



## **COLORADO STATE EMPLOYEES SOFTBALL LEAGUE**

### **SLOW-PITCH/CO-ED**

#### **2019 League Rules**

The CSESL is a slow-pitch, coed recreational softball league and its purpose is to provide an enjoyable recreational forum for state employees to play softball and become familiar with other employees of state agencies outside of the work place. The team representative/captain is responsible for ensuring that 50% of the team is comprised of state employees and that 5 players on the field are state employees. State employment verification is at the discretion of the Commission at any time. Loading the teams with non-employees (ringers) just to win is not the object of this league.

CSESL follows Modified American Softball Association (ASA) Official Rules with the exception of the rule changes or additions listed below. In the event that there is a conflict between the rules the **CSESL Rules will take precedence.**

An annual one-day tournament takes place at the end of the season in which the winning team is awarded a traveling trophy. We also have trophies for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams as well. All teams will be seeded according to rank based on team standings at the end of the regular season.

#### **TEAM COACHES/ASSISTANT COACHES RESPONSIBILITY**

The team Coach/Assistant Coach must ensure:

- **CSESL, Modified ASA and Hyland Hills house** rules are followed
- Control players and tempers i.e when team players are ejected from a game for fighting or unsportsmanlike behavior, each team's Coach/Assistant Coach needs to contact the League's Commission.
- **Team fee of \$600.00 is due on or before Tuesday, April 30, 2019 Make Checks payable to Hyland Hills, one check per team please. Failure to submit the team fee your team will not be able to play and each game will be counted as a loss.** Please deliver to Johnie Abad 1313 Sherman Street, Room 718, Denver, or make arrangements to meet.
- **Ensure all ORIGINAL CSESL rosters and Hyland Hills waivers** are completed and returned to Johnie Abad (at the address above) on or before **Tuesday, April 30, 2019.** For ease you can also put them in the google drive softball folder.
- Clean up trash after the games.

**All players must be familiar with the League rules.**

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**BALK:** When the pitcher begins a pitching motion but does not follow thru with the throw.

**BUNT:** To hit a pitched ball very gently, holding the bat horizontally with both hands batted; ball not swung at, but intentionally met with the bat and tapped slowly within the infield

**IN-FIELD FLY:** A fair fly ball (not including a line drive nor an attempted bunt) which can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort, when first and second, or first, second and third bases are occupied, before two are out. The pitcher, catcher and any outfielder who stations himself in the infield on the play shall be considered infielders for the purpose of this rule. When it seems apparent that a batted ball will be an Infield Fly, the umpire shall immediately declare "Infield Fly" for the benefit of the runners. If the ball is near the baselines, the umpire shall declare "Infield Fly, if Fair." The ball is alive and runners may advance at the risk of the ball being caught, or retouch and advance after the ball is touched, the same as on any fly ball. If the hit becomes a foul ball, it is treated the same as any foul. If a declared Infield Fly is allowed to fall untouched to the ground, and bounces foul before passing first or third base, it is a foul ball. If a declared Infield Fly falls untouched to the ground outside the baseline, and bounces fair before passing first or third base, it is an Infield Fly. On the infield fly rule the umpire is to rule whether the ball could ordinarily have been handled by an infielder not by some arbitrary limitation such as the grass, or the base lines. The umpire must rule also that a ball is an infield fly, even if handled by an outfielder, if, in the umpire's judgment, the ball could have been as easily handled by an infielder. The infield fly is in no sense to be considered an appeal play. The umpire's judgment must govern, and the decision must be made immediately. When an infield fly rule is called, runners may advance at their own risk. If on an infield fly rule, the infielder intentionally drops a fair ball, the ball remains in play. The infield fly rule takes precedence.

### **INTERFERENCE:**

- a) Offensive interference is an act by the team at bat which interferes with, obstructs, impedes, hinders or confuses any fielder attempting to make a play. If the umpire declares the batter, batter runner, or a runner out for interference, all other runners shall return to the last base that was in the judgment of the umpire, legally touched at the time of the interference, unless otherwise provided by these rules. In the event the batter runner has not reached first base, all runners shall return to the base last occupied at the time of the pitch.
- b) Defensive interference is an act by a fielder which hinders or prevents a batter from hitting a pitch.
- c) Umpire's interference occurs (1) When an umpire hinders, impedes or prevents a catcher's throw attempting to prevent a stolen base, or (2) When a fair ball touches an umpire on fair territory before passing a fielder.
- d) Spectator interference occurs when a spectator reaches out of the stands, or goes on the playing field, and touches a live ball. On any interference the ball is dead.

**STRIKE ZONE/MAT:** **NEW** (Changed pitching arc from 6' to 12' to 6' to 10') any pitch below 10' and above 6' from the ground and hits **NEW** (Deleted hits the plate) the (33 X 24) mat placed directly behind the plate. **If a pitch hits the plate it will be called a ball**

**THIRD STRIKE FOUL:** the batter will be allowed two (2) foul balls when they have two (2) strikes in the count before being called out. The third foul ball hit will be considered a third strike.

## **PLAYERS, ELIGIBILITY AND GAMES**

1. By signing both the waivers, all participants certify that they are playing at their own risk. No persons shall be permitted to participate in this league until the waiver forms are signed and submitted. ORIGINAL CSESL Roster and Hyland Hills Waiver form to Johnie Abad, 1313 Sherman Street, Suite 718, Denver, Colorado 80203.

**Failure to submit waivers and rosters will result in a loss added to that team's standings for every week late past the due date.**

Teams are allowed to add players up to the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the season, after the 4<sup>th</sup> week the rosters will be frozen for the remainder of the season, however, it is the responsibility of the Team Coach/Assistant Coach to see that the added players have signed both forms (CSESL and Hyland Hills) Johnie will need a copy of any addition. Hyland Hills rosters will be kept on site at the concession stand if changes need to be made or if a player needs to sign the roster. Should a team and/or player not comply with the process of completing the required forms, that team/player will be ineligible.

**Added: Players must play at least 4 games during the regular season to be eligible to play in the tournament**

2. All players must be at least 18 years of age. Upon request, any player must provide an ID to verify.
3. State Employees and non-State-Employees will be permitted to play on only one team in this league unless the team they originally played on has officially withdrawn from the league for the season. In this case, players are allowed to be picked up by any other team in the league.
4. Any team found in violation of not having 5 state employees on the field will forfeit the game and is subject to other disciplinary action by the Commission. Coaches/Assistant Coaches are to enforce this rule and maintain compliance. This rule is not intended to define "State Employment", however, the CSESL recognizes that "State Employment" may include seasonal, temporary or other classes that are not full time employees. Rule of thumb: once a State employee, always a State employee.
5. There will be a 10 minute grace period for the FIRST scheduled game of the night. 5 "free" minutes then another 5 minutes running off the game clock. After the grace period, failure to commence the game will result in a forfeit of the game by the team that is not able to field a minimum number of required players.

For all other games that follow, Game time IS forfeit time

6. The minimum number of players required to begin a game is eight (8). If a team is unable to field the required number, that team forfeits the game. If only eight (8) players are available, at least three (3) must be women and four (4) must be State Employees. Each team is required to field and play at least four (4) women players for a full-strength ten (10) person line-up. A team that can only field three (3) women is allowed to field only five (5)

men. No team is allowed to field only three (3) women if more than three (3) are available. A team is allowed to field more than four (4) women at any time. Each team must supply their own catcher at all times. This league plays four women and six men, Official Rule 7, Section 2 (E), on batting order does not apply.

7. All games will have a 55 minute time limit form the time the umpire calls “Play Ball!”
8. Cancellations: Coaches responsibility to notify your team

**Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hyland-Hills-Athletics/382232660488>

**Weather Updates and to sign up for email/text alerts:**

[www.hylandhillsathletics.com](http://www.hylandhillsathletics.com)

Weather Line: 303-650-7551 The recording will be updated by 4:30pm or when weather forces cancellations. If there is no message, then all games are on as scheduled.

a. Games will be made up in this order of priority:

1. The next week you play, on that night if possible (Double Header)
2. On Sundays during the day at the sports complex or Carstens
3. Any other available day – Including Saturday
4. Make up games, schedules, standings, will be posted on the Hyland Hills website: [http://hylandhills.org/schedules\\_standings/adult\\_sports.html](http://hylandhills.org/schedules_standings/adult_sports.html)

## **UMPIRES**

9. All umpires are ASA certified and will review the basic rules and restrictions with team coaches prior to game time. Coaches are responsible for turning in a line up card to the opposing team captain prior to every game and indicating which players are state employees.
10. The umpire will be keeping score on the electronic scoreboard. Team scorekeepers are responsible for keeping track of their own scores and if necessary, verify run count with the umpire. Coaches must still call in or e-mail their scores to Johnie via e-mail [Johnie.a.Abad@state.co.us](mailto:Johnie.a.Abad@state.co.us) or via phone 720-670-0707 the following day in order to verify game scores.

## **FIELD, FIELD SETUP AND GAME EQUIPMENT**

11. Hyland Hills is responsible for setting up all field equipment including marking the scoring line, point of no return line, and the coed outfield encroachment line (175 ft from home plate) which apply to ALL batters. STRIKE ZONE: **NEW (Deleted a pitch that hits the plate) a pitch that hits the mat is considered a strike (A pitch that his the plate will be called a ball).** Illegal pitches or pitches that do not hit the strike zone are considered balls. Pitches must be **NEW (Changed pitching arc from 6' to 12' to 6' to 10' 6' to 10' in arc.** Higher or lower pitches are considered illegal.
12. Double 1st Base Rule.

- a) A batted ball hitting the white portion is declared fair, and a batted ball hitting the orange portion is declared foul.
  - b) On a force play involving the batter at first base, the batter must run to the orange, the defensive player must use the white bag.
  - c) The batter-runner may use the orange portion on the first attempt at first base, however should he reach and go beyond first base, he must return to the white portion.
  - d) Should the batter-runner round the base on a hit through the infield or to the outfield, he must return to the white portion.
  - e) When tagging up on a fly ball, the white portion must be used.
13. Only non-metallic spikes are permitted. See ASA Rule 3 Section 6, #G.
  14. This is advisory only, but should be seriously considered: protective face gear be worn by the catcher.
  15. Game balls: 12" .52 core, 300 compression, yellow balls will be used for game play.
  16. Legal/Illegal Bats: **NO** full composite, partial composite, doublewall or multi wall bats are allowed. The umpire will discuss legal/illegal bats prior to the start of the game. Please refer to the leagues bat list, if in question please contact a member of the Commission Any player found using an illegal bat from the time they enter the batter's box and anytime throughout their at bat will result in the player being called out and ejected from the game (see #34) If a team is found using an illegal bat a second time at any point during the season, the team will be removed from the league with no refund given.
  17. Use of trapper's glove is approved for any defensive player.

### **GAME RULES**

18. A batting lineup which designates four (4) female batting positions must be submitted by each team captain to the umpire prior to the start of each game. Only female players may be substituted into these four (4) designated female batting positions. Substitutions into field positions do not have to be by sex. **TEAMS MAY NOT BAT (4) MEN IN A ROW** A player who has left the game may be reinserted into the line-up provided the substitution is made while the team is in the field prior to the first pitch (unless a substitution is made because of injury).
19. Twelve Batter Rule; Although a team may have only 10 players on the field the batting line up can have twelve (12). At least one of the two additional batters must be female. Once a team starts with twelve they must finish the game with twelve or have an out assessed with each rotation. A batting order of eleven (11) is not permitted.
20. All batters start with a 1 and 1 pitch count
21. **SLIDING IS NOT PERMITTED.** At the discretion of the umpire, accidentally slipping into a base will not be penalized. In attempting to regain a base already passed, diving back is permitted, but not sliding feet first.

CAUTION: BASE RUNNER - Actions that could result in an injury to any other player will subject the base runner to ejection from the game (see ASA Rule 12). DEFENSIVE PLAYERS - unless you are fielding a batted ball in the immediate area or are in possession of the ball, impeding the base runner by occupying the base path or standing on a base is obstruction. If ruled an obstruction, "all runners shall advance ... to the bases they would have reached, in the umpires judgment, if there had been no obstruction" (per ASA Official Rules).

22. DIG-IN. Absolutely no batter is allowed to "dig-in" to the batters box. You may sweep your feet to level your hitting area only. Any hitter removing dirt with their feet by digging in will be called out immediately. THIS WILL BE ENFORCED!!
23. The "in-field fly rule" shall be as per the ASA Official Rules.  
In Field Fly Rule: (a pop up fly within the infield)  
When there are runners on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> or 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, the umpire must inform the teams prior to the first pitch that the infield fly rule is in effect with less than 2 outs.
24. A substitute runner may be used for a player who is either temporarily injured or permanently handicapped. Use of a substitute runner is subject to the following qualifications:
  - a. The substitute must be a team member and from the current line-up or roster.
  - b. The substitute must be of the same sex.
  - c. The substitute runner must be the player in at least the fifth batting position behind the player being substituted.
  - d. If the substitute runner is already in the current line-up, that player will bat in his/her original position in the line-up as well as run in the position of the player for which he/she is substituting.
  - e. Permanently handicapped batters may have a pinch runner start from home plate. In all other cases, pinch runners are not to be inserted until the batter reaches first base, unless the Coaches and umpires agree to other situations at the pregame conference.
25. Balls overthrown in fair play territory will be in play and base runners may advance as far as possible at their own risk. When a ball is overthrown into "out of play," the base runner(s) will be automatically awarded the next base which he/she has not already passed-except that a runner going to first base is automatically awarded second base on an overthrow to first. Other runners shall be advanced accordingly. The team captains and/or umpire will designate "foul" and "out of play" territory before the game begins.
26. A runner hit by a batted ball is out unless the ball is first touched by a defensive player. A runner hit by a batted ball while in contact with a base is not out per the official rules. The ball continues in play in both instances.
27. Once a ball is batted, that play will continue until the pitcher has control of the ball and is on the pitcher's mound (within three feet of the designated pitching position). The umpire should designate this area prior to the start of the game (see Official Rules).
28. No bunting is allowed per ASA Official Rules.

29. Third strike foul with two courtesy fouls applies (ASA Official Rule 7, Section 1 (E)).
30. Force plays at home plate. On a force play at home plate, the catcher, or any other defensive player covering home plate, can only touch the home plate on the force play. The catcher or defensive person may not block the runners path. A runner must pass the Score Line.
31. Point of no return: once the runner passes the point of no return line the player is committed to running to the scoring line and may not return to third base. Runners tagged by a defensive players will be called safe. Defense must touch the home plate for an out.

PLAYING NOTE: Catchers and infielders need to place themselves in the field so as not to obstruct any batter/runners during a play. That means taking a position directly on the base bath (straight line between successive bases, including home) or directly between a runner and the base a runner is proceeding to is OBSTRUCTION (automatic awarding of the base to the runner). A catcher and infielder may move into the direct base line or base path only when the ball is possessed by the catcher/fielder.

Occasionally a thrown ball will cause the catcher/fielder to adjust the established fielding position taken to catch the ball, causing the catcher/fielder to be in a POTENTIAL OBSTRUCTING POSITION, this is not obstruction, unless the established position was already directly on the base line or the base path. The base runner must adjust the base path, per ASA rule in order to not interfere with the fielders ability to field the ball. If there is any doubt about obstruction, the team Coaches and umpires will error on the side of safety.

32. MERCY RULE: A 10 run rule will apply after 5 complete innings, (or 4 ½ if the home team is ahead), **a 15 run rule will apply after 4 complete innings, (or 3 ½ if the home team is ahead)**, or a 20 run rule will apply after 3 complete innings, (or 2 ½ if the home team is ahead.) Once the mercy rule has gone into effect, the losing team can either elect to call the game or continue play through the full 7 innings with no additional runs awarded to the winning team. In the event the team wins by 15 runs, any runs scored after 15 will not be counted towards the teams seeding.
33. SUDDEN DEATH: If game time expires and the score is tied the following applies:
  - a. One inning – each team will have the runner (last person out) start at second base. Each batter will get one (1) pitch where a strike or foul = OUT and a ball = walk.
  - b. After three outs and if score is still tied, the runner (last person out) will start at third base.

### **PROTESTS, GAME RESULTS REPORTING AND MISCELLANEOUS**

33. Protests
  - a. A \$50.00 protest fee will be charged to any team wishing to protest a game. A protest must be delivered to the Hyland Hills Athletic Supervisor in writing within 24 hours after that game. Judgement calls cannot be protested.
  - b. Roster Protest: A team making a roster protest must notify the game official that they have a roster protest before the player in question bats for the 1<sup>st</sup> time. (the

protest must be made before the 1<sup>st</sup> pitch to the player in question.) The player in question must produce an ID within 5 minutes and must be on the official roster and that player's signature must be on that roster to be considered a legal player. If the player in question is not on the roster or the player is on the roster but has not signed the roster the player will be considered illegal and an out will be called and that player will not be allowed to play in the game. No roster protests may be made after the team has batted through their lineup. The clock will not stop for a roster protest.

- c. If a game is protested because of a dispute that cannot be settled on the field, the Coach of the aggrieved team and the umpire must notify the Commission the day following the game. The Commission will make a decision based on the information available within two weeks from the receipt of the written explanations. The decision of the Commission shall be final.
34. **Ejection's: If any is player ejected from any game:**
- A. The ejected player must first leave the premises entirely
  - B. Team forfeits the game (No substitution allowed)
  - C. Player serves an automatic 1 game suspension.
  - D. The player ejected is to pay a \$50 fine to Hyland Hills to be eligible to play in any Hyland Hills Leagues. (Any team problem that leads to multiple ejections will result in a \$100 team fine). **FINE MUST BE PAID BEFORE THAT PLAYER OR TEAM CAN PLAY AGAIN!**
  - E. Teams will forfeit games if it is found that an ejected player is playing without meeting the requirements listed above.
35. Alcohol and/or drug use is PROHIBITED at all Hyland Hills parks and facilities. This includes the bleachers and dug out areas. If any player or spectator violates this rule the umpire/site supervisor may forfeit the game and further action may be taken by the Hyland Hills athletic department
36. **Home Run Rule – NEW ADD 1 UP RULE.** Each team may hit one home run (over the fence). After a team has hit an over the fence home run, each additional over the fence hit will be called an out until the opposing team hits one over the fence. At that point each home run will have to be matched by the opposing team before more home runs will be counted.
37. The winning team Coach/Assistant Coach must report scores the following day to Johnie Abad with the following information, which teams played (team names and numbers) and the score. (see #10)
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| <b>League Commissioner</b><br>Ted Abad<br><a href="mailto:Tabad@comcast.net">Tabad@comcast.net</a><br>Cell 720-939-9517<br>Home 303-287-2797       | <b>League Administrator/Assistant Commissioner</b><br>Johnie Abad<br><a href="mailto:Johnie.A.Abad@state.co.us">Johnie.A.Abad@state.co.us</a><br>Work 303-866-3311 xt 8670<br>Cell 720-670-0707<br>Home 303-287-2797 |
| <b>Assistant Commissioner</b><br>Hilary Rudy<br><a href="mailto:Hilary.Rudy@sos.state.co.us">Hilary.Rudy@sos.state.co.us</a><br>Cell: 303-919-0741 | <b>Assistant Commissioner</b><br>Shawn Hermosillo<br><a href="mailto:Shawn.Hermosillo@state.co.us">Shawn.Hermosillo@state.co.us</a><br>Cell: 303-888-6085  |