

# GCLSL Rules

These are the Glen Cairn Ladies' Softball League (GCLSL) 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). Any interpretation of the rules should be addressed by the Rules Committee.

*The league Constitution and the Rules are available to all members online at <http://www.gclsl.com> (under 'League Info' tab).*

CATEGORY	RULES	EXCEPTIONS TO SBC RULES		
Rule #1	Definition	Rule 1	Sect.	Definitions
GCLSL	GCLSL is classified as a recreational fast-pitch league.		17	Coach
Coach/Team Captain	<p>There will be no team coaches, only base coaches, who will be the members of the designated team.</p> <p>In the event that the Captain of the team must resign her position, the team will be required to elect a new Captain.</p>		22	Designated Player
Substitute	<p>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.</p> <p>A team can call in a spare when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It has less than nine (9) players</li> <li>2. The main pitcher or catcher is absent or injured such that they cannot pitch or catch</li> <li>3. In either case, a team cannot use the same spare more than three (3) times during the regular season and playoff seasons. The game will be forfeited if a team is caught using the same spare more than three (3) times.</li> </ol> <p>No team player shall be <b>displaced</b> (including alternate pitchers and catchers) from her position by a spare pitcher or catcher when the team is able to field nine or more regular team members.</p>		30	Flex Player
			37	Helmet
			40	Illegal Pitcher
			42	Illegal re-entry
			43	Illegal substitute
			63	Offensive Player Only
			74	Pitcher Circle
			75	Pitcher Plater

CATEGORY	RULES	EXCEPTIONS TO SBC RULES		
Rule #2	Playing Field	Rule 2	Sect.	Playing Field
Playing Field	Bases should be measured as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• back of home plate to pitcher's mound <b>40</b> ft</li> <li>• back of home plate to 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base <b>60</b> ft</li> <li>• back of home plate to 2<sup>nd</sup> base <b>84</b> ft</li> </ul>		4H	Pitchers Plate
Set Up and Dismantling Field	The team designated as the " <b>HOME</b> " team will be responsible for setting up and dismantling the field and turning the lights off.			

CATEGORY	RULES	EXCEPTIONS TO SBC RULES		
Rule #3	Equipment	Rule 3	Sect.	Equipment
Official Softball	11" Ball (low rise, yellow ball) as specified under SBC rules		3G	Official Softball

CATEGORY	RULES	EXCEPTIONS TO SBC RULES		
Rule #4	Coaches (Team Captain), Player, and Substitutes	Rule 4	Sect.	Definitions
In-Field Fly	<b>Requirements for an In-Field Fly:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Runners on first and second base OR first, second and third base.</li> <li>• Less than 2 out</li> <li>• Not a bunt</li> <li>• Not a line drive</li> <li>• Can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort; includes the pitcher, catcher or any outfielder positioned in the infield</li> </ul> <b>Once an In-Field Fly is declared by the Umpire:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• if the hit becomes a foul ball, no penalty; treat like any other foul ball</li> <li>• if the hit remains a fair ball, the batter is out regardless of whether the ball is caught or not the ball remains alive and the runners may advance at their own risk               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ if the fly ball is caught, the runners must tag up before they advance</li> <li>→if the fly ball is not caught, the runners can choose to advance</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		1.3	A base coach may address only their team members
			2	Line up cards and rosters
			3A.2	Designated player
			3C	Designated runner
			4	Starting players
			7	Substitutes
			10	Replacement Player
			11D	Temporary Runner

	<b>and force play is NOT in affect</b>		
Coach/Team Captain	<p>There will be no team coaches, only base coaches, who will be the members of the designated team.</p> <p>In the event that the Captain of the team must resign her position, the team will be required to elect a new Captain.</p>		
Substitute	<p>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.</p> <p>A team can call in a spare when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. It has less than nine (9) players</li> <li>5. The main pitcher or catcher is absent or injured such that they cannot pitch or catch</li> <li>6. In either case, a team cannot use the same spare more than three (3) times during the regular season and playoff seasons. The game will be forfeited if a team is caught using the same spare more than three (3) times.</li> </ol> <p>No team player shall be <b>displaced</b> (including alternate pitchers and catchers) from her position by a spare pitcher or catcher when the team is able to field nine or more regular team members.</p>		
<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>RULES</b>	<b>EXCEPTIONS TO SBC RULES</b>	
<b>Rule #4</b>	<b>Players and Player Responsibility</b>		
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 30<sup>th</sup></u> . All refunds prior to June 30 <sup>th</sup> 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"> <li>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</li> <li>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</li> </ul>	
Captain	Only the Captain of a team can question a call made by the umpire.	
Pregnancy	<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 Kanata Sports Club)</p> <p>If a player should become pregnant, she will be allowed to play until the end of her 12<sup>th</sup> week; regardless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Players must get clearance in writing from her doctor to play.</li> <li>The player must sign a waiver specifically absolving the league, its participants, umpires, the facility owners and Province &amp; Softball Canada, of any liability should she experience problems with her pregnancy due to her participation</li> <li>Copies should be given to the Executive as well as the Umpire's Association contracted to do the games the player participates in.</li> </ul>	
Medical Leave	<p>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.</p> <p>If a player takes more than a year leave of absence, the member will have to register as a new player.</p>	

CATEGORY	RULES	EXCEPTIONS TO SBC RULES		
Rule #5	Game	Rule 5	Sect.	The Game
Regular and Playoff Games	<p><b>All Regular &amp; Playoff games shall:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commence at 6:15 pm and 8:00 pm, respectively</li> <li>No new innings to start after 7:50 pm and 9:35 pm, respectively</li> <li>Consist of 7 innings → In case of time limitations or inclement weather, a game is considered complete</li> </ul>		3B	Regulation Game
			5B	Winner of game – Regulation tie game
			6A.1	Run ahead rule

	<p>→ if 5 innings have been completed or after 4.5 innings, if the home team is ahead in runs</p> <p>→ All incomplete games will be rescheduled and be played at a later date from the beginning of the game as a new game.</p> <p>→ Original line-up may be changed &amp; all team mates will have equal opportunity to participate in a rescheduled game.</p>			
Delays in Games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• After a 15-minute grace period, if a team has less than eight players, including the spares, the team will forfeit the game.</li> <li>• If a team has eight players including spares, the game <b>MUST</b> be played. The game <b>MUST</b> start as soon as eight players are present.</li> <li>• Upon arrival, late and spare players should be added to the bottom of the batting order.</li> </ul>			
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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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"> <li>1. strikes out, <b>or</b>;</li> <li>2. a third out is made, <b>or</b>;</li> <li>3. a batted ball is thrown to a player who must then touch home plate, <b>or</b></li> <li>4. A batter is called out on 3rd strike at the plate when they're the 3rd out.</li> </ol> <p>If &amp; when the 10th batter is not announced, no runs will be counted on that and subsequent plays.</p>			
Mercy Rule	<p>After the completion of the 5th inning, if a team is leading by more than 15 runs, the losing team will have the <b>option</b> of continuing or calling the game.</p>			

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.			

CATEGORY	RULES	EXCEPTIONS TO SBC RULES		
Rule #6	Pitching Rules	Rule 6	Sect.	Pitching Rules
Pitching Rules and Use of Pitching Rubber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Pitcher must have their front foot on the rubber at the start of the pitching motion and must stay within the width of the rubber and not pitch from outer sides of the rubber</li> <li>•The rubber must be pegged into the ground with the associated pegs</li> <li>•BACKUP PITCHER must pitch by the 4th inning (See exceptions)</li> <li>•MAIN PITCHER must sit minimum of one inning per game, when possible (See exceptions)</li> <li>•When a MAIN PITCHER is away, a team can call a SPARE MAIN PITCHER. The same pitching rules and regular season rules apply to the SPARE MAIN PITCHER as to the MAIN PITCHER</li> <li>•If a BACKUP PITCHER (Not a MAIN PITCHER from another team) is brought in as a SPARE BACKUP PITCHER, they can play the whole game in other fielding positions even if there are more than 9 players present and must sit out equal to other team mates. MAIN PITCHERS brought in as a SPARE BACKUP PITCHER can ONLY play the whole game in other fielding positions if there are 9 or less players, including the spare present</li> </ul>		1A.C.	Preliminaries
Exceptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•In a situation where a BACKUP PITCHER is away, the Captain has the option to allow their MAIN PITCHER to pitch the full game (if the MAIN PITCHER is willing to pitch the full game) or call in a SPARE BACKUP PITCHER. If the MAIN PITCHER is willing to pitch the full game, the Captain missing their BACKUP PITCHER must inform the other Captain prior to the game to allow the other team the option to put their MAIN PITCHER for the whole game as well</li> <li>•If a Captain decides to use their BACKUP PITCHER for the full game when her MAIN PITCHER is away, the other team must use their BACKUP PITCHER along with the MAIN PITCHER as per the pitching rules.</li> </ul>		8A.B	Throwing to a base

CATEGORY	RULES	EXCEPTIONS TO SBC RULES		
<b>Rule #7</b>	<b>Batting</b>	<b>Rule 7</b>	<b>Sect.</b>	<b>Batting</b>
Batting Order	All players must be included in the batting rotation		2A.B	Batting Order
Spares	Spare players, irrespective of their field position, must bat last in the batting order.		6.1	The batter is out

CATEGORY	RULES	EXCEPTIONS TO SBC RULES		
<b>Rule #8</b>	<b>Batter-Runner and Runner</b>	<b>Rule 8</b>	<b>Sect.</b>	<b>Batter-Runner and Runner</b>
Pinch Runner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pinch runner must be requested by the batter prior to batting; or</li> <li>• a pinch runner can be requested due to injury incurred during the game.</li> <li>• a pinch runner will be the last player out, <b>NOT</b> the last available runner.</li> </ul>		1B	The batter becomes a batter runner
			2A.F	Batter-runner is out
<b>Rule #9</b>	<b>Criteria for Tiebreakers</b>			
Teams tied in the standings	<p>If teams are tied after the regular season or in the playoffs, the following will apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• most wins in league play;</li> <li>• head to head wins;</li> <li>• a tie breaker game will be played with the flip of a coin determining Home team</li> </ul>			
<b>Rule #10</b>	<b>Dead Ball – Ball in Play (no comments)</b>			
<b>Rule #11</b>	<b>Umpires (no comments)</b>			
<b>Rule #12</b>	<b>Protests</b>			
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"> <li>• the next pitch,</li> <li>• all infielders have left the infield,</li> <li>• or on the last play of the game before the umpire has left the field.</li> </ul> <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</p>			

	President and/or Vice-President for appropriate action and final decision (Rule 11; Sec. 7; page 209)	
<b>Rule #13</b>	<b>Scoring (no comments)</b>	

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