

**SOFTBALL BERMUDA
LEAGUE ORGANIZATION**

Revised 2024

1 Organization

The Executive Committee at the start of each season will allocate teams to divisions. Allocation will be based upon the Executive Committee's perception of team strength based on the initial roster submitted, and on the team's performance in the prior season. The decision of the Executive Committee on the placement of teams is final.

The competition will comprise of two phases: regular league play followed by a playoff amongst qualifying teams. If time permits, there will be a third phase, a knockout tournament to be determined later.

Teams will be ranked in their divisions on the basis of their point totals. Three points will be awarded for each game won, one point awarded for a loss and 1 point deducted for a game default. In the event of two or more teams having similar point totals they will be ranked on the basis of the following tie-breakers:

- i) Ranked on the basis of the win:loss ratio between the tied teams; if still tied then
- ii) Ranked on the basis of total runs scored against the tied teams, the team scoring the most runs against the other(s) being ranked higher; and if still tied,
- iii) Ranked on the basis of a single playoff game(s) between the tied teams to be arranged by the Executive Committee. At each game, the teams will toss a coin to determine home team.

Tie-breakers i) and ii) above will not apply in any case where the teams are tied for first place in a division, or where one or more of the tied teams would fail to qualify for the playoffs. In these cases tie-breaker iii) will be applied.

2 Schedule

A schedule will be placed on our league website (www.allprosoftware.net/csl) once games have been allocated.

Games will be scheduled Monday to Thursday at 6.00 pm, 7.30 pm and 9.00 pm. Make up games for rainouts or other postponed games will be rescheduled on Friday night's or Sunday's if the need arises.

Once issued, the Executive Committee will not change the schedule. Teams unable to make particular games are encouraged to notify the Scheduler at least 24 hours in advance so that their opponents may be informed of the default.

Note that teams that default three games will be ejected from further Softball Bermuda competition. Also, any team that defaults in advance and subsequently it is determined that the games would have been postponed due to weather or other reasons, the defaulting team will not be charged with a loss but rather will have the opportunity to replay the game.

There will be no refund of membership fee for any team that withdraws from the competition before the end of the season. If a team withdraws from the competition, a win by default will be awarded to their opponents for all remaining scheduled games. Results of games already played will stand intact.

3 **Team Responsibilities**

In order to avoid delaying the start of games, teams should ensure that the following responsibilities are met:

- i) Lineups submitted to the scorekeeper when called for, and no later than ten minutes before scheduled game time.

*Lineups should be submitted on the official CSL 3-part form. Give first and last name of each player in the starting lineup, together with his or her defensive position, using the numerical notation. It is also helpful, but not required, to give the full names of any substitutes who may be used. The lineup sheets must be signed by the manager and **all three parts submitted to the scorekeeper.***

- ii) Ensure that all players are wearing similar coloured jerseys.

*Umpires **will not** permit players to participate if they are not wearing similar coloured shirts. It is recommended that managers carry spare shirts to ensure compliance.*

- iii) Ensure that all players are ready to start the game at the scheduled time, or whenever called to do so after the scheduled time.

Note that there is no requirement for teams to be provided with time for warming up before a game. In the event that games are behind schedule, teams may be called upon to start immediately after the conclusion of the previous game. There is ample space outside the park to warm up if teams desire.

4 **Disciplinary Action**

The Disciplinary Committee established by the Executive Committee will review any instances of misconduct brought to its attention in writing, and may enforce whatever penalties it considers appropriate.

- i) Notwithstanding this, Softball Bermuda imposes, as a matter of course, the following penalties on players ejected from a game:

First ejection in season: Two game suspension

Second ejection in season: Three game suspension

Third ejection in season: Suspension from Softball Bermuda games for one year.

Penalties may be increased depending upon individual circumstances.

There may be no official notification of suspension in the case of the first and second ejections. Suspension commences effective the next scheduled game (either on original schedule or a make up game, even if the make up game has not been scheduled at the time of the ejection).

Suspended players cannot play in the requisite number of games that their team participates in immediately following the game in which they were ejected. Suspended

players may not enter the field of play, sit in the dugout, or act as base coaches or managers in games to which the suspension applies.

The accumulation of ejections will only occur in one season. However, suspensions will carry forward to the next season(s) to the extent that they cannot be served in the season in which they were imposed.

Softball Bermuda will not tolerate or condone disrespect, actual violence or threatened violence or other forms of intimidation directed towards umpires, officials, spectators or other players. Such matters will be viewed with the greatest concern, and severe penalties imposed on offenders.

- ii) Softball Bermuda also imposes, as a matter of course, the following penalties relating to the use of illegal players:

Player Infraction

1st Offense – 2-game suspension

2nd Offense – 7-game suspension or remainder of the season, whichever is more

The above penalties will accumulate in more than one season i.e. if the first offense occurred in season #1 and was repeated in season #2, that offense in season #2 would be considered a 2nd offense.

Team Infraction

1st Offense – (a) loss of game for every game in which the illegal player appeared (already an ISF rule); (b) a fine of \$50 and (c) a one point deduction in the standings;

2nd Offense – outright ban from the Softball Bermuda

The above penalties will only accumulate in the season i.e. they are not carried forward to the next season.

5 *Playoffs*

The top four teams in each division will qualify to participate in a playoff competition.

Only the following players are eligible to play for a team in the playoff competition:

Any player on the team roster at the end of the season providing;

- i) He/she appears on the original roster submitted at the start of the season; or
- ii) The player has played in one or more games for the team during the regular season.

The Executive Committee will set the playoff schedule and notify teams. Playoffs will commence on the first day following the day after the end of the regular season, although no

playoff games will be scheduled on Friday's, unless deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.

In the first round, the first and fourth placed teams will play each other and the second and third placed teams will play each other in a best of three-game series. The winners of each of the first round series will play each other in a final best of five series to determine the playoff champion. The scheduler has the right to amend the playoff format if deemed necessary by the league.

At each stage of the competition, the team finishing higher in the regular season will be the home team in the first game. Home team will then alternate between the two teams for the remainder of the series.