

KENSINGTON VALLEY SR MEN'S SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES

1. **STAY OFF OTHER FIELDS PREPPED FOR EVENING GAMES.**

BATS – USA / ASA approved only. No bats with only USSSA, NSA and ISF symbol/s,

NO SENIOR “HOT” BATS, Any player attempting to swing a Senior Hot Bat, is automatically out and ejected from the game and the following week’s game. Umpires will report the infraction.

2. **BASES - Defensively players cannot play inside the base lines until the ball has been batted (Est 2017).**

3. **INNINGS - 8 inning games / 1hr 20 min time limit, NO NEW INNING MAY START AFTER 1 HR AND 20 MIN. Catch up rule no longer applies, having been decided by the managers for teams to score “all you can” in the 8th inning of a regulation game. Any game to end before regulation play due to time, the umpire will make the decision concerning what will be the last inning and only that inning will be “all you can get”.**

4. **GAME TIMES - will rotate each week, one week 9:30 the next 11am. The clock starts at 9:30am and goes against playing time if having to wait for late arrivals. If weather dictates games times will be moved.**

6. **SUBS / BORROWING PLAYERS:**

a. A sub pool is available with numerous players, any team that finds themselves in need of players should contact replacements out of the sub pool before borrowing players from another team.

b. borrowing of players between the American Lg and the National Lg is not allowed.

c. teams short may borrow a player/s from another team within their league after exhausting the sub pool, but only up to 3 players to field a roster of 10 players (also refer to d)....subs are the exception, teams may draw from the sub pool to field a team of 11 except if borrowed players are involved, then 10 is the max.

d. teams cannot borrow the same players each week....borrowed players are only allowed to take the position first as catcher, then right field, then 1st base. Borrowed players will only be added to the end of the batting line up.

*** the only exception would be the pitcher, if the team has no one that can pitch a consistent game, then a pitcher may be borrowed to provide a fair game and not one of walks.**

7. **BATTING – batters begin with a 1 / 1 count with one to waste on the 3rd strike, if fouled the batter is then out.**

8. **BASE RUNNING.....No allowed “over runs” at 2nd and 3rd.**

9. **COURTESY RUNNERS –Anyone can courtesy run, BUT:**

a. There is no courtesy runner allowed from home plate, batters must run on their own. (see below #10)

- b. *A courtesy runner can only run one time per inning.*
 - 1. *If a player violates the rule, he is automatically out upon taking a base to run again.*
 - 2. *If a player whose turn to bat comes up while on base as a courtesy runner, automatically out.*

10. **Batters running from Home Plate:** (Important also refer to rule 14.)

a. *Any game involving a National Lg team, the outfield (including the rover) cannot attempt to throw the batter out at 1st.*

b. *American Lg games – as decided by the American Lg managers, the outfield is allowed to throw the runner out at 1st base.*

11. **RUNS and MERCY RULE –** *Maximum of 5 runs per inning for each team in innings 1-7. In the 8th inning it is “all you can” score. The 20-run rule shall be in effect after 5 innings. The game will be considered a regulation game if a team is ahead by 20 or more runs after 5 or more innings; 5 ½ or 6 ½ innings if the home team is ahead.*

12. **TIES –** *if a game is tied after regulation 8 innings IF TIME ALLOWS, ONE MORE INNING WILL BE PLAYED.*

The last “physical out” will take 2nd base (courtesy runner is not allowed, runner must make it to 3rd base then a courtesy runner can take his place) and the inning will start with one out. If still tied after both teams have batted the game is recorded as a tie.

13. **HIT UP THE MIDDLE RULE –** *there is no rule, still a live ball to be fielded by the pitcher if able. On a side note, though I don’t expect this to be the norm in the senior league, if it becomes apparent that a player/team is purposely hitting up the middle a warning will be issued then an out.*

14. **WALKS -** *Players up to bat....there will be no deliberate walking of a batter, this is a Rec league that many players travel a distance to participate and to deliberately walk the player is not fair to them or sportsman like play.*

15. **ROVER / OUTFIELD –***the rover plays in the position that was intended....to support the aging outfield. Shifting of other positions to bypass this rule is not allowed.*

a. **National Lg....**

- 1. *the Rover must be on the grass and cannot move until the swing of the bat.*
- 2. *the Rover cannot throw a runner out at 1st base.*
- 3. *the Rover cannot field a ball that was off an infielder and throw a runner out at 1st base.*
- 4. *the Rover can as an attempt at a double play fielding the ball throwing to 2nd or 3rd base the throw can be made at 1st to complete a double play.*

b. **American Lg**

- 1. *The Rover can play anywhere on the field and attempt to throw the batter/runner out at 1st.*
- 2. *Fielding the ball is allowed to complete the play attempting to throw the batter out at 1st base.*

16. PITCHING...legal pitch is 6-12ft arc based on the umpire's judgement and NOT THE PLAYERS. As stated in USA / ASA rules, the pitcher must be stationary, present the ball then pitching from the rubber or up to six feet back with at least one foot between the perimeters of the rubber. Attempts to distract the batter with jerking motions, releasing the pitch while scooting forward, holding the ball for more then 8 seconds after presenting to pitch is ILLEGAL. The umpire will call out illegal upon such violation and a "ball" awarded the batter.