

# **Abbotsford Mixed Slo-Pitch**

## **League Rules and Regulations 2024**

### **Section 1 – League Representation / Purpose / Affiliation**

1. The purpose of the league is to promote the game of Slo-Pitch.
2. The league subscribes to and is associated with Slo-Pitch National.

### **Section 2 – Annual General Meeting**

1. The Abbotsford Mixed Slo-Pitch League (AMSL) will hold one Annual General Meeting (AGM) per calendar year. This meeting will be held after all league play is completed.
2. Two representatives from each team having competed in league play in the preceding year are requested to attend the AGM. These representatives must be able to make decisions on behalf of the team they represent.
3. Any decision pertaining to the AMSL requiring a vote will be made at the AGM. These decisions include the following and any other deemed necessary by the executive of the AMSL.

#### **Nomination and election of the League Executive as follows:**

1. President
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. Statistician
5. Division Coordinators

### **Section 3 – Coordinators**

The elected coordinators of the AMSL will be responsible for their respective category of competition in the league. All team managers will be notified of the names of the coordinators appointed to the various divisions of competition in the league. All questions must be directed to the coordinator in charge, who will discuss the concern with the elected executive.

### **Section 4 – Playing Rules**

The AMSL will at all times abide by SPN rules with the following exceptions:

1. Courtesy runners (male for male, female for female) are unlimited however, a team CANNOT use the same runner as a courtesy runner more than once in a game.
2. When a female player is at bat, there is a 150 foot encroachment line for all outfielders.
3. A team will consist of six (6) male and four (4) female players, or five (5) male and five (5) female players, or four (4) male and six (6) female players (no 7 & 3 in either direction). Minimum number of players required to start a game is nine. No male player may substitute for a female and no female may substitute for a male. If a team starts with nine players and goes through their batting order once, the tenth player arriving late will not be permitted to enter as the tenth player but, may enter as a substitution. Then tenth position will be an automatic out.

4. Balls and Strikes. Three strikes are required to record a strike out. Four balls are required to record a base on balls.
5. When a player is injured during league play and leaves the game and there is no substitute player then they would be an automatic out. The injured team could play out the game with nine players.
6. A team is permitted to pick up two (2) players (to make up 10 players total) from other teams provided those players are in the same division or lower. No regular team player shall sit on the bench when pick ups are used.

## **Section 5 – Team and Player Registration**

1. Registration fees will be established annually by the league executive. Fees cover cost of umpires, balls, trophies, improvements to the fields and miscellaneous other items. All registration fees are due and payable to the AMSL on or before the registration date set at the AGM each year.
2. All teams registering with the AMSL will be required to post a \$90 bond prior to the start of the season. This bond will be held on deposit with the league until season end. If all commitments have been met by the team, the bond will be retained by the AMSL in trust for the next year, unless a written request for a refund is submitted to the Treasurer within one year of the season end. Failure to meet League requirements will result in withdrawal of money from bond.
3. Failure to submit all necessary registration fees will result in dismissal from any further league play. This includes the following:
  - Team Bond
  - Team registration fee, as set out by the League Executive
  - Registration fee to SPN, which covers additional medical, dental and liability insurance.
4. Existing teams and new teams will be placed in the designated division by the league executive.

## **Section 6 – Player Rosters**

1. AMSL rosters are online at <http://www.abbymixedslopeitch.com> under “Coach Admin”
2. SPN rosters are online at <http://www.slo-pitch.com> under Member Log In – Online. The SPN rosters MUST be completed before the first game of league play.
3. Both men and women can play in any league or for any team they choose with the following guidelines:
  - They may only be on one AMSL roster
  - Women can play in any division
  - Men can play their own caliber. eg. If a man plays “1” in the Abbotsford Men’s League he may only play “A” in the mixed league. If he plays “2” in the men’s league he may play either “A” or “B” in the mixed league. If he plays “3” in the mens league, he may play in any division of the mixed league.
4. Each player must carry photo identification.

Any roster contentions must be addressed on the day of the game and can be made at any time during the game.

If the player in question is unable to produce ID the player will be ejected from the game, and the game may subsequently forfeit if the team in question is left with less than nine players. **The division coordinator must be contacted within 24 hours.**

If a team is caught playing with an illegal player, the player in question may be suspended from any / all AMSL league play, playoffs and tournaments for a period of one year. The coach of the team in question may also be suspended for one year from any / all AMSL league play, playoffs and tournaments.

A letter will be issued to SPN informing them of the roster infraction.

See page 57 of Tournament Guidelines and Operating Rules of the SPN Rule Book.

## **Section 7 – Scoring**

1. Teams tied after seven complete innings will remain tied.
2. There will be a maximum of five runs per inning. The *last* inning will be open.
3. The umpire is responsible for sending in the accurate scores. The score must be sent in the night the game was played.
4. Ten runs difference after five (5) innings of play constitutes a mercy.
5. Home runs will +2 for all divisions.
6. No catch up inning.

## **Section 8 – Forfeiture of Games**

1. A team that is unable to fulfill its commitment according to the schedule will forfeit the game. A \$30 fine will be drawn from the teams bond for the first offence. A second forfeit during the season will result in another \$30 penalty. A third forfeit during the season will result in the remaining money being drawn from the bond, and dismissal from any further league play.

## **Section 9 – Rain Delays**

1. No games will be canceled during the season for lack of players. Adverse weather conditions will be the only factor governing the cancellation of league games. The decision to cancel a game in progress must be made by the Umpire.
2. Pre-game rainouts will be at the discretion of the League Executive or Umpires.
3. The Executive will re-schedule all rained out games with due consideration given to all teams affected.

## **Section 10 – Uniforms on the Field of Play**

All players on a team must wear uniforms (shirts) with alike team LOGOS.

If a player does not have a uniform with the same logo, he / she will not be permitted to play.

This will be monitored by umpires and league officials to ensure compliance.

No grace will be given to any team without matching uniforms after May 1st.

## **Section 11 – Umpires and Umpire Remuneration**

1. The AMSL executive will ensure that all Umpires officiating league and tournament games are registered with SPN Umpires. Umpires will be paid a fee to officiate a game. At all 6:30pm games failure of an UMPIRE ONLY to appear by 6:40pm will mean the cancellation and rescheduling of a game.

2. Problems with umpires:

- Put the complaint IN WRITING with the date & time of game, name of the opposing team as well as the umpire's name
- Have the other teams coach sign the note
- Address the note to Ryan Thomas - President
- Complaints not put in writing with all required information will not be accepted.

## **Section 12 – Alcohol at Playing Fields**

Consumption of alcoholic beverages at the playing fields, parking lots or any surrounding public property is prohibited by Municipal By-Laws. Managers of teams are urged to assist in policing this matter.

THIS LAW WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED WITH BOND FORFEITS.

## **Section 13 – Suspensions**

1. Players will be suspended from league play for the following reasons:
  - Fighting on fields. Fighting will result in automatic suspension for the duration of the playing year, including playoffs and league sponsored tournaments
  - Unnecessary roughness. Umpires will report players involved to the Umpire-In-Chief
  - Abuse to Umpires. Striking an official on or off the playing field will result in the player being suspended indefinitely at the discretion of the league executive
  - Drunkenness. Umpires will report involved to the Umpire-In-Chief
2. If a player's name has been reported to the Umpire-In-Chief, it will be dealt with by a Standing Trial Board. The Standing Trial Board will consist of a combination of coaches involved in league play selected by the executive.
3. Appeals and suspensions will be handled by the League Executive.

## **Section 14 – Rules and Bylaws**

1. The rules and bylaws committee will be comprised of the President, Vice President, Umpire-In-Chief and three (3) other persons appointed by executive of the AMSL.
2. All complaints addressing the officiating by Umpires must be directed to the Umpire-In-Chief in writing.
3. Any proposals for rules or bylaw changes must be submitted in writing to the executive of the AMSL on or before Play-Off weekend, and will be voted on at the Annual AGM.

## **Section 15 – Year End Standings / Playoffs**

1. At seasons end, teams finishing in the top six of each division of league play will proceed into a modified Double Knock Out Tournament. Teams will be notified as to their position by their division coordinator. Teams with the best season record will get home field advantage.
2. All players participating in the League Playoff Tournament must have played a minimum of 5 league games with your playoff team.
3. If there are teams tied in points at the seasons end for any of the positions, the following tie breaker rules will apply (in order):

- Win / Loss results between all 20 season games
- Total overall runs
- Total runs scored during the season play between the tied teams
- Plus / Minus on runs scored during season
- Single game decider to be played

## **Section 16 – Money Allowance**

Teams traveling to National and Provincial Championships who are representing the AMSL can apply for travel expenses. Only teams that support the league and have no penalties against them in the current year will be considered for this funding. Deadline for applications will be July 1<sup>st</sup>. The amount of the allowance will be determined by the executive based on the funds available and the amount of teams applying for them as well as the distance of travel with a maximum of \$200 for Provincial and \$500 for Nationals. For an application to be considered, the distance traveled must exceed 500km.

## **Section 17 – Basic Ground Rules for Fields**

1. For games at Exhibition Park, Mouat and Matsqui Village there are no specific ground rules.
2. If a ball hits the power lines at Clearbrook Park, it will be considered a dead ball and a no pitch.
3. For the left field hill on Diamond #2 at Clearbrook Park, if a batted ball is hit on the hill in the air, the batter will be awarded a Home Run. If a batted ball bounces or rolls onto the hill, the batter will be awarded a ground rule triple.

## **Section 17 – Bases**

- The **home team** for the first games of each diamond will put out bases.  
Bases are in the lock boxes behind the diamonds (umpires will have keys)
- The **home team** for the last games of each diamond will put bases away.