

COLORADO SENIOR SOFTBALL TRAVEL LEAGUE

2012 RULES

CSSTL will use SSUSA rules, except as modified below:

- 1) Batters will start with 0-0 count. Three balls is a walk and two strikes is an out. Batter is out when he fouls off the ball the second time after having one strike against him. It does not matter how the first strike occurred. A foul tip is a foul ball. In order for a batter to be called out when the catcher catches a foul ball, the ball must be hit so as to travel above the batter's head before being caught by the catcher or any other player. A foul never attaining the height of the batter's head and caught are foul balls. Without a home plate umpire, there will be no "out of the batter's box" calls on swings; however, the batter must be in the batter's box when the pitcher pitches.
- 2) 1st and 3rd base coaches are also umpires, with the 1st base coach calling plays at 1st and home plate, while the 3rd base coach calls the plays at 2nd and 3rd base. The team at bat will provide 1st and 3rd base umpires. The defensive team's catcher is the home plate umpire who calls balls and strikes, foul balls and illegal pitches. If the 1st or 3rd base umpire does not see the play he is responsible for, he should ask the other umpire for a call. Umpires shall not seek opinions from their bench. If a person (not a player from either team) volunteers to be the home plate umpire, this person must be agreeable to both team captains and will also call the plays at home plate. Gentleman's Rule: In the event a call has been made which most believe is in error, the team captains may overturn the ruling if both agree.
- 3) 3) Any player ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct by the home plate umpire/catcher is out of the lineup for the rest of the day. If the ejection occurs during the last game, the ejected player is out for the next full day of games. Second ejection in the same season will result in the player being out for the balance of the season. Board of Directors will settle any disputes about unsportsmanlike conduct and their decision will be final.
- 4) There shall be no forfeit because a team is short of players. In the event a team is short, the players over the 10 starters for the opposing team may play on the short team. Those players will play both offense and defense. In the event the other team does not have more than 10 players or doesn't want to furnish the other team players or is short as well, the teams may be filled with players who are not playing at that time from any other team and must be approved by the opposing coach, unless the team that had extra players refused to share them with the other team. If all else fails and the short team has 9 players, the other team will furnish a player while the short team is in the field.
- 5) Fields shall be scheduled for 60 minute games. This means that after the inning where 60 minutes has been completed, this will be the last Regular inning (each team will have an alarm clock) and the next inning is the Open inning. Any game that has an 8 run difference or more at the end of the last Regular inning, will make use of the "Flip Flop" rule, which is MANDATORY. If a game is tied after the Open inning, the next inning starts with a runner at 2nd base for each team. If it is still tied after that inning, the game

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is over and it's a tie(except End of Season tourney).

- 6) All rosters should be e-mailed to the league Bert Hertzke no later than 1:00 PM on Friday before the first game of the season. Any roster changes must be received by the Commissioner no later than 1:00 pm on the Friday before the Saturday game, to be eligible to play. E-mail should be used to expedite submitting roster changes. All players must be age 50 or older. Age is determined as of December 31st of the year of the current season. Teams are limited to 5 Major/Major Plus players, on any given Saturday, ages 50-59, from "Tournament teams" of any division of any national association. The Board will closely monitor rosters. The rule is designed to provide as much parity as possible among the teams in the league. If any discrepancy or violation of this, or any rule, comes to the Board before the league starts or during the playing season, the Board will have the final decision as to whether a team has violated the INTENT of the rule and will decide accordingly.
 - 7) For home runs, each team is allowed one home run, followed by the "One Up" rule. Excessive home runs become a single, with all the base runners advancing one base, even if it is not a force situation.
 - 8) For pitching, a 6-12 foot arch range is permitted. Essentially, the ball must travel above the head of the pitcher/batter. Also, the distance from the rubber to home plate is 50 feet, but the pitcher is allowed to be up to 6 feet behind it. One foot must be in the area of the plane of the rubber. ALSO, as of 2011 league meeting, all team managers voted not to enforce SSUSA pitching rule. (Concerning pitcher safety equipment and wavier rules).
 - 9) The Home team is responsible for the enlarged strike mat over home plate. . If the Home team does not have the enlarged strike mat, they will be switched to the Visitor team. The catcher must be touching some part of the strike mat when he catches the ball to have the runner called "out". However, if the strike mat has been moved significantly, the catcher has gained an advantage, so the runner is called "safe".
 - 10) The Home team is responsible for providing one new softball. Both teams are responsible for providing additional softballs as needed. The team that hits a home run is responsible for retrieving that softball.
 - 11) CSSTL has adopted SSUSA Pitcher Safety Rule. Face Mask & Shin Guards will be required by pitchers or they must sign a waiver on the score card provided at each field for each game. Coaches are responsible that this is followed.
 - 12) Senior Ladies are permitted to play and must follow all rules, no exceptions
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Chain of Command for questions/issues: Contact any Board member and they have the authority to resolve the issue. If not, that Board member will bring the item to the whole Board for resolution. If necessary, the Board will send the matter to the Coaches for a vote.

Host team responsibilities: They are the "weatherman" for each Saturday. If there is bad weather, hopefully Friday night, but maybe Saturday morning, they will determine if the fields are playable, along with the respective Recreation District. If it is determined we cannot play, they will call Randy Pearson, who will then start the Calling Tree procedure on rainouts. At Kennedy we are responsible for bringing and picking up the bases for all of the fields. If you are the Host team at Kennedy that means that the previous time at Kennedy for which you are Host, you must pick up the bases after everyone is done playing so that you have them for the week you are Host team. Members of your team must be at the fields 30-60 minutes before the first game to insert the bases on all of the fields.

Calling Tree for Rainouts: Host team calls Randy Pearson, who calls the Board members, who then call the Coaches:

Bert: Denver Reds, Parker & Kennel Kough

Richie: Mavericks, Evergreen Knights & Renegades

Randy: Loveland, Scrap Iron Phiten & Scrap Iron Reds

Bob: Master Collision, Old Dogs & Scrap Iron Diamonds

Vince: Old School Tavern, Two Dogs Tavern & Fabulous 50's