

# BRADFORD SLUGGERS

## Rules & Regulations – 2011 Co-Ed Slo-Pitch League Masters - 30 and Older

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

All Regular Season games will be played on Sunday Evenings as per the posted schedule. Please see online schedule for the most up to date schedule. The online schedule will be considered the schedule of record for the league.

Each team has been scheduled for xx games during the 2011 season with **NO** Games being played during long Weekends – i.e. Canada Day.

Regular 2011 Season Schedule will be posted online at <http://bradfordsluggers.com/schedule.html>.

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## BRADFORD SLUGGERS RULES

1. HAVE FUN!! We are not a competitive league.
2. No Alcoholic beverages are permitted on the fields or in the dugouts. Players involved in an on-going game who are found to be consuming alcohol during the game will be suspended by the umpire for the remainder of the game.
3. Shoes with METAL cleats are not permitted.
4. A game will consist of seven (7) innings or one (1) hour in duration, whichever comes first. Should a game be called due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, that game shall be considered complete if a minimum of four (4) full entire innings have been played. A game tied at the completion of seven (7) innings or after one (1) hour, shall be recorded as a tie and each team will receive 1 point in the standings.
5. Games must start within 10 minutes of the scheduled time; otherwise the umpire has the right to forfeit the game.
6. Teams must field a **minimum** of seven (7) players to be considered a sanctioned game for league standing purposes. A Minimum of five (5) roster players on a team must be present in order to use call-ups.
7. Teams can call-up a maximum of four (4) players from players who are registered and in good standing in the Bradford Sluggers league. A team can only field a maximum of 10 players when call-ups are used in a game.
8. Females – All teams must field a Minimum of three (3) females to be considered a 'game' for league standing purposes. A Team fielding less than three (3) females will forfeit their game.
- 8a. **Playoffs Only** – If a team is only capable of fielding 3 females in a playoff game, that team can only have a total of nine (9) people in the field. That is, only six (6) male fielders can be on the field when the team is fielding.
9. If there are (4) or more roster females present for a game on both teams, then 4 females must be on the field when the team is fielding. If there is not the minimum number of females fielding, the teams have a right to match the female on field ratio numerically. (4 – Females & 6 – Males).

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10. In the event that both teams are unable to meet the requirements of Rules #5 or #6, the game shall be ruled a lose to both teams and no one will be awarded a point. If teams are aware this will happen prior to their games on the given Sunday, they should advise the league scheduler and the games maybe rescheduled at a mutually agreed upon later date should time permit.
11. A game may be called off at the Umpire's discretion at any time due to poor field conditions, intensity of the weather or injury. If the minimum four (4) full innings have not been completed at the time that the game is called off, the game maybe rescheduled at a mutually agreed upon later date should time permit.
12. No player shall continue to participate in a game if they are bleeding or have bloodied clothing.
13. Jewellery must not be worn during a game. If discovered, the umpire may call the player out once they step into the batters box. A Medic Alert bracelet shall not be considered jewellery.
14. **Courtesy Runners** – A maximum of seven (7) courtesy runners shall be allowed during a game. The courtesy runner will only be allowed at first base, exceptions will be granted for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base if an injury occurs. The last person of the same sex to be that had batted and is not on the bases shall be the courtesy runner. A courtesy runner is allowed only after the batter safely reaches first (1<sup>st</sup>) base.
15. **Runners** – Stepping off a base bag prior to the batter making contact with the ball is not permitted. Umpires must observe the lead-off and they will immediately call the base runner out. If a base runner is called out for leading, and is the third out in an inning, the person who was batting at that time will be the first batter in the next inning and they will begin with a new count when at bat.
16. **Runners** – First Base – **Orange Safety Bag** – Base Runners MUST use the Orange portion of the double first base bags when running to first base and the runner has no intention of going to second base on the play. The only exception is if the runner is attempting to avoid a collision with a fielding player. The First Base fielder must use the White portion of the first base bags to make fielding plays. Should it be evident that there will be no play at first base, the fielding first base person must move out of the way of the runner should the runner have the opportunity to run to second. The umpire can automatically award the base runner the next base should their progress appear to be intentionally impeded by the fielder
17. **Scoring** – A run is scored by a runner touching or crossing the 'home base' line. The wooden home plate shall not be stepped on by a base runner attempting to score a run. A player shall be called out if they step on the wooden home plate while attempting to score a run. The only exception is if the base runner is attempting to avoid a collision with a fielding player.
18. **Scoring** – There is a commitment line 2/3 of the distance between third base and home plate. Any runner crossing this line MUST continue running towards home base. If the player crosses the commitment line and then returns to third base, the runner will called out by the umpire.
19. **Pitching** – A pitcher must pitch from the pitcher's zone (50'-55' from Home Plate) and must begin with at least one (1) inside the pitching zone. A strike shall be called if the batter swings and misses the ball pitched or if the ball strikes any part of the wooden home plate board prior to hitting the ground.
20. **Batting** – Each team will draw up their batting order prior to each game and list it on the league provided score-sheet. A male or female may bat first, but each subsequent batter must be of the opposite sex. If there are more males than females on the team, the females must be recycled through the order in the same order that they were originally placed in.
21. **Outs** – An out is declared if the batter accumulates three (3) strikes during a single at bat. A foul ball is ruled a strike. A foul ball on third strike is ruled an out. An out shall be declared if the batter is discovered to be wearing exposed jewellery. An out is declared if a batter bunts the ball (Umpire's discretion). An out is declared if the ball is caught by a fielder before touching the ground. An out is declared if the ball is retrieved by a fielder and thrown to a fielder on first base before the batter (runner) reaches first base. A foul tip of any height caught by a fielding player is declared an out.

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22. Outfielders must be positioned on the grass and infielders must be beyond the baseline until the ball is hit by the batter. Any outfielder who is on the gravel of the infield or infielder who is inside the baseline prior to the ball being hit shall be declared an illegal infielder. If an illegal infielder touches the ball before a legal player, the offended team shall have the option of accepting the result of the play or having the batter going back to bat assuming the previous ball and strike count with all other base-runners returning to their originally held bases.
23. **Infield Fly Rule** – The batter is automatically declared out when an infield fly is hit AND there are less than two out AND there are runners on first and second, or first, second and third. The ball will remain in play until the play (or Time) is called by the umpire. Calling of an infield fly is at the discretion of the umpire.
24. **Walks** – A walk is declared if the batter accumulates four (4) balls during a single at bat. A Female batter receiving a walk is awarded first base. A Male batter receiving a walk is awarded second base and the female following in the batting order has the option of taking a pass to first base or they can take their regular at bat. This decision shall be solely up to the female and shall be dictated to the Umpire before she takes her place in the batter's box.
25. **Runs** – A maximum of five (5) runs shall be scored by one team per inning, other than the last inning which will be announced prior to that inning by the umpire as "Open Inning". A half-inning is over when the batting team scores five (5) runs or has three (3) outs recorded against them. During the "Open" inning, a team can continue to score runs until they obtain (3) three "Outs".
26. **Sliding or Diving** – To prevent potential injuries, Sliding and Diving is not permitted. The determination of whether a player slides or dives shall be at the discretion of the umpire.
28. **Bats** – All bats must comply with the Softball Canada bat Standards, and must have the ASA 2000 or ASA 2004 mark, and the bat must not be on the ASA banned bat list.
29. **Intentional Throwing of a Bat** – A batter who throws a bat will be declared out by the umpire. Dangerous throwing of the bat may result in a game suspension to a maximum of 3 games and a \$25.00 fine. This will be at the discretion of the Bradford Sluggers League Executive. A 2nd infraction by a player may result in suspension for the rest of the season including playoffs.
30. **Suspensions** – All suspensions must be served and will carry over into next season until the entire length of the suspension has been served.
31. **Inappropriate Behaviour** – Anyone who makes remarks or gestures that are deemed inappropriate must be reported to the Bradford Sluggers League executive as soon as possible after the incident takes place. Depending on the severity of the infraction(s), the offending player can receive a suspension of up to a maximum of lifetime ban from the league. This will be at the discretion of the Bradford Sluggers League Executive. The Executive has the right to discuss the situation with anyone they feel may provide insight into the situation for clarity and understanding so a fitting judgement can be established.
32. Please refer to **Rule #1** at all times.

Common Sense Shall Dictate All Rules.

Please respect the Umpire's Decisions. Our League is a fun league, so play ball and have fun!  
For all other rules please see your coaches SPO 2011 Handbook.

**NOTE:** The League Captain's and the Executive have instituted a Fine System.

Any player caught committing the following infractions during a league sanctioned game shall be **fined \$25 and ejected from the current game**. They will not be allowed to play again until the fine is paid. The fines collected (if any) will go towards the league banquet at the end of the year.

Here is a list of finable infractions, but not limited to:

- Swearing on the field
- Swearing at the opposing players
- Swearing at the Umpire
- Intent to Injure (charging a fielder positioned on a base attempting to make a play/conversely a fielder purposely blocking the base) – this is a judgment call by the Umpire alone.
- Intimidation towards another player or the Umpire.
- Inappropriate remarks or gestures