

## **Regina Slopitch Regular Season Rules**

Welcome to the Regina Slopitch Association! Our mission is simply to provide an environment for slopitch enthusiasts to get out with friends/family and have a good time (while hopefully hitting some dingers). Sportsmanship is our main priority during games. In the unfortunate event that an individual or a team were to get out of control, that person or team will be asked to leave the field immediately without refund. So, team captains, please do your best to handle issues at the team level before it escalates and the league has to get involved.

All team captains must sign the waiver on their teams behalf before their team will be allowed to play. Regina Slopitch Association is not responsible for any personal injury that may occur during or after games.

### **Before the games begin**

Both teams should bring their full set of bases and home plate to each game, but the home team (whichever team is first on the schedule) is responsible for setting up the bases for that night. Teams must use a 'Safety Bag' for first base to avoid injury. Bases shall be 65' apart.

Home team will also be responsible for setting up the outfield foul markers. The visiting team is encouraged to help set up so both teams can agree on the placement of the foul markers so that adjustments don't need to be made during gameplay.

Teams must have a minimum of 7 players at each game. If they do not have 7 players at the diamond 15 min after the scheduled game time, they must forfeit. Each team will be required to have a minimum of 3 females at each game. If you are not able to do this, you must take an automatic out for each female you are short, every time the missing female would've been up to bat in the batting order. 1 missing female = 1

automatic out, 2 missing females = 2 automatic outs, 3 missing females = 3 automatic outs.

All bases (besides home plate) must be secured to the ground.

### **Captains pre-game meeting**

Captains should discuss any obstruction in the field prior to the game and determine what course of action will be played if the obstruction interferes with the play. For example, an automatic dead ball if the ball lands in a puddle, or gets lost in some trees.

Define what will be considered a home run.

Please add a commitment line half way between home plate and 3rd base.

Please also add home plate equivalent line, in line with the front of home plate

The two team captains will decide how many innings each game will be. This is usually dependent on weather conditions and sunlight. The standard game length is 5 innings for the first game, and whatever you can fit in for the second. The final inning must be decided at the top of the inning.

Home team will be the team named first on the schedule. In the double headers, the 'home team' will flip flop for each game. The scheduled home team will decide if they would like to be home first, or second.

## **Batting Order**

No more than 10 batters in an inning. When your 10th batter is up to bat, you must make the opposing team clearly aware of it. The 10th batter cannot be walked, the count will continue until either the batter is struck out, or hits the ball.

If a team has more than 10 players, they may bat all of their players without subbing in and out of the batting order if approved by the opposing team captain prior to the game, but the opposing captain must be made aware of this. If the opposing team captain does not approve, then only players that will also be playing defence in that same inning shall be included in the batting order.

No more than 3 males may bat in a row, including the transition from the bottom of the order to the top.

If a team has less than 10 players, they may still bat 10 batters in one inning. Keeping in mind that they may have to apply the other batting requirements such as automatic outs.

There are no extra bases for 4 balls in a row. Regardless of the batter or who's up next, 4 balls equals a regular walk.

The last innings of each game will be unlimited batters (However many it takes to get 3 outs). The last inning of each game must be decided and clearly announced at the top of the inning. This will be decided by the captains from each team.

## **Offence**

The team that is batting will supply an umpire for that half of the inning.

Infield fly is in effect if there are runners on 1st and 2nd, and less than two outs. Infield fly also only applies to balls popped up within the dirt (If the player on defence is standing on grass, that would no longer be the infield, and infield fly would no longer be in effect))

Teams will hit their own balls, which should be supplied to the pitcher of the opposing team. All balls used must be **12" Worth Hot Dots**.

Any hitter fortunate enough to hit a homerun must run the bases and cross the home plate equivalent line or they will be considered out.

Bats must have the USSSA BPF 1.20 thumb print. Check the website for a list of banned bats.

If a batter is hit by a pitch, they may advance to first base. If the batter chooses to take their base, they must do so before the next pitch is thrown.

If a ball is hit and strikes either the batter or home plate, the hit will be considered a dead ball and called foul.

If a hit ball strikes a base runner in fair territory, the runner is out and the play continues.

Home Run +/- rule is in effect. If one team is up by 3 home runs, any home run after that will be considered an out. Since some of our diamonds do not have fences, the definition of a home run shall be defined in the pregame captains meeting. In the park home runs do not apply to this rule.

Batters are allowed to step into their swing. However if they are taking a large step, or multiple steps, outside the batter's box towards the pitcher, the umpire is to issue one clear verbal warning to the batter and the batter's team captain. If the batter ignores

the warning, they will be considered out at the next offence. This is in hopes to keep our pitchers safer.

A foul ball on a third strike will result in an out.

All foul balls that made contact with the bat will be considered live, and able to be caught for an out.

No bunts. No sliding. No stealing bases.

No lead offs. If the runner steps off the base before the ball is hit, the runner is out.

Pinch running is allowed for players who need. The last batter (that is not on the bases) must run for the injured player. The runner must start from the back cage in line with home plate.

Runners must cross the safe line, do not touch home plate. If the runner touches home plate, they're out.

## **Defence**

Pitches must be a minimum of 6 ft, and under 15 ft to be considered for a possible strike. Any pitch outside of this zone will be considered a ball.

If a ball is thrown out of bounds, the runner may advance forward one base. Beyond the fenced perimeter or past the back stop line will be considered out of bounds.

The back catcher must stand on any part of the home plate to get a runner out. The back catcher cannot tag the runner.

The first baseman must stand on the white portion of the safety bag, and must leave the orange portion available for the runner. No tagging when the runner is going from the batter's box to first base. Once the runner has passed first base and shown intent to advance to second, they are now eligible to be tagged out.

Once the 10th batter has hit the ball, the ball must be returned to home plate to end the play and force out any runners remaining on the bases.

No more than 7 males can be on the field when playing defence.

The pitcher must take steps directly towards the homeplate in their approach.

On a force play, the defence does not need to tag the runner, touching the base while in control of the ball is sufficient. If the play is not forced, the defence must tag the runner.

## **General**

No glass on the diamonds.

No metal cleats.

A game will be considered a rain out if the City of Regina has closed all athletic fields. Refer to the link on the homepage of the Regina Slopitch website. If the diamonds are still open, but there is lightning visible from the field, that game will be canceled. In the event of cancellation, teams must notify the league and attempt to reschedule. If rescheduling isn't possible, the game will not be included on each team's record.

In order for a game to be considered complete, teams must have played a minimum of 3 full innings. Anything less will be considered a rain out.

Scores must be sent to the league within 2 calendar days of the game. Scores may be sent via text or email, and must be sent by both teams.

Fighting, intent to injure, harassment, racism, or any other criminal act to another team/player will result in immediate disciplinary action by the league, up to and including a lifetime ban from Regina Slopitch.

If a batter uncontrollably throws their bat in the direction of another player or umpire, the umpire is to give the batter and the associated captain a verbal warning. On the second offence, based on the umpire's discretion, the batter will automatically be considered out. If a team collectively has had 3 separate batters receive verbal warnings, all further offences to the team will automatically be classified as a second offence.

Do not use the public parks as a restroom. If a player needs to, please drive to the nearest washroom.

**Regina Slopitch Association reserves the right to ban any player or team with no refund if they feel it is necessary to maintain safety, or sportsmanship. Any questions regarding the rules, please contact Riley at (306)596-9624**