

CHEAT SHEET FOR SLO SOFTBALL RULES (updated 2/27/10)

(please read the entire City of San Luis Obispo rule book for details regarding all of the rules, this is just a quick guide to help you get started)

- A minimum of 8 players are needed to start a game, and a max of 10 players can be used in the field at a time.
- All players can bat, but not all have to field. So you can have 18 batting and only 10 fielding for the entire game. You can rotate however you want. All fielders must bat though once they are in the game.
- The city does not supply uniforms or any equipment for the teams. We do provide game balls though.
- **All bats must comply with ASA guidelines.** http://www.asasoftball.com/about/certified_equipment.asp
An umpire may remove ANY bat that he/she suspects has been altered in any way.
- Bare Feet and Metal Cleats are not permitted.
- You may use one courtesy runner per inning, and a courtesy runner may be used for the same regular runner each time said regular runner is on base in the same inning.
- The ball pitched must arc higher than the batter's head, and no more than 12 feet above the ground.
- The black mat behind home plate is considered part of home plate, and may be used when touching home plate or when forcing a runner out.
- There is a double-base first base. Whenever there is a play being made on the batter-runner the runner must touch the outside bag (orange) and the fielder must touch the inside bag (white), unless they are avoiding a collision. Once the batter-runner has passed the base, they are only to use the white base. A batter-runner may touch the white base if they are rounding the bag attempting to go to second base.
- A runner may lead off after the pitch is thrown but it is a force back to the base if the pitch is a ball.
- When a defensive player fakes a tag when he/she does not have the ball, obstruction will be called. The runner will be awarded an extra base after the play has ended. Repeated violations will result in ejection.
- A \$25 fee is charged to teams who forfeit and do not give 24 hours notice to the opposing team captain and the league administrator. Either way \$25 is credited to the team that was forfeited on.
- A homerun at Santa Rosa consists of a ball over the right field fence, a ball that rolls into the third base dugouts of the youth field, and a ball that hits the parking lot in center field on the fly.
- No player can be added after the 5th game unless you're replacing someone who has been called into the service, reserve training, or is seriously injured, and this roster move must be approved by the Adult Sports Coordinator.
- No team can have more than 3 homeruns over an opponent (3-up rule). The 4th-up homerun is an out.
- You do not have to slide when there is a play at a base (mainly referring to 2nd base) but it is recommended since you may get called for interference if you don't slide.
- No bunting or chop hits allowed
- Pitchers are allowed to pitch up to 6 feet behind the pitching rubber, but must stay aligned with home plate.

SPECIFIC COED RULES:

- Minimum players to start a coed game: 8 players (4 male/4 female). The distribution of males to females can never exceed one more male over the # of females, and a max of 5 males is allowed at any time. There is no minimum number of males needed to start a coed game.
- Teams are allowed one male and one female courtesy runner each inning.
- A minimum of 3 fielders must be behind the outfield restriction line (you can have one outfield rover in front of it).
- A male batter walked on 4 consecutive balls without any strikes is awarded 2nd base.
- Males and Females must rotate in the batting order.
- Runners may not touch homeplate, they must cross the line extending from home plate to the backstop.
- Any play at homeplate is a force.
- Once a runner crosses the commit line (between 3rd and home) he or she must go home and may not go back to third base.

PROTESTING A GAME:

- **The notification of the intent to protest must be made immediately before the next pitch.**
 - The captain of the protesting team should immediately notify the umpire that the game is being continued under protest.
 - After the game, a protest form must be filled out with the scorekeeper, and a letter must be delivered to the Sports Coordinator within 48 hours.