



BYLAWS AND RULES

---

1. All Board members must be elected by nomination/vote or can be elected by acclamation. BASPA board members must play in the BASPA league.
2. The board must have representation from at least three (3) different teams.
3. Members who participate in BASPA must be eighteen (18) years of age, however each team is allowed ONE 17 year old without board approval.
4. Each team's league fees are due by the specified deadline set at each annual spring meeting, which is prior to the start of league play.
5. Rosters must be entered by team managers on the League website.
6. Each team must enter a minimum of ten (10) names on their roster to the League website, maximum of 25.
7. Additions/deletions to team rosters are permitted. They must be completed by roster deadline.
8. A player must play a minimum of eight (8) regular season games in order to be eligible to play in the year-end tournament.
9. League meetings are held twice per year; the first in the spring and the second in the fall. Any motions for rule changes must be made and voted on at the fall meeting. Board nominations, resignations and elections are to be made at the fall meeting, unless extenuating circumstances arise.
10. Each team shall have one vote on any issue or motion made at either the spring or fall meeting.
11. All BASPA meetings shall have minutes documented by the board secretary and kept on file. If a team/player wants a copy, they can be requested from the board secretary or chair.
12. All documents relative to BASPA shall be made available to any member upon their request.
13. Each team shall post a bond of \$150.00 inclusive with their league fees. If the team is returning from a prior season and the bond remains on deposit with BASPA at the end of the prior year, an additional bond will not be required. Once any portion of the bond is consumed, it must be replenished before the team can resume participation.
  - a. If a team misses either the spring or fall meetings, they forfeit \$75.00 of their bond per missed meeting and must restore full bond prior to the start of the season.
  - b. If a team resigns from the league before January 31st of the current season any retained bond money is fully refundable. Should the team resign from the league after January 31st their bond money is not refundable.
14. Teams that default a game shall lose \$75.00/game and be subject to disciplinary measures by BASPA. Expulsion from further league play or reinstatement will be determined by the BASPA board.

15. NSA Umpire is required to sign a copy of each team's scoresheet. Both score sheets must be placed in the blue plastic folder in the equipment box located at each diamond.
16. It is the responsibility of each team to be registered with the league by Annual Fall Meeting, preceding the active ball season, in order to guarantee your spot in the league. (Example: 2016 fall meeting is the deadline for 2017 season teams). Per bylaw 13 (b), any team that resigns from the league after January 31st will forfeit their \$150.00 bond, unless they provide a written request explaining the extenuating circumstance and the board, via a vote, approves the circumstance. Any team requesting membership following the Annual Fall Meeting deadline must make a written application (email accepted) to the BASPA Board with the following information: Team Name, last league and year played. All teams must register prior to the start of league play.
17. Abuse of umpires, BASPA officials or Town of Beaumont officials will not be tolerated. Offenders will be subject to disciplinary actions as determined by a league incident review panel.
18. Team/player violence cannot and will not be tolerated by BASPA.
19. Intent to injure will not be tolerated. Upon incident review, the BASPA board will determine what, if any, disciplinary action will be taken, including expulsion from the league.
20. Alcohol consumption in public areas of Beaumont is strictly prohibited and is subject to tickets and fines. The BASPA board may also take disciplinary action, including expulsion from the league if required.
21. Parking on and vandalism of personal property surrounding the ball diamonds is strictly prohibited and perpetrators will be reported to the appropriate authorities. The BASPA board may also take disciplinary action, including expulsion from the league if required.
22. BASPA from time to time will review its association with various slo-pitch organizations (Local, Provincial, National and International) to determine how this affiliation will best merit the objectives of BASPA.
23. The following are the BASPA league rules of play:
  1. **GAME PLAY:** HAVE FUN!!! All rules are governed by the 'NSA RULE BOOK' with the following exceptions:
  2. **Start Times:** All games commence at 6:30pm (with last inning being called at 7:40pm) and 7:50pm, with NO MORE GRACE PERIOD! Please be prompt. For the 7:50pm games, it is the umpires' discretion to call the last inning to ensure there is enough daylight to safely complete the last open inning. If a Team is 10 minutes late from start time they will lose a complete inning and the Team with all players present to play will start the game in 2<sup>nd</sup> inning with 5-0 lead. If any Teams are longer than 10 minutes from start time with fielding a team they will forfeit. Teams can start a game with 8 players as long as 3 females are playing.
  3. **Game Times:** Will be 1 hour and 20 minutes and 7 innings, unless a team is up by twelve (12) runs, after five (5) complete innings. EXCEPTION - if daylight permits, the game shall be completed in its entirety.
  4. **Official Game:** A minimum of three (3) full innings must be played to constitute a complete game. In the event of inclement weather, the umpire will call a ten (10) minute weather delay. The weather delay period will commence at the time the delay is called. If the weather conditions are not playable at the end of the delay, the games will be called by the umpire. Games not considered complete, will be rescheduled by BASPA subject to available calendar opportunities.

- 4.1. All league games that are tied after regulation seven (7) innings will remain tied. One point is awarded to each team.
5. The home team (from the late game), is responsible for the equipment being returned to the equipment box. NO EXCEPTIONS!
6. A minimum of nine (9) players may play the game with the tenth (10th) player to be classified out each time the tenth (10th) batter should bat, providing that there are at least three (3) females playing. (NOTE: if starting with nine (9) players, the Extra Player (EP) shall not be eligible for play; upon the tenth (10th) player's arrival, they may be inserted into the lineup without penalty.
7. If a team starts a game with four (4) females and seven (7) males (EP), they may complete the game providing there are nine (9) players remaining with a minimum of three (3) females. The other positions will be considered automatic outs. EPs can remain in game. Teams can bat 12 players max. (7 male/5 females)
8. There will be a five (5) run rule per inning except for the seventh (7th), OR the last inning, which will be unlimited.
9. If the Home team is winning by 12 runs or more after 4.5 innings, or is winning the 7th inning, the game is over and they DO NOT BAT. If the umpire has called last inning due to time restrictions, the Home Team would not bat at the bottom of the inning unless they are losing. The game will be over if the Home Team either wins or records 3 outs.
10. Base runners may only advance on contact. No Anticipation, this will be considered an out.
11. **Walk Rule:** If a male batter (Female on deck) is walked with 4 straight balls called, they will receive a double and the female gets the option to hit or take first base. Any batter with strikes on them during their at bat and still gets 4 balls called on them will receive a single base.
12. **Bunting Rule:** There is no bunting allowed.
13. **Home Run Rule:** *No Team is allowed to be up more than 3 home runs during a game against the opposing team. Example: Team A – 3 Team B – 1, Team A still has 1 more homerun to hit before it's counted as an out.* If a female player hits a homerun, it will not be counted towards the home run count. A Home Run is defined as a hit that clears the fence in fair territory. If a player hits a homerun with his team up by 3 HRS already he is OUT!
14. Pitchers must pitch within 50' – 60' feet markings. They can only take 1 step forward/sideways with a plant foot still touching ground when releasing the ball.
15. A strike shall be called upon the ball making contact with the rubber mat. The Arc Rule is defined as six (6) to twelve (12) feet.
16. **New Home Plate mat rules:** If a batter makes a full foot print on the shale in front of the mat the batter will be called out. Also, if the batter stays on the mat but steps over the inside batter box line in front of home plate the batter will also be called out.
17. Base runners coming home must cross the scoring line; the catcher must touch the mat for the force out. There is no sliding at home plate; this will be considered an out.
18. The base runner coming home may not be tagged out after crossing the commitment line by any defensive player. In order for the offensive player to be put out after crossing the commitment line, a defending player must be in possession of the ball and make contact with the mat.

19. All players playing in BASPA must be registered with BASPA and NSA. Failure to comply with this rule shall be reviewed by the board, one warning will be issued and subsequent offences could ultimately result in the expulsion of the illegal player and/or the team manager.
20. **League Players Rule:** Players may play with any team during regular season games, provided the team needing players is not using more than three (3) players not on their roster, with a maximum of 2 males. The team requiring players may play with an EP, when using a female not on their roster and the EP is on their roster. Players on the league spare list don't count toward your 3 players not on your roster.
21. **League Players rule for playoffs:** Players on teams no longer in playoffs can play for other teams in their division or in the division higher than they are rostered on if:
  - a. **The team they are picked up by cannot field a team of 10.**
  - b. **The team may only bat an EH if the players of that gender are on their roster.**
22. **Play-Off Eligibility:** As per BASPA Bylaw #8, players must play a minimum of Eight (8) league games with their regular team to be eligible for BASPA play-offs.
23. Teams caught using illegal player(s) shall forfeit the game and lose \$75.00 of their bond money. NOTE: any illegal player(s) issues are to be brought to the attention of the BASPA Board - Not the UMPIRES.
24. **Jewelry Rule:** Jewelry can be worn during game play without being called out by the umpire. Where certain items of jewelry represent a playing hazard for either the wearer or other players the umpire may prevent such player from playing until hazard has been reduced or eliminated. This may be achieved by taping or removing items of jewelry.
25. **League Balls:** 12" Optic Core 47. Females have the option of hitting the 11" Optic ball versus the 12" ball that must be used by males.
26. The BASPA Board will deal with all protests, which are to be submitted in writing within 48 hours of the incident. Protests need to be in place before the start of the game in question! (Inform umpire or BASPA Board member if present).
27. A Slo-Pitch Team shall be defined as a group of players composed of not less than ten (10) players, six (6) male and four (4) female.
28. Pitcher/Catcher combination does **NOT** have to be male/female combination.
29. **Umpires:** No protest shall be considered involving an umpire's judgment. Any protests regarding an umpire's conduct must be submitted in writing to the BASPA Board who will then forward the letter to the Umpire Assignor.
30. **Game Sheets:** League game sheets to be left at the diamonds in the base box upon game completion and final scores texted to the designated league representative.
31. **Postponed/Forfeited Games:** There will be no postponements of scheduled league games. Extenuating circumstances may be considered by the BASPA Board.
  - 31.1. Postponement due to rainy weather conditions will be permitted. This will be determined by the BASPA Board or Grounds Maintenance the day of the game. The Board is responsible for rescheduling arrangements of the postponed game.
  - 31.2. A forfeited game is when one team does not show up due to neglect or fault. These games will not be rescheduled and the team at fault will forgo \$75.00 of bond money as well as being a recorded loss.

32. **Profanity/Abuse:** Profanity by players, team officials or League Representatives will not be tolerated and will result in appropriate disciplinary actions. The Coach shall be held strictly accountable to the Board for their conduct and that of their players at all times. In particular, they are responsible for preventing disorderly conduct of themselves and their players before and after games or practices, on and off the diamond and at any place in or around the ball diamonds.
33. The league will not tolerate abuse of any kind, by a player or coach of any league or game official. Such abuse will render that individual liable to suspension at the discretion of the BASPA Board.
34. **Compassion Rule:** If a player is injured and unable to play prior to the start of the game, leaving their team in a default or auto-out position, a player may be picked up from another team that is in the same or lower division. Compassion replacement will apply for regular season and playoff games.
35. If teams are tied in total points for a playoff position, the following procedure will apply:
  - 35.1. The result of the team's yearly performance between the tied teams shall be used as the first tie breaking formula.
  - 35.2. If teams are still tied after (1) above, then the team with the most wins would qualify for the higher standing position.
  - 35.3. If the teams are still tied after (1) and (2) above have been applied, then the team with the greater best run average would qualify. The run average of a team is to be determined in the following manner: total number of runs divided by total number of runs for and against. The runs ratio shall be for games amongst the tied teams only.
  - 35.4. If teams are still tied after all previous methods have been applied, the higher rank will be determined by a single toss of a coin.
36. League Playoff Games Tied - To be decided by NSA Canada Rule Book or as determined at the League General Meeting prior to commencement of the playoffs.
37. Teams forfeiting more than 3 games in 1 season will go under review by the BASPA Board to determine eligibility for the remainder of the season and subsequent re-entry the following season.