



# Stroud Mixed Slo-Pitch League Rules

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Slo-Pitch Ontario (SPO) rules apply, except for revisions and clarifications made here.

## **IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL COACHES, PLAYERS AND RESPECTIVE TEAM FANS**

The Town of Innisfil has a strict “ZERO TOLERANCE” policy with regards to alcohol use in and around all of their facilities, including but not limited to the parking areas, spectator seating, etc. With this in mind the following alcohol policies are being re-instated and will be rigorously enforced. (including playoffs)

- 1) Team 1<sup>st</sup> offence Forfeit of current game
- 2) Team 2<sup>nd</sup> offence Forfeit of current game plus next scheduled game.
- 3) Team 3<sup>rd</sup> offence Team suspension with Executive review before re-instatement
- 4) Player 1<sup>st</sup> offence Ejection or ban from current game plus suspension for next 2 scheduled games
- 5) Additional to #4 above Team Rep or Coach same penalty as in #4 above.
- 6) Player 2<sup>nd</sup> offence suspension until Executive review.
- 7) Team fans violating the alcohol policy will be asked to leave the facility and refusal (within a 5 minute time period) will result in current game forfeit
- 8) Any disagreements or disputes of the above, please refer to rule # 6 of the Non-Playing Rules.

While this may seem heavy handed, this is in place for player safety reasons and also to remove the possibility of the town revoking our permit to play.

1. Games will consist of seven innings. No new inning to begin after 1 hour, 5 minutes, including playoffs except for the 3 Finals, all to be 7 innings no time limit.
2. All players on the lineup card submitted at the beginning of the game will bat, regardless of the number of players.
3. Batting orders must be either male then female rotation or female then male rotation.
4. An inning is three (3) outs or maximum 5 runs, unless a team is behind. The team that is behind can match the other team's score and then go up by a maximum of 5 runs.

Ex. A team is behind 7-2. The team that has 2 previously can score 5 runs to match and then score another 5. The score would then be 12-7.

If the team that was up 7-2 goes on offense, they can add another 5 runs maximum, resulting in a 12-2 score.

There is no longer an open inning per se, as a team that is behind can score enough to take the lead (and go up a maximum of 5 runs) every inning.

5. A walk is one (1) base. An intentional walk is considered four (4) consecutive pitched balls to a batter anywhere in the count. Only a male batter will be awarded two bases for an intentional walk, and the female batter that follows may choose to bat or be awarded first base.
6. Home runs are considered any fairly batted ball that clears the outfield fence. Match +2 is in effect. (i.e. visiting team hits 2 home runs, home team is allowed to match these 2 plus 2 more and so on. Any home run above the match +2 is an out.
7. Bunting is allowed for female players only.
8. The catcher must make the initial play at home plate. If the ball is thrown past the catcher, then any player may make the play.
9. Any player may intercept a throw to home plate. There will be no “hand-offs” to the catcher to make an out at home plate. A reasonably thrown ball to the catcher will be considered an out.
10. Courtesy runners for base runners are UNLIMITED and must be the same gender and can be used at any time at any base.



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11. A team defense will consist of five (5) women and five (5) men. Women, cannot be replaced by a man, or vice-versa. There must be a minimum of eight (8) players for a team to avoid a defaulted game, of which four (4) must be women and four (4) must be men.
12. Any player who arrives late may be added to the batting order unless the first batter in the batting order of the same sex has completed a second at-bat for the game, after which the arriving player is allowed to play defense only.
13. Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES IS THERE AN AUTOMATIC OUT. If a player must leave a game early, that player is simply removed from the batting order. If the player leaving means that the team is left with only three (3) of that sex, the game is considered a forfeit. Only in the event of a serious injury, mental or medical issue to that player in the ongoing game that leaves a team short, may the game be continued with five (5) and three (3) players of either gender.
14. All four (4) outfielders, which includes the rover position, must be behind the marked outfield boundary to begin a play. Once a batter has contacted a pitched ball, the outfielders may cross the boundary to make a play.
15. Ejections: Unsportsmanlike conduct detracts from the league. Undo swearing, throwing of bats, verbal abuse of any player(s), umpire(s) or Executive Member(s), before, during or after a game will be subject to disciplinary action as seen fit by the league Executive Members.
16. Game time starts promptly when scheduled, there is no grace periods allowed and in the event the game cannot start on time with the minimum required number of players which is 8, consisting of at least 4 guys and 4 girls. The team in which cannot field a team will be charged a forfeit and \$40.00 will be charged against their bond money. A team will not be charged bond money if they give 48 hour's notice to the convener prior to the game.
17. All baseball bats used in the league must have one of the logos on the bat which are as follows:



Any player caught using a bat that does not have either one of these logos will be ejected from the game, along with the coach of the team.

18. In the event a team is short a player or players for a game and could potentially forfeit that game. The team can borrow a player or players (max 2) from any game that day. A team can borrow any combination of players e.g. 1 male/1 female, 2 females, or 2 males to bring their count to 4 of that gender. (This is for regular season only and not playoffs.)
19. Any player or coach is not allowed on the field in open toed shoes, (i.e. sandals).
20. Should a team need to forfeit a game in the playoffs (round robin format) the opposing team will be awarded a 14-0 score, for run differential purposes.