher to pitch the full game. The captain missing their back-up pitcher must inform the other captain ahead of time (via email or a call) or before the start of the game • If a captain decides to use their part-time pitcher for the full game when her full-time pitcher is away, the other team must use their back-up pitcher along with the main-pitcher per the pitching rules
Rule 7	BATTING
Batting Order	All players must be included in the batting rotation
Spares	Spare players, irrespective of their field position, must bat last in the batting order.
Rule 8	BATTER-RUNNER AND RUNNER
Pinch Runner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a pinch runner must be requested by the batter prior to batting; or • a pinch runner can be requested due to injury incurred during the game. • a pinch runner will be the last player out.
Rule 9	DEAD BALL - BALL IN PLAY (No comments)
Rule 10	UMPIRES (No comments)
Rule 11	PROTESTS
	<p>A protest for a misinterpretation of a playing rule, applying an incorrect rule to a situation or imposing an incorrect penalty must be respectfully addressed to the umpire by the team captain before:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the next pitch, • all infielders have left the infield, • or on the last play of the game before the umpire has left the field. <p>Protests based solely on judgment or accuracy of a call cannot be protested.</p> <p>All protests will then be submitted by the protesting Captain to the President and/or Vice-president for appropriate action & final decision (Rule 11; Sec. 7; page 209)</p>
Rule 12	SCORING (No comments)