

# Rules of Play of Central East Women's Fastpitch League (CEWFL)

## General

PWSA pilot rules regarding pitching, base distance and all other rules will apply to league play starting in the 2020 season.

### 1. Season

- a) Rules of play can be added, removed, or modified by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors, prior to the start of play each season.
- b) Softball Canada and the Provincial Women's Softball Association game play rules will apply, unless stated otherwise herein.

### 2. Playoffs

- a) Playoffs will be held following the completion of league play and prior to August 30th each year. Each division's playoffs will be scheduled on weekends that do not conflict with PWSA Qualifiers or Grand Championships.
- b) All teams will be in the League play-offs. Playoffs for all divisions will be a three-game multi-level format tournament.
- c) Home team advantage to the teams that place the highest in League season standings. Highest seed has the right to choose home or visitor status for each game throughout the play-offs.
- d) The CEWFL will reimburse the host association for park and umpire fees for all League Play-off tournaments.

## Season: Game Play

This section contains any league specific game play rules, which may be different than those used in PWSA game play.

### 1. Players

- a) Unlimited defensive substitutions are allowed.
- b) All batters must bat.

### 2. Umpires

- a) Home team shall provide two umpires registered and insured with Softball Ontario.
- b) Home team to provide one new and one good used softball for games.

### 3. Game Duration

- a) All games to be 7 (seven) innings or curfew, and ties to be played out if time permits. No new inning to start after 1 hour 30 minutes' maximum with a drop- dead time of 1 hour 45 minutes in all Divisions. Final scores revert to last full inning played.
  - i. Extending game time is permitted if agreeable by both parties at start of game. Otherwise, rule is enforced.

- ii. Coaches are expected to use good sportsmanship.
- iii. Coaches need to avoid delay of game tactics to manipulate the outcome.

#### **4. Game Format**

- a) U9 and U11, and U13 divisions will have a run limit of 5 runs per inning, without any open inning.
- b) U15, U17, U19, and Open divisions will have a runs limit of 7 runs per inning, with an open 7th inning (not final inning by time limit). Coaches can mutually agree pre-game on an alternate format.

#### **5. Competing with Another Team**

- a) Recognizing the value of collaboration and sportsmanship amongst member associations, the league permits borrowing players under certain conditions to keep players on the field and to keep play competitive.
- b) Teams are permitted to borrow players for the game roster to substitute for players who have been injured or who are no longer with the team, if that results in the team being below 11 players for a game.
- c) The league complies with the PWSA rules on players competing with another team, including sanctions for non-compliance.
  - i. All players must obtain written permission from their team manager or coach prior to competing with any other team in league play, and
  - ii. The borrowing team must file the written permission with the PWSA Registrar
  - iii. Approval by the league will be granted when.
    - 1. In-Season Games (auto-approved): upon filing written permission with the league's Secretary before each game the player is used
    - 2. Playoff Games (require approval): only if the written permission is approved by the league's Executive Committee
  - iv. Teams frequently borrowing players are subject to review by the league to prevent abuse. Only the league may request the Disciplinary Committee investigate, with sanctions to include but not limited to, withdrawing permission to borrow players.
- d) Teams may borrow a maximum of three players, which must not cause their game roster to exceed the 11-player minimum set by PWSA to qualify as a team.
- e) Teams may borrow positional players or pitcher(s) who are at the same level or ONE level lower, where a level is defined as any one of Age, Division or Tier. Teams will be defined by their division of play, not by the age of their players (i.e., a U15 team playing in a U17 Division is considered a U17 team).
- f) Teams playing up a division will be classified as a Tier 2 team of that division for league games and borrowing players, regardless of their PWSA tier status.

- g) Teams may borrow players from Affiliated, League, Select or House programs.
  - i. The borrowing team is responsible for confirming that borrowed player’s insurance covers them while playing in league games

**Who Can We Borrow?**

Borrowing Team's Playing Division	Eligible Players: Position and/or Pitchers			
	by Age (same or lower)	by Division (same or lower)	by Tier 1 (same or lower)	by Tier 2 (same or lower)
<b>U11</b>	From Any Division	U11	N/A	N/A
<b>U13</b>	From Any Division	U13 or U11	N/A	N/A
<b>U15</b>	From Any Division	U15 or U13	Tier 1 or 2	Tier 2
<b>U17</b>	From Any Division	U17 or U15	Tier 1 or 2	Tier 2
<b>U19</b>	From Any Division	U19 or U17	Tier 1 or 2	Tier 2
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>	From Any Division	INTERMEDIATE, U19 or U17	N/A	Tier 2

**Where Can We Borrow?**

Borrowing Team's Playing Division	Eligible Players: Position and/or Pitchers			
	House OASA	Select OSSTA	League PWSA	Non-League Non-Association PWSA
<b>U11</b>	Yes	*Yes	Yes	No
<b>U13</b>	Yes	*Yes	Yes	No
<b>U15</b>	No	*Yes	Yes	No
<b>U17</b>	No	*Yes	Yes	No
<b>U19</b>	No	No	Yes	No
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>	No	No	Yes	No

*\*OSSTA 2019: <http://www.ossta.org/eligibility> "Select players are permitted to play as a call up in 2 individual Rep Loop games. Select players are not allowed to play in any PWSA Sanctioned Rep Tournament. Before playing in a loop game player must check to see if they are covered by Insurance." \*OSSTA does not allow players to be borrowed for PWSA Sanctioned Rep Tournaments. Please check with OSSTA and PWSA for their current rules.*

**6. Awards**

- a) Banners awarded to the League Champions (highest standing in the league rankings at the completion of the season)

# Playoff: Game Play

## 1. Players

- a) Unlimited defensive substitutions are allowed.
- b) All batters must bat.
- c) Only players listed on official team rosters are eligible to play in the League playoffs. The league may verify players using league and team rosters in TeamSnap or seek additional verification from PWSA.

## 2. Borrowing Players

- a) No borrowing call-up players allowed unless permission is granted by the League Executive
  - i. If permission is granted, refer to Season Rule for Borrowing Players for restrictions on borrowing call-up players.

## 3. Umpires

- a) No protests shall be allowed. Umpires' decision is final.

## 4. Games

- a) Divisional Convener retains the right to modify schedule if warranted due to weather or field conditions.
- b) All teams must be ready to play fifteen (15) minutes before scheduled start time.
- c) All games are to be played until a winner is determined.
- d) PWSA mercy rule will apply in all games.

## 5. Home Team

- a) Home team to occupy third base bench. (Unless playing back-to-back games then they will retain their bench)
- b) Home team will be the official scorekeeper.

## 6. Game Duration

- a) In non-medal games, in all Divisions, no new inning shall begin after 1 hour and 45 minutes, unless game is tied.
- b) In non-medal games, after 7 innings of regulation play or time limit is reached (whichever occurs first) and score is tied, the Softball Canada Tie Breaker rule shall be used.
  - i. See Softball Canada Rule 5, Sec. 7 – Tiebreaker
- c) In medal games, no time limit will apply. Games shall be minimum 7 innings.
  - i. Extra innings will be played to break a tie game, as required, until the tie is broken at the end of an inning.

## 7. Awards

- a) Banners awarded to the Play-off Champions
- b) Top three teams in play-offs to be recognized with individual awards (i.e., medals).
  - i. Participation medals awards to all U9 and U11 participants except top three teams.