

KSCSA 70s Division Rules and Regulations

(Approved November 13, 2023, with revisions 4/3/24)

The Seventies Division of the KSCSA was established December 2, 2021, by a vote of the organizing team Coaches for the following purpose:

"Be it resolved that the Kauai Senior Citizens Softball Association (KSCSA) establish a Seventies (70s) Division within the Association, which will compete only among itself in league play, and which will be entitled to all the rights and privileges of the KSCSA teams, and is responsible for all of the duties of the KSCSA teams, and which must abide by the constitution, bylaws and general rules of the KSCSA, the Hawaii state senior softball rules, and the SSUSA rulebook, both teams and players, except where noted below."

I. MISSION STATEMENT

The 70s Division of the Kauai Senior Softball Association provides a recreational opportunity to enjoy softball. It is open to all males 70 years of age and older, and all females 55 years of age and older. Players are welcome regardless of their ability or disability. Good sportsmanship and camaraderie are the main focus of the Division. We strive to provide an outdoor activity for exercise and fun, building relationships between players.

II. ADMINISTRATION

1. For clarity, the terms "Coach" and "Manager" will be considered equivalent in this document.
2. Each team shall designate a head coach and up to two (2) Assistant Coaches, who must be registered with the Director of the 70s Division. The Director is responsible for notifying all the Head Coaches of any changes in the coaching staff or any of the teams. At meetings of the 70s Division, each team has one vote. If the Head Coach cannot be present, a previously registered Assistant Coach may vote for the team. *(Revised 3/6/2024).*
3. The rules and regulations governing the 70s Division shall be decided by a majority vote of the teams, with each team having one vote.
4. The 70s Division teams will elect a Director, who will have duties to allow an equal voice for all teams on all issues, run all meetings, and control the agenda. If there is a tie vote among the teams on any issue, the Director may cast the tie-breaking vote, provided the Director is not a Coach of a 70s Division team. If the Director is a 70s team Coach, the KSCSA League President may cast the deciding vote.
5. 70s Division teams are not eligible for any rewards from the KSCSA League for their standing or performance at the end of their season.
6. For a team to join the 70s Division, it must have a designated Coach and assistant Coach, submit a League Registration form (same as the standard KSCSA form for all teams) with a minimum of 14 signed players meeting the eligibility criteria, and must agree to the Mission Statement of the 70s Division as shown above (Item I). The Coaches of the existing teams will then vote on acceptance into the division.

III. PLAYERS

1. Male players must be at least 70 years of age.
2. Female players must be at least 55 years of age. There shall be no limit to the number of female players in a lineup list at any time.
3. A male who turns 70 or a female who turns 55 during the playing year is eligible to play that year.
4. Female players may act as courtesy runners for male players, and vice-versa.
5. A courtesy runner may run for any player with walking difficulty, starting from home plate. The courtesy runner must start from behind a line even with the back of the plate and may not cross the line until contact. This is an honor system, designed to aid hitters who are truly unable to run 65 feet to first base due to injury or disability.
6. A courtesy runner may run more than once per inning. Subs may be courtesy runners without changing their status as Subs.
7. A player may transfer teams between rounds.
8. A round is defined as each Team's playing each other Team twice, Once as Home Team and Once as Visitors, according to the League Schedule.

IV. FIELD

1. A strike mat measuring approximately 19 inches by 34 ½ inches will be used, as specified in the SSUSA Rulebook.
2. Bases shall be sixty-five (65) ft. apart.
3. The pitcher's box shall measure approximately fifty to sixty (50 to 60) ft. from the back edge of the permanent (5-sided) home plate, as specified in the SSUSA Rulebook.
4. Runners must score by crossing a scoring line to avoid home plate. A runner touching the strike mat is automatically out.

V. EQUIPMENT

1. The home team for the first game of the day will provide a working AED, which will be kept in the home team dugout or at the home plate backstop for all the games played that day.
2. Pitchers must wear a protective face mask if not using a pitching screen.
3. A pitcher may opt to have a protective screen, and if a pitcher uses a screen, a pitcher's mask is not mandatory. When a screen is in place the first batted ball within an at-bat that strikes the screen is a "no pitch". Any subsequent batted ball within the same at-bat that strikes the screen is a strike. Any fielded/thrown ball that strikes the screen remains in play.
4. The use of a protective screen by one pitcher does not require the use of a screen by an opposing pitcher or by another pitcher on the same team.
5. The pitcher's screen must be placed in a manner to protect the pitcher. If in the umpire's judgement, the pitcher is not pitching from behind the screen, the umpire may call each such pitch a ball.

6. Game balls:

- a). Games shall be played with a 12" ball with a COR of 0.44 and a compression rating of 375 psi.
- b). The home team for each game will provide two identical new balls for that game, and the home team will keep those balls after the game. Those game balls must be identical in brand and all markings.
- c). Prior to each game the home team Manager and chief umpire shall confirm that the balls meet the criteria noted in a) and b) above.

VI. GAME RULES

1. Eleven (11) players shall constitute a team. A team may start a game with no fewer than 10 players; an 11th player may be added any time during the game, batting in the last position. If the 11th position is not filled, an out will be declared for only the first time that position is scheduled to bat.
2. Teams from adjacent games will provide umpires for each game. Umpires need not be 70s Division players but must know the 70s rules.
3. Teams will provide lineup sheets to opposing teams.
4. Teams are encouraged to have scorekeepers. The official scorekeeper shall be the scorekeeper for the home team, unless both teams agree otherwise.
5. There will be no "mercy rule". All games will be played for 7 innings. There will be no time limit for games.
6. If a team can field only ten (10) or fewer players, that team may borrow players from other 70s teams to create at least a ten (10) player team. If a team cannot field ten (10) players, even with borrowing, the team loses. *(Revised 4/3/2024)*.
7. Coaches of the two (2) playing teams may agree to modify the usual game rules to accommodate unforeseen circumstances, such as sudden weather changes, illness of injury of players, traffic issues or lack of players. The coaches shall advise the head umpire of the changes. *(Revised 4/3/2024)*.