



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
**Public Works Softball League Supplement Rules**  
*Updated April 4, 2011*



JAMES T. SPARKS, Commissioner

STEVEN E. MILEWSKI, Asst. Commissioner

The Public Works Softball League uses Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation (SCMAF) Men's Slow-Pitch Tournament rules. The following rules are exceptions to the SCMAF rules.

1. **GAME DURATION.** The SCMAF rule of 7 innings or no new innings started after 1 hour and 10 minutes of play, which ever occurs first, applies. The SCMAF Mercy Rule applies (game will end when one team is ahead by 15 or more runs after 5 innings, 4-1/2 innings if the home team is ahead). For playoff games, the time rule is not enforced, but the mercy rule is enforced. *updated 4/2/09*
2. **FEMALE HITTERS.** When women are batting, they start with a 1-0 count and there can be only six players in front of the cones until the ball is batted. All remaining players must be behind the cones at 180 feet from home plate (twice the distance between bases), until contact is made. If this rule is violated, the ball is dead and the batter is awarded first base, only if the ball is struck into fair territory (all baserunners move up one base). *updated 4/1/09*
3. **COED BATTING.** A male batter, whose at-bat occurs immediately proceeding a female batter and who is walked on 3 consecutive balls without any strikes during his time at bat or intentionally walked prior to any pitches, shall be awarded second base. Base runners advance if forced to vacate their bases. On deck female must be in the on deck circle. *Updated 4/4/11*
4. **COURTESY RUNNERS.** SCMAF rules apply for base runner substitution (1 courtesy runner per inning, no approval required) with the exception that additional courtesy runners are allowed with opposing manager approval. For the purposes of this rule, courtesy runners are for permitted for injured players only, and not intended to allow pinch runners. (Rule 3, Sec 3, D is modified by deleting 'of the same sex as the original baserunner') *updated 4/1/08*
5. **PITCHING HEIGHT.** There is unlimited maximum height for pitches. SCMAF rules (6-feet) apply for minimum height.
6. **BATTING ORDER.** The batting order is open and does not need to follow coed rules. Any legally rostered player may bat and play defense; however, not all rostered players are required to play. If a team's rostered player will not be playing and is in attendance, that team's manager must identify the player to the opposing manager. Such a player will not be available to act as a substitute or play in the game (unless approved by the opposing manager). SCMAF Rule 6, Section 2: A is modified to say, "The batting order of each team must be on the scoresheet and must be available to the umpire or opposing manager upon request. B is modified to say, "The batting order must be followed throughout the game." C is deleted. E is deleted. F is modified to read, "The batting order must be followed, but defensive changes may be made at any time. Players arriving after the first pitch of the game may be added to the end of the batting order immediately upon arriving. G is modified by deleting, "if no legal substitute is available." *updated 4/1/09*
7. **LEAGUE STANDINGS.** When there is a tie in the standings, the leader is determined by the following tie-breakers, in order: a. Head to Head record, b. Record against opponents that made the play-offs, c. Fewest runs given up Head to Head, d. Fewest runs given up against opponents that made the play-offs.
8. **ELIGIBILITY.** Eligible players include all current Department of Public Works employees and full-time consultants with service contracts throughout the softball season, working full-time in DPW facilities with assignments requiring interaction with DPW employees. Anyone on a team may continue to play in the league after employment by Public Works has ended, provided they are continuously on a team's roster. *updated 4/23/07*
9. **EQUIPMENT.** Bats and balls must conform to SCMAF and local park requirements. Bats must be on the current ASA legal bat list and may be inspected by park officials. *update 4/1/09*
10. **ROSTER.** Each team must complete a League provided roster form and email the Commissioner and Webmaster prior to the beginning of the season. Any game played with a player not on the roster will be considered a loss by forfeit. Changes to the roster must be via email to the Commissioner and Webmaster. Allow 2 working days for the change to be implemented. The final deadline for roster changes shall be approximately July 1, established by the Commissioner with the consent of the managers. *updated 4/1/09*
11. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST.** The Commissioner shall not rule on events involving a team they are a member of. Decisions will be made by a vote of team managers not involved in the event in question.
12. **PROTEST.** SCMAF Appendix A shall apply. Written protests must be received by the Commissioner within 2 working days following the date of the protested game. The Commissioner shall convene a hearing board comprised of three managers, not involved in the game and in different league(s). The Hearing Board's decision is final. The following is added to Sec 7: 'E. The protest is upheld but if corrected would not have changed the outcome of the game. *updated 4/1/08*
13. **INTERLEAGUE PLAY.** For interleague games, the team in the higher league will be limited to 5 runs per inning, for the first 4 innings. *added 5/2/07*
14. **FORFEIT PENALTY.** The 7:00 game has a 10 minute grace period to allow enough players to arrive before a forfeit is called; the 8:15 game has no grace period. A team gets 1 "free" forfeit per season, for any reason. A second forfeit requires notification of opposition's manager by noon, game day. A third forfeit or a second without notification requires a \$50 penalty be paid to Public Works Softball League prior to the next game. All subsequent games will be recorded as a loss until any required fines are paid. *updated 4/16/07*
15. **SCHEDULE/ALIGNMENT.** Priority for setting up teams in leagues shall be as follows: a. League Alignment/Parity/Balance/Schedule; b. Move last place teams down; c. Move repeating Champion up; d. Allow teams to choose league; e. Move Champion up. *Created 4/1/09*